

Proceedings

of the Grand Council of
Royal and
Select Masters
of the State of New
York, August 28th, 1900

Press of John S. Baldwin
188 and 190 Greenwich
Street, New York City

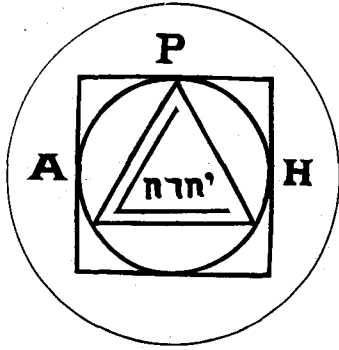
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL
OF
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

AUGUST 28TH, 1900.

NEW YORK:

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

—
1900.



Grand Council
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
 of the State of New York

NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL ASSEMBLY,

AUGUST 28th, 1900,

MASONIC HALL,
 New York City.

Most Illustrious

JAMES B. McEWAN,
 Grand Master.

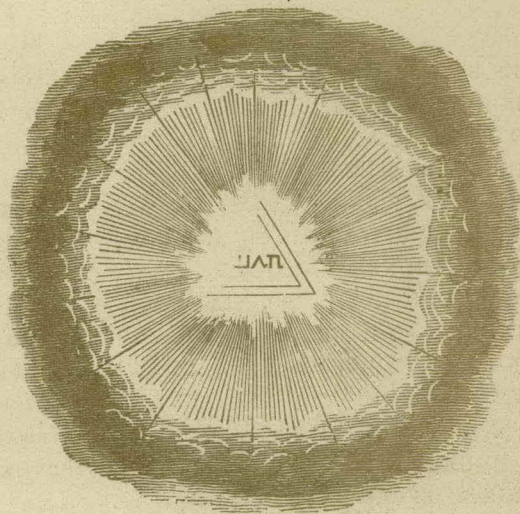
*** OPENING EXERCISES. ***

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

1. Overture, - - - *Oberon*, - - - - - WEBER
2. Entrance of Grand Master and Grand Officers,
 Grand Council Processional March, Organ and Cornet, JOHNSON
3. Salutation, - - - - -
4. Organ and Cornet, *The Two Grenadiers*, - - - - - SCHUMAN
5. Opening of Grand Council, - - - - -
6. Cornet Solo, - - - *The Holy City*, - - - - - ADAMS
7. Prayer, - - - - - GRAND CHAPLAIN
8. Chorus, - - - AIR *Auld Lang Syne*,
 (Companions will rise and unite in singing)

Companions in the Secret Vault, Assembled are we here; To work with Trowel, sword in hand, The arches to complete. We work with zeal and fervency, Our work will not be done, Until the Supreme Architect, Calls us before His Throne.	O welcome to the Cryptic Rite, Strong are its numbers now, And high its lofty pillars rise, And noble arches bow. O welcome—if thy heart be true, Thou'lt find with us a home, We're daily adding columns new, Unto our glorious dome.
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9. Proclamation, - - - - - GRAND MARSHAL
10. Doxology, - - - - -

Be thou, O God, exalted high, And as thy glory fills the sky, So let it be on earth displayed, Till thou art here as there obeyed.	
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11. Roll Call, - - - - - GRAND RECORDER



91ST ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL R.:& S.:M.:
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

GRAND COUNCIL ROOM, (AUSTIN ROOM),
MASONIC HALL, COR. SIXTH AVE. & 23^D ST.
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

The 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 28th, 1900, Anno.:Dep.:2900, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT:

M. III. JAMES B. McEWAN	GRAND MASTER
R. III. GEORGE MCGOWN	GRAND DEPUTY MASTER
R. III. JOHN P. DEAL	" P. C. of W.
R. III. PETER FORRESTER	" TREASURER
R. III. GEORGE VAN VLIET	" RECORDER
R. III. WILLARD S. BRADT	" C. of the G.
R. III. JOHN R. GARDNER	" C. of the C.
R. III. ALEX. B. KING	ACTING " CHAPLAIN
R. III. N. H. FREELAND, M.D.	" MARSHAL
R. III. IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU	" STANDARD BEARER
R. III. JOHN W. COBURN	" LECTURER
R. III. GEO. R. HODGKINS	" STEWARD
III. WM. H. SMALL	ACTING " SENTINEL
M. P. GEORGE M. OSGOODBY	} TRUSTEES
M. P. JOHN W. COBURN	
M. III. JOHN L. BROTHERS	
WM. J. DUNCAN	OFFICIAL REPORTER

Together with the Representatives of the following Councils:

COLUMBIAN	No. 1	PALMYRA	No. 26
UNION	" 2	KING SOLOMON	" 31
BROOKLYN	" 4	JAMESTOWN	" 32
ADELPHIC	" 7	OLEAN	" 33
CENTRAL CITY	" 13	HORNELLSVILLE	" 35
BLOSS	" 14	CRYPTIC	" 37
BRUCE	" 15	WASHINGTON	" 52
BUFFALO	" 17	CORNING	" 53
DORIC	" 19	PEEKSKILL	" 55
KEYSTONE	" 20	ALPH-OMEGA	" 71
DE WITT CLINTON	" 22	JOHNSTOWN	" 72
DUNKIRK	" 25		

And permanent members as follows:

GEO. M. OSGOODBY	P. G. M.	GEO. A. NEWELL	P. G. M.
JOHN J. MARTIN	"	JOHN F. BALDWIN	"
JOHN W. COBURN	"	A. OPPENHEIMER	"
R. C. CHRISTIANCE	"	FRED'K KANTER	"
ALEX. B. KING	"		

E. M. L. EHLERS Past Grand C. of the G. :
 P. M. W. VERHOEVEN " " " "
 THOMAS J. BISHOP.... " " C. of the C. :

PAST THIRICE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS

P. M. W. VERHOEVEN.....No. 1	GEO. E. W. STIVERSNo. 7
THOS. CUNNINGTON " 1	WM. DOWNES..... " 7
W. M. POSTLEY..... " 2	WM. H. ANDREWS " 7
GEO. H. TOOP..... " 2	FRED. E. DAVIS..... " 7
EDWARD COOPER..... " 4	J. HARRIS BALSTON..... " 7
SAMUEL BENNETT " 4	EDWARD J. BENNETT..... " 14
LAWRENCE COFFIN, M.D.. " 4	BENJAMIN STRASSER " 22
JOHN W. PALMER..... " 4	GEO. C. BISHOP..... " 22

With Representatives from the following Grand Councils:

ALABAMA	Represented by Comp.	HUGH H. KENDALL
ARKANSAS.....	" " "	HIRAM A. MATTESON
CANADA	" " "	GEO. MCGOWN
CONNECTICUT	" " "	P. M. W. VERHOEVEN
CALIFORNIA	" " "	
COLORADO.....	" " "	LAWRENCE COFFIN, M.D.
ENGLAND, WALES, &c...	" " "	GEO. M. OSGOODBY
FLORIDA.....	" " "	JOHN F. BALDWIN
GEORGIA.....	" " "	JOHN W. COBURN
ILLINOIS.....	" " "	THOS. J. HODGKINS
INDIANA.....	" " "	GEO. A. NEWELL
INDIAN TERRITORY.....	" " "	ALFRED B. PRICE
KANSAS.....	" " "	BENJ. STRASSER
KENTUCKY.....	" " "	WM. H. SIMS
LOUISIANA.....	" " "	R. KENNETH BICKFORD
MAINE.....	" " "	WM. HOMAN
MARYLAND.....	" " "	WM. DOWNES
MASSACHUSETTS.....	" " "	JOHN J. MARTIN
MICHIGAN.....	" " "	PETER FORRESTER
MISSOURI.....	" " "	JOHN L. BROTHERS
MINNESOTA.....	" " "	ALEX. B. KING
NORTH CAROLINA.....	" " "	
NEW BRUNSWICK.....	" " "	
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	" " "	GEO. C. BISHOP
NEW JERSEY.....	" " "	
OHIO.....	" " "	IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU
OREGON.....	" " "	A. OPPENHEIMER

PENNSYLVANIA	Represented by Comp.	FRANK E. SMITH
RHODE ISLAND	“ “ “	FREDERICK KANTER
SCOTLAND	“ “ “	
TENNESSEE	“ “ “	EDW. J. BARRETT
VERMONT	“ “ “	R. C. CHRISTIANCE .
WISCONSIN	“ “ “	WM. MORGAN LEE

And as visitors:

Comp. GEO. M. OSGOODBY	Past G. .G. .M. .	of the Gen'l Grand Council
“ JOHN W. COBURN	“ “ “	“ “ “
“ GEO. E. W. STIVERS	G. H. P.	“ Grand Chapter
“ JOHN W. PALMER;	“ “ “	“ “ “
“ J. HARRIS BALSTON	Deputy “	“ “ “
“ GEO. SCOTT	Past G. .M. .	of the Grand Council of N. J.

All of whom were heartily 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 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 90th Annual Assembly was dispensed with (the Representatives being furnished with printed copies thereof).

A letter from Past Grand Master JOHN N. MACOMB, from his abode in Kansas, expressing his regret at his inability to be with us on this occasion, with the hope that he might again feel the friendly grasp of the hand of his Companions

of the Grand Council, was received, read, and its sentiments fully endorsed.

Our temporary quarters having become almost untenable by reason of the noise from the street, an appeal was made to the Trustees through R.:Ill.:EDWARD M. L. EHLERS for a change, who soon reported that the "Austin Room" was at our disposal whenever desired—a change was quickly made, and the hearty thanks of every participant showered upon Comp. EHLERS for the comfort afforded us through his successful efforts.

M.:Ill.:JAMES B. MCEWAN, Grand Master, then delivered the following:

ADDRESS.

Companions:—

I greet you and bid you welcome to the 91st Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York. We have met to review the events of the past year, and to plan for the future welfare of our beloved Cryptic Rite.

Let us return thanks to the Grand Architect for permitting us once more to meet and greet each other and to brighten the chain of friendship, which absence may have dimmed.

Before recounting the business events of the year, I ask the attention of the Grand Council for a few moments to pay tribute to beloved Companions who, since our last Annual Assembly, have been called to the Great Beyond, thus severing forever the ties of friendship and brotherly love that for so many years bound us to the departed.

January 5th, 1900, when the spirit of our beloved Companion, Rt.:Ill.:William D'Orville Doty, winged its flight into the presence of the All Merciful One; a faithful, loyal, earnest

Masonic worker was lost to the Fraternity by his sudden demise. Companion Doty was raised in Yonnonidio Lodge, No. 163, October 31st, 1882. Demitted in March, 1889, to become a charter member of Frank R. Lawrence Lodge No. 707. Exalted in Hamilton Chapter No. 62, February 22d, 1883. Greeted in Doric Council No. 19, November 19th, 1884. Knighted in Monroe Commandery No. 12, June 29th, 1883. Received the 32d Degree in the Scottish Rite Bodies of Rochester, March 16th, 1885. On January 8th, 1900, the following circular was issued:

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

ALBANY, January 8th, A. D. 1900, Anno Dep. 2900.

To the Officers and Members of the several Councils of Royal and Select Masters under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York:

It becomes my sad duty at this time to announce the death of our Grand Chaplain, Right Illustrious and Reverend Companion WILLIAM D'ORVILLE DOTY, D. D., which occurred at his home in the City of Rochester on the morning of January 5th, 1900, after a brief illness.

Although the Reverend Companion was an untiring worker in the duties called for by his profession, as evidenced by the large increase in membership of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Rochester, of which he was Pastor for a period of over twenty-two years, as well as the love and respect shown him at all times by those who knew him—yet he found time to show his devotion to Masonry, being a firm friend and constant advocate of its principles from the time he first beheld its beauties until he received the final summons “to rest from his labors.”

Rev. Companion WILLIAM D'ORVILLE DOTY, D. D., was at the time of his death a member of Frank R. Lawrence Lodge No. 707, F. & A. M.

Hamilton Chapter No. 62, R. A. M.

Doric Council No. 19, R. & S. M.

Monroe Commandery No. 12, K. T.

Rochester Consistory A. and A. S. Rite.

in all of which bodies he was a regular attendant, and by his advice and counsel manifested the great interest he felt in their welfare.

He was appointed to the office of Grand Chaplain in the Grand Council in the year 1888, and each succeeding year records the love and esteem the Companions bore him, by his unbroken term of service from that time until the Angel of Death relieved him from all earthly cares.

Let us profit by the lessons he has taught us, so that in following his footsteps our end may be peaceful as was his.

It is my order that this communication be read in open Council at the first regular assembly after its reception, and as a token of the respect and esteem we cherish for our beloved Companion, that the alter be draped in habilaments of mourning for the space of sixty days.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES B. McEWAN,
Grand Master.

Attest :



GEO. VAN VLIET,
Grand Recorder.

On the 26th day of May, 1900, entered into Eternal Life Past Thrice Illustrious Master Valentine Hanf, of Peekskill Council No. 55, R. & S. M.

On the 4th day of July, 1900, Rt. Illustrious Companion John F. Shafer was hurriedly summoned into the presence of his Maker. I can add nothing to the tribute so eloquently expressed by the acting Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery at the death of our beloved Companion, which follows :—

HEADQUARTERS
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHT'S TEMPLAR,
STATE OF NEW YORK.

CHARLES H. ARMATAGE,
Acting Grand Commander.

ALBANY, July 14th, 1900.

GENERAL ORDER No. 6.

To the Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery, and the Officers and Sir Knights of the Subordinate Commanderies of the State of New York:

It is with a heart full of anguish that I formally announce to you that it has pleased the Almighty Ruler of the Universe to remove by death our be-

loved Grand Recorder, whose eminent services have been so distinguished and whose virtues are worthy of imitation by all.

It is not my purpose to rehearse the incidents of our worthy and beloved Sir Knight's life, but rather to give expression to that warm love which has grown within us, ending in an attachment that will not be effaced until time shall call us to join him 'in the blessed hereafter.

We mourn with those that mourn, and unite in heartfelt sorrow with the numerous train of loved ones who will say, 'he never gave us cause for sorrow before'

On the fourth day of July, instant, at Menands, Albany, N. Y., died suddenly, but not unexpectedly, attended by his loving wife,

JOHN FRANKLIN SHAFER,

Eminent Grand Recorder Grand Commandery Knights Templar,
State of New York.

He was born at Bethlehem, N. Y., January 28th, 1843, and began life, after obtaining a good school education, as manager of his father's farm and clerk on his father's line of barges on the Hudson River. He moved to West Troy in 1877, becoming confidential man for Warfords, Robinson & Hinman, barge owners. In 1888 he accepted a position as bookkeeper for the Albany Rural Cemetery and removed to Menands in 1889. He retired from that position in 1899. His sincerity of nature and conscientious love of duty always led him to take a deep interest in religious matters and he joined the Dutch Reformed Church at Bethlehem before he was twenty-one years of age, soon thereafter becoming a deacon and Superintendent of the Sunday School, which positions he held from 1864 to 1877. On his removal to West Troy he joined the North Dutch Reformed Church, becoming an Elder and holding the positions of Superintendent of the Sunday School and Treasurer of the Church from 1880 until 1894. While he was at Bethlehem he was a School Commissioner in 1872, and for a number of years thereafter, and also was First Lieutenant in the local company of State Militia.

He was initiated in Ark Lodge No. 48, F. & A. M., located at Coxsackie, N. Y., December 4th, 1865, passed January 15th 1866, raised February 5th, 1866. He affiliated with King Solomon's Primitive Lodge of Troy, N. Y., May 10th, 1878. Junior Deacon, 1889. Junior Warden, 1890. Senior Warden, 1891-92. Worshipful Master, 1893. District Deputy Grand Master for the Twelfth Masonic District, 1894.

He was advanced to the Degree of Mark Master in Coxsackie Chapter No. 85, located at Coxsackie, N. Y., February 28th, 1868. Passed the Chair, January 20th, 1869. Received and acknowledged a Most Excellent Master, January 20th, 1869. Exalted a Royal Arch Mason, February 24th, 1869. Affiliated with Hudson River Chapter, located at West Troy, N. Y., May 16th, 1878. Master of Third Vail, 1879. Principal Sojourner 1880-81. High Priest,

1882-83. Chaplain, 1884-86. Demitted January 3d, 1889, and affiliated with Apollo Chapter, No. 48, of Troy, N. Y.

Received and greeted as Royal and Select Master April 4th, 1879, in Bloss Council, No. 14, Troy, N. Y. Super-Excellent Master, November 20th, 1879. Steward, 1880-81. Deputy Master, 1882. T. I. Master, 1883-84-85. Trustee, 1888 to 1900.

Received and constituted Knight of the Red Cross in Apollo Commandery No. 15, Troy, N. Y., February 14th, 1879. Dubbed and created a Knight Templar, April 9th, 1879. Received the Order of Malta, May 13th, 1881. Second Guard, 1880. Senior Warden, 1881-82. Captain General, 1883. Generalissimo, 1884. Eminent Commander, 1885-86. Representative of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, 1894. Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New York, 1895 to 1900.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. &c.

Fourteenth Grade in Delta Lodge of Perfection, Troy, June 28th, 1881. T. P. G. Master of Delta Lodge of Perfection, 1885 to 1900.

Sixteenth Grade in Delta Council Princes of Jerusalem, Troy, June 28th, 1881. Junior Grand Warden, Delta Council Princes of Jerusalem, 1883-84.

Eighteenth Grade in Delta Chapter Rose Croix, June 28th, 1881. M. E. & P. K. S. W., in Delta Chapter Rose Croix, 1890 to 1900.

Thirty-second Grade in Albany Sovereign Consistory, Albany, February 2d, 1882. Commander-in-Chief of Albany Sovereign Consistory, 1885 to 1900.

Received, welcomed and proclaimed a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, in the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, United States of America, at New York City, September 17th, 1899.

Faithful to the highest conception of his duties; broad and liberal in his advocacy of what he considered to be the right; considerate of those who differed from him; pleasant and genial in his social intercourse; so the memory of his character is a rich and abiding possession of those who knew and loved him so well.

As are the lives of so many good men, his life was uneventful in the incidents which attract the public eye—he was content to follow the quieter, pleasanter paths which lead only to the love of family, the cheering countenance of companions, and the approving heart of friends.

Secure in the consciousness of duty done, he moved serenely on in that upright daily walk before God and man, in which his friends knew him so well, and which has now merged itself into the 'path of the just, which is as a shining light, which shineth more and more into the perfect day.'

In accordance with the usage of the Order, and as a token of respect to the memory of our lamented frater, it is ordered that this Order be read at the Head of the Lines, at the first stated conclave after its reception, the Commandery

STANDING and UNCOVERED, and for sixty days thereafter the usual emblems of mourning be displayed in each Commandery in this jurisdiction.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, this 14th day of July, nineteen hundred.

CHARLES H. ARMATAGE,
Acting Grand Commander.



Attest :

ARTHUR MACARTHUR,
Acting Grand Recorder.

Upon invitation of Temple Commandery No. 2, K. T., and in company with Most Worshipful Charles W. Mead, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, in our respective capacities as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Grand Master of the Grand Council, and under the escort of Temple Commandery No. 2, of Knights Templar, I attended the funeral of Companion Shafer, who was laid at rest with the ceremonies of Knight Templarism, performed by the Acting Grand Commander, Eminent Sir Charles H. Armatage, assisted by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. C. L. Twing, and Past Grand Commander Jesse B. Anthony.

Sister Grand Councils report the following deaths during the year:

August 24th, 1899, Rt. Ill. Charles Morgan Jones, Grand Deputy Master Grand Council State of Kansas.

September 6th, 1899, Most Illustrious Dwight Phelps, Past Grand Master Grand Council of Connecticut.

December 16th, 1899, Most Illustrious James Henry Welsh, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Connecticut.

January 6th, 1900, Most Illustrious Eugene Stevens, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Rhode Island.

January 24th, 1900, Most Illustrious Orlando McLendon,
Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State
of Georgia.

January 27th, 1900, Most Illustrious Samuel Borden Richard-
son, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of the
State of Illinois.

July 2d, 1900, Most Illustrious Thomas B. Long, Past Grand
Master of the Grand Council of the State of Indiana.

July 19th, 1900, Most Illustrious David Bovee, Past Grand
Master of the Grand Council of the State of Michigan.

October 18th, 1899, the following circular was issued:

JAMES B. MCEWAN,
Most Ill. Grand Master,
Albany.

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

OFFICIAL CIRCULAR NO. 1.

ALBANY, October 18th, A. D. 1899, A. Dep. 2899.

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

RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS:

It is my earnest desire that each Grand Officer should, as soon as possible
after receipt of this notice, communicate with the Officers of the Councils to
which he has been assigned and make arrangements for early visits.

I also urge upon the Officers of the subordinate Councils to extend an invita-
tion to the Grand Officers assigned to them to visit them as soon as convenient.

R. I. GEORGE MCGOWN, G.D.M., Palmyra, N. Y.
Brooklyn, No. 4.....Brooklyn. ✓
Bloss, No. 14.....Troy. ✓
De Witt Clinton, No. 22.....Albany. ✓

R. I. JOHN P. DEAL, G.P.C.W., West Troy, Green Island, N. Y.
Keystone, No. 20.....Buffalo. ✓
Peekskill, No. 55.....Peekskill. ✓
Doric, No. 19.....Rochester. ✓

- R. . I. WILLIARD S. DRADT, G.C. of the G., Rochester, N. Y.
 Central City, No. 13.....Syracuse.
 Dunkirk, No. 25.....Dunkirk.
 Palmyra, No. 26.....Palmyra.
- R. . I. JOHN R. GARDNER, G.C. of C., 100 William St., N. Y. City.
 Columbian, No. 1.....New York.
 Union, No. 2.....New York.
 King Solomon, No. 31.....Poughkeepsie.
- R. . I. and Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D.D., G. Chap. Rochester, N.Y.
 Bruce, No. 15.....Lockport.
 Buffalo, No. 17.....Buffalo.
 Alph-Omega, No. 71.....Medina.
- R. . I. N. H. FREELAND, Grand Marshal, Tarrytown, N. Y.
 Adelpic, No. 7.....New York.
 Hornellsville, No. 35.....Hornellsville.
 Cryptic, No. 37.....Saratoga Springs.
- R. . I. IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU, G. Standard Bearer, Medina, N. Y.
 Utica, No. 28,.....Utica.
 Corning, No. 53.....Corning.
- R. . I. GEO. R. HODGKINS, Grand Steward, Albany, N. Y.
 Washington, No. 52.....Whitehall.
 Johnstown, No. 72.....Johnstown.
 Gouverneur, No. 73.....Gouverneur.
- R. . I. PETER FORRESTER, G.T., 18 Broadway, N. Y. City.
 Southern Tier, No. 16.....Elmira.
 Ithaca, No. 68.....Ithaca.
- R. . I. GEORGE VAN VLIET, G. R., 16 Eighth Ave., N. Y. City.
 Binghamton, No. 24.....Binghamton.
- R. . I. JOHN W. COBURN, G. L., 366 W. 116 St., N. Y. City.
 Jamestown, No. 32.....Jamestown.
 Olean, No. 33.....Olean.
 Nepperhan, No. 70.....Mount Vernon.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES B. McEWAN,
Grand Master.

Attest:

GEORGE VAN VLIET,
Grand Recorder.



EXPLANATION.

Owing to serious illness in my family I have been unable to make a visit to any of the subordinate Councils during the year. I pray that none of my successors may be situated as I have been.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Grand Council of the State of Tennessee having received the system of representation, I had the pleasure of appointing Most Ill. John B. Garrett, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of Nashville, Tenn., Grand Representative of the Grand Council of the State of New York near the Grand Council of Tennessee.

ACCREDITED.

Rt. Ill. Edward J. Barrett, of Bloss Council No. 14, as Representative of the Grand Council of Tennessee near the Grand Council of New York.

Rt. Ill. R. Kenneth Bickford, of Buffalo Council No. 17, as Representative of the Grand Council of Louisiana near the Grand Council of New York.

Rt. Ill. George C. Bishop, of DeWitt Clinton Council, No. 22, Grand Representative of the Grand Council of New Hampshire near the Grand Council of New York.

WAIVERS.

November 1st, 1899—Most Ill. David H. Lukens, Grand Master of Grand Council of New Jersey officially informed me that the waiver asked for by my predecessor over Royal Arch Companions Alex. R. Corbett, of Linden, N. J., and G. Edgar Allen, of Englewood, New

Jersey, had been granted by Kane Council No. 2, of Newark, N. J., in favor of Adelpic No. 7, of New York, and refusing waiver over Royal Arch Companion W. P. Martin, of Newark, N. J.

September 29th, 1899—Received official request from the Grand Master of New Jersey, Most Ill. David H. Newcomb, asking for a waiver of jurisdiction over Royal Arch Companion David H. McConnell, Suffern, N. Y., Otis H. Cutler, Suffern, N. Y., Garrett Burgett, Ramapo, N. Y., Wellington Barnes, Hillburn, N. Y., in favor of Cherry Council No. 6, of Patterson, N. J., which was granted by Peekskill Council No. 55, and forwarded with my approval.

DISPENSATIONS.

December 15th, 1899—To Cryptic Council No. 37, of Saratoga, to elect and install officers on the 28th of December, instead of the 14th.

February 22d, 1900—Most Ill. George A. Newell, to summons Alpha-Omega Council No. 71, for the purpose of electing and installing officers, and the transaction of any other business that might be regularly brought before it.

May 14th, 1900—To Keystone Council No. 20, to receive petitions and ballot on them on May 25th. May 15th was the regular meeting night of that Council, and the Council having given away its right to the use of the rooms to other Masonic bodies rendered this dispensation necessary.

Being assured that a number of Royal Arch Masons were residents of Kingston, N. Y., and vicinity, and within the jurisdiction of King Solomon Council No. 31,

of Poughkeepsie, were desirous of obtaining the Cryptic Degrees, and having expressed their disinclination to apply for membership in said King Solomon Council, I did, on the 13th day of June, 1900, grant to DeWitt Clinton Council No. 22, of Albany, N. Y., dispensation to proceed to Kingston, N. Y., and there receive and ballot on petitions, and confer the degrees of the Cryptic Rite on those who might successfully pass the ballot. While ordinarily I would not be in favor of such actions, still in this case I acted as I believed for the good of the Craft. They now have a sufficient number to warrant them in asking for a charter.

August 1st, 1900—To Bruce Council No. 15, to hold a special Assembly on Tuesday, August 7th, for the election and installing of officers.

And now, my beloved Companions, having thus given you the history of events of interest to the Cryptic Rite which have occurred during the year now about closing—and having followed the line of duty imposed upon the Grand Master of this Grand Council as it has been vouchsafed to me to understand the same—I re-commit to your hands the trust reposed in me one year ago, when, by your action, it was my good fortune to be selected to preside over the deliberations of this Grand Council, with the heartfelt assurance that the distinguished honor is deeply appreciated.

I cannot refrain at this time from expressing my sincere thanks to my associate Grand Officers for the uniform courtesy and ability with which they have aided me in the performance of the duties incumbent upon the Grand Master, and more especially do I take pleasure in returning my personal thanks to our Grand Recorder, M.:I.:George Van Vliet, for his service and counsel during the year.

As stated by me one year ago, that the gavel of authority then placed in my hands would be surrendered at the expira-

tion of the term for which I was elected, I now most cheerfully relinquish the same, and bespeak for my successor the same hearty co-operation that has been accorded me while laboring in the Secret Vault for the advancement of our beloved Cryptic Rite.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES B. McEWAN,
Grand Master.

On motion, the Address was referred for sub-division and reference of its several parts to appropriate Committees, to Companions GEO. MCGOWN, WM. DOWNES and W. S. BRADT.

The Grand Master having assigned serious illness in his family for the entire year, as his reasons for not visiting the Councils in this jurisdiction—on motion, his excuse was declared satisfactory, and the sympathies of the Grand Council tendered him in his bereavement.

The amendment to the Constitution relative to the amendatory clause offered at our last Annual Assembly was taken up for action and adopted.

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 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.....	\$83 35
Received from Grand Recorder during the year.....	1,719 50
" for additional interest	3 15
	\$1,806 00

Disbursements.

On Warrant No. 725—Geo. Van Vliet, Grand Recorder	\$326 04	
" " 726—Geo. Skinner.....	10 00	
" " 727—Jacob Regus	4 00	
" " 728—Hall and Asylum Rents	20 00	
" " 729—Music at Opening of Grand Council...	8 00	
" " 730—Geo. M. Osgoodby, Chair. For. Cor. ...	75 00	
" " 731—Peter Forrester, Grand Treasurer....	14 28	
" " 732—Fred'k Kanter, Grand Master.....	15 00	
" " 733—John R. Gardner	10 00	
" " 734—John F. Baldwin	10 00	
" " 735—Banquet Grand Council	68 90	
" " 736—Pay of Representatives.....	551 52	
" " 737—Dues to General Grand Council	13 00	
" " 738—Printing Proceedings	282 26	
" " 739—Grand Master's Apron	18 50	
" " 740—Resolutions.....	8 25	
" " 741—Flowers at Funeral of Comp. Doty ...	12 00	
" " 742—Exchange on Checks.....	1 78	
" " 743—East River Savings Bank Deposit....	127 55	
" " 744—Merchants Clerks	100 00	1,676 08
	Balance on hand, August 28, 1900....	\$129 92

RECAPITULATION:

August 29th, 1899, Balance on hand.....	83 35	
Receipts during the year	1,722 65	
	1,806 00	
Disbursements for year	1,676 08	
	Balance, August 28th, 1900	\$129 92

Respectfully 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 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 1899	\$1,715 50
From Comp. Irving M. Thompson for Certificate to join Council No. 71	2 50
For attaching Seal to Diplomas during the year	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$1,719 50

Interest on deposit in Savings Bank to July 1, 1900.	\$168 28
Amount originally deposited.	462 71
	<hr/>

Total amount in Bank. \$630 99

The number of Companions received and greeted during the year has been 265

Affiliated	9	
Restored	6	280
	<hr/>	
Suspended during the same period.	66	
Dimitted.	23	
Died.	59	148
	<hr/>	

Net increase 132

Number in good standing as per last report. 4109

Making a registered membership of. 4241 Companions.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET,

Grand Recorder.

The Trustees of the Permanent Fund made the following report:

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

The Trustees of the Permanent Fund respectfully report that they have on deposit to the credit of the Grand Council in the "East River Savings Institution," the sum of Three thousands (3000) dollars, also the sum of One hundred (100) dollars has been deposited to the credit of the Grand Council in the "Institution for Savings of Merchants Clerks," viz.

East River Savings Institution—Principal.....	2,762 39
Additional Deposit.....	127 55
Interest to July 1st, 1900.....	110 06
	<hr/>
	3,000 00
Institution of Savings for Merchants Clerks....	100 00
	<hr/>
Total amount in both Savings Banks.....	\$3,100 00

Respectfully submitted,

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

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:

Credentials and Returns.

GEO. VAN VLIET, MARTIN Q. GOOD, JOHN J. BROOKMAN.

Warrants and Dispensations.

RENO R. BILLINGTON, HENRY CALHOUN, MARK C. FINLAY.

Constitution and Laws.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY, CHARLES STUART, WILL. L. LLOYD.

Unfinished Business.

WILLET TITUS, D. E. MERRILL, FRANK DONAHUE.

Finance and Accounts.

JOHN W. COBURN,

GEO. R. HODGKINS,

WM. HOMAN.

Grievances and Appeals.

A. OPPENHEIMER,

GEO. A. NEWELL,

GEO. C. BISHOP.

Fraternal Dead.

ALEX. B. KING,

JOHN F. BALDWIN,

FRED. KANTER.

Foreign Correspondence.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

JOHN W. COBURN,

THOS. J. HODGKINS.

Library Committee.

GEO. MCGOWN,

ALEX. B. KING,

GEO. VAN VLIET,

WM. H. ANDREWS,

P. M. W. VERHOEVEN,

FRANK M. ADEE.

M. P.: 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:

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

Your Committee have carefully read the Address of the Grand Master, and find there is nothing therein contained that calls for reference to Special Committees.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. MCGOWN, }
WM. DOWNES, } Committee.
W. S. BRADT. }

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

TO THE 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 Council :

Columbian	No. 1.	{ Martin Q. Good..... T. I. M.
		{ Thos. Cunningham..... P. C. of W.
Union.....	" 2.	John J. Brookman..... T. I. M.
		{ Charles Stewart..... "
Brooklyn.....	" 4.	{ E. W. Van Vranken..... Dep. M.
		{ Alex. McKenzie Hughes,.... P. C. of W.
		{ Reno R. Billington..... T. I. M.
Adelphic	" 7.	{ Wm. Homan... Proxy for Dep. M.
		{ Alfred B. Price. P. C. of W.
Central City	" 13.	Theo. M. Barber..... T. I. M.
Bloss.....	" 14.	Henry Calhoun..... "
Bruce	" 15.	William J. Jackman..... "
Buffalo.....	" 17.	Wm. Dempster..... Dep. M.
Doric.....	" 19.	W. S. Bradt..... T. I. M.
Keystone.....	" 20.	W. S. Riselay..... Proxy.
De Witt Clinton.....	" 22.	Will. L. Lloyd..... T. I. M.
Dunkirk	" 25.	H. H. Robinson..... Proxy.
Palmyra.....	" 26.	Mark C. Finlay..... T. I. M.
King Solomon.....	" 31.	Willet Titus..... "
Jamestown	" 32.	D. E. Merrill..... "
Olean.....	" 33.	J. E. Eddy..... Proxy.
Hornellsville.....	" 35.	Frank Donahue..... T. I. M.
Cryptic.....	" 37.	Frank M. Adee..... "
Washington	" 52.	John W. Eddy..... Proxy
Corning	" 53.	S. E. Devore..... T. I. M.
Peekskill.....	" 55.	Thos. J. Hodgkins..... Proxy.
Alph-Omega	" 71.	Geo. A. Newell..... T. I. M.
"	" 71.	Irving l'Hommedieu... .. P. C. of W.
Johnstown	" 72.	John G. Ferres..... T. I. M.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET,
MARTIN. Q. GOOD, } Committee.
JOHN J. BROOKMAN. }

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 2 o'clock, and that on re-assembling the session be continued until the business of the Grand Council is completed.

On motion the Constitution reported by the Special Committee, after Amendment, was adopted as the Constitution of the Grand Council.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28th, 1900—2 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as at the morning's session.

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

The Committee on Finance and Accounts asked that they be allowed to place on the pay-roll the names of Members of Permanent Committees, which was on motion granted.

It was on motion resolved that the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council, be held in the City of Buffalo, on the Third Tuesday in August, 1901, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

A telegram was received from the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Washington, asking that M. P. Comp GEO. M. OSGOODBY be recognized as the Representative of that Grand Council, near the Grand Council of New York.

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. GEO. A. NEWELL and R. C.

CHRISTIANCE, when the Grand Council proceeded to the election with the following result :

Comp. GEO. MCGOWN, of Palmyra.....	Elected Grand Master.
“ JOHN P. DEAL, of (Green Island) Troy.....	“ “ Dep. Master.
“ WILLARD S. BRADT, of Rochester	“ “ P. C. of W.
“ PETER FORRESTER, of New York.....	“ “ Treasurer.
“ GEO. VAN VLIET, of New York.....	“ “ Recorder.
“ JOHN R. GARDNER, of New York	Elected Grand C. of the G.
“ N. H. FREELAND, M. D. of Tarrytown. “	“ C. “ C.
“ IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU, of Medina.....	“ “ Marshal.
“ GEO R. HODGKINS, of Albany.....	“ “ Standard Bearer.
“ JOHN W. COBURN, of New York.....	“ “ Lecturer.
“ CHARLES STEWART, of Brooklyn	“ “ Steward.
“ JAMES B. MCEWAN, of Albany.....	“ “ Trustee for 3 years.

The Grand Master made the following appointments :

Comp. Rev. WARREN C. HUBBARD, of Brooklyn.....	Grand Chaplain.
“ JOHN MALCOLM, of Buffalo	“ Sentinel.

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

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

“Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the North wind's breath,
And stars to set; but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O Death!”

The Grand Master in his Annual Address has brought before us the names of three permanent members of this Grand Council who have completed their labor in the secret vault since our last Annual Assembly.

R. I. and Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D. D.,
Grand Chaplain of this Grand Council,
Died January 5th, 1900.

Past T. I. VALENTINE HANF,
 of Peekskill Council No. 55,
 Died January 26th, 1900.

R. I. JOHN F. SHAFER,
 of Bloss Council No. 14,
 Died July 4th, 1900.

Your Committee on Fraternal Dead, deeply feeling the responsible and solemn duty assigned them, are at a loss for words that would express in fitting terms the deep sentiment and sad thoughts that overshadow them—missing, as they do, from this Annual Assembly, one of our number who for the past twelve years has ever been with us, ministering at our altar and acting as Chairman of this important Committee. In the midst of what seems a still vigorous manhood our beloved Companion R. I. and Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY, D. D., received the message "The Master hath need of thee," and a noble life passed from our sight, entering upon that journey penetrating the mist that veils the unknown life beyond, and the silence and darkness of the grave enshroud his mortal remains.

The Grand Master in his announcement of the death of Comp. DOTY has so ably given his life work and masonic history that your Committee can find nothing to add.

"We mourn no blighted hope nor broken plan,
 With him whose life stood rounded and approved
 In the full growth and stature of a man."

"Upon his girdle was no stain,
 His work had no defect,
 The Overseer accepted all,
 And nothing to reject."

He leaves us naught but pleasant memories and grief for his untimely death.

We extend to Peekskill Council No. 55, and Bloss Council No. 14, our sympathy in the loss to each of them of one of their Past Masters.

Upon Companion JOHN F. SHAFER had been conferred by Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, the highest honors in their power to bestow. At the time of his death he was the Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Louisiana near this Grand Council. He was also Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, Commander in Chief of Albany Sovereign Consistory, A. A. S. Rite, and M. V. President of The Masonic Veteran Association of Troy and vicinity. He was a noble, kind-hearted, genial friend, Brother and Companion, beloved by all.

“So calm, so constant was his rectitude,
That by his loss alone we know its worth,
And feel how true a man has walked on earth with us.”

We also are reminded that our Sister Grand Councils of Kansas, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, have been called upon to part with those whom they have delighted to honor, who have now passed into the mysteries of the other world.

It is eminently fitting therefore that this Grand Council extends to these several jurisdictions the hand of fraternal affection with the assurance of our unfeigned sympathy with them in the loss they have sustained.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. B. KING,
JOHN F. BALDWIN, } Committee.
FRED'K KANTER.

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

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

Your Committee respectfully report that there seems to have been no business left undone at our last Annual Assembly other than the new Constitution, and that having been adopted there appears to be nothing for this Committee to report.

Fraternally submitted,

WILLET TITUS,
D. E. MERRILL, } Committee.
FRANK DONAHUE.

The Committee on Constitution and Laws presented the following report, which was on motion received :

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

Your Committee upon Constitution and Laws would respectfully report :
That no particular questions or matters have been referred to them for their

consideration at this Assembly, and their services have not been invoked, and that all is peace and harmony in this jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,
CHARLES STUART,
WILL L. LLOYD, } Committee.

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

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

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts respectfully report the examination of the Books and Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, and certify to their correctness.

We recommend the payment of the following amounts:

Grand Recorder for Salary	\$300 00
“ “ “ Expenses during past year	31 96
Grand Sentinel “ Services at this Annual Assembly	10 00
“ “ “ Assistant “ “ “	4 00
Trustees Hall and Asylum Fund for Rent of Room and Safe	20 00
Music at Opening	8 00
Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence	75 00
Grand Treasurer for Expenses during past year	17 68
Grand Master “ “ “ “	15 00
John F. Baldwin Bill for Printing, &c	16 75
Entertainment of Representatives at this Assembly	59 65
Apron for Grand Master	18 50
Pay of Representatives to this Annual Assembly	514 34
	<u>\$1,090 88</u>

We also recommend that about \$200 be left in the Contingent Fund, and that the balance be deposited with the Trustees of the Permanent Fund.

That the Grand Recorder be authorized to print 500 copies of the Proceedings of this Annual Assembly.

That he be authorized to draw a Warrant for the Annual Dues to the General Grand Council.

And that he be authorized to insert in the Journals of the Proceedings each year, portraits of the Grand Master and one or two of the Past Grand Masters.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN W. COBURN,
WM. HOMAN,
GEO. R. HODGKINS, } Committee.

The thanks of the Grand Council were extended to M.:I.: FREDERICK KANTER for services rendered Grand Council in preparing Opening Programme, &c.

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

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

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals appointed by the Grand Master begs to report as follows:

That they fail to discover any trouble in our family, finding nothing except peace, harmony and good will.

That the Grand Master has no fault to find with any subordinate Council in this jurisdiction, no appeal or grievance having been brought to the attention of the Committee.

Trusting that the same peace and harmony will ever prevail, we beg leave to submit this as our report.

Fraternally,

A. OPPENHEIMER,
GEO. A. NEWELL,
GEO. C. BISHOP, } Committee.

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

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

The Committee on Warrants and Dispensations would respectfully report that they have had presented to them two petitions from the members of NEPPERHAN COUNCIL No. 70—one asking that the name of the Council be changed to PHOENIX COUNCIL No. 70, and the other, that they be permitted to hold Assemblies in the City of Yonkers as well as in the City of Mount Vernon when it may seem to them best.

As to the first petition there seems to be locally a well grounded objection to the name of NEPPERHAN and the Companions seem to think that another name would conduce to greater activity and added zeal.

As to the second petition, the Committee can see no objection to permitting the members to assemble in the City of Yonkers when it may seem best to them, providing that their jurisdiction be not thereby enlarged or changed.

The Committee would therefore recommend to this GRAND COUNCIL for adoption the following resolution :

Resolved, That the petition of the members of NEPPERHAN COUNCIL No. 70, R. and S. M., to change the name of the Council to PHOENIX COUNCIL No. 70 be and the same is hereby granted and that the members of the said Council may at such times as to them may seem best, hold their Assemblies in the City of Yonkers, their jurisdiction over candidates, however, to remain as heretofore.

The Committee have also had presented to them for consideration a resolution "that the charter of ITHACA COUNCIL No. 68 declared forfeited at the last Assembly of the GRAND COUNCIL be restored on such terms and conditions as may be approved by the Grand Master elect," and after having fully considered the said resolution and the circumstances of the members, the said Committee would respectfully report for adoption by this GRAND COUNCIL the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charter of ITHACA COUNCIL No. 68 declared forfeited at the last Assembly of the GRAND COUNCIL be and the same is hereby restored to the former members of said Council to remain with them so long as they comply with the provisions of our Constitution, and, providing that the members of the said Council on or before January first, nineteen hundred and one, pay to the Recorder of this Grand Council, the sum of seventy-five dollars and that said sum be received in full for all past indebtedness of said Council to this Grand Body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RENO R. BILLINGTON,
HENRY C. CALHOUN,
M. C. FINLAY, } Committee.

The following resolution was read and referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

Resolved: That the portraits of each of the Past Grand Masters so far as they can be obtained, be published in the Proceedings of this Body.

The Officers elect for the ensuing year were duly installed by M.:I.:GEORGE A. NEWELL, as installing Officer, assisted by M.:P.:GEO. M. OSGOODBY, as Grand Marshal.

On motion of Comp. COBURN the thanks of the Grand Council was tendered to our retiring Grand Master M.:I.: JAMES B. MCEWAN, for his efforts to advance the interest of the Cryptic Rite during his term of office.

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

No further business offering 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, 1900....	\$6 00
“ Union	“ “	2,	“ “ “	32 00
“ Brooklyn	“ “	4,	“ “ “	59 00
“ Adelpic	“ “	7,	“ “ “	228 50
“ Central City	“ “	13,	“ “ “	194 00
“ Bloss	“ “	14,	“ “ “	353 50
“ Bruce	“ “	15,	“ “ “	21 00
“ Southern Tier	“ “	16,	“ “ “	_____
“ Buffalo	“ “	17,	“ “ “	102 00
“ Doric	“ “	19,	“ “ “	145 00
“ Keystone	“ “	20,	“ “ “	73 50
“ DeWitt Clinton	“ “	22,	“ “ “	288 50
“ Dunkirk	“ “	25,	“ “ “	35 00
“ Palmyra	“ “	26,	“ “ “	37 50
“ King Solomon	“ “	31,	“ “ “	30 50
“ Jamestown	“ “	32,	“ “ “	27 50
“ Olean	“ “	33,	“ “ “	10 50
“ Hornellsville	“ “	35,	“ “ “	23 00
“ Cryptic	“ “	37,	“ “ “	95 00
“ Washington	“ “	52,	“ “ “	23 00
“ Corning	“ “	53,	“ “ “	35 00
“ Peekskill	“ “	55,	“ “ “	26 00
“ Nepperhan	“ “	70,	“ “ “	_____
“ Alph-Omega	“ “	71,	“ “ “	14 50
“ Johnstown	“ “	72,	“ “ “	35 50
“ Gouverneur	“ “	73,	“ “ “	_____
				\$1,836 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	Martin Q. Good.	Chas. P. Peirce.	Thos. Cunningham.	P. M. W. Verhoeven.	New York.	New York.	2d and 4th Mondays.
UNION	2	J. J. Brookman.	Walter A. Smith.	John Bramwell.	Arthur T. Billings.	New York.	New York.	3d Saturday.
BROOKLYN	4	Charles Stewart.	E. W. Van Vranken.	Alex. McK. Hughes.	Walter H. Young.	Brooklyn.	Kings.	4th Saturday.
ADELPHIC	7	R. R. Billington.	Wm. E. Duncan.	Alfred D. Slough.	John W. Coburn.	New York.	New York.	1st Saturday.
CENTRAL CITY	13	Theo. M. Barber.	Horace G. Stone.	Geo. A. Wood.	Edwin C. Talcott.	Syracuse.	Onondaga.	1st Wednesday.
BLOSS	14	Henry Calhoun.	Warren K. Nible.	E. A. Webster.	Frank A. Andros.	Troy.	Rensselaer.	1st Friday.
BRUCE	15	Wm. J. Jackman.	Frank E. Smith.	Charles N. Palmer.	Van Ness Douglas.	Lockport.	Niagara.	4th Monday.
SOUTHERN TIER	16	Wm. L. Hylan.	Chas. L. Hart.	Henry K. Ball.	H. M. Shelve.	Elmira.	Chemung.	3d Monday.
BUFFALO	17	Clark W. Rice.	Wm. Dempster.	H. Jasen Kuapp.	Wm. J. Donaldson.	Buffalo.	Eric.	2d Thursday.
DORIC	19	Willard S. Bradt.	Frank E. Fitch.	Thos. G. Young.	John Alexander.	Rochester.	Monroe.	1st & 3d Wednesdays.
KEYSTONE	20	David W. Adams.	Geo. Clinton.	Chas. S. Butler.	Wm. S. Riselay.	Buffalo.	Eric.	2d Saturday.
DEWITT CLINTON	22	Will L. Lloyd.	J. T. Manrahan.	Wm. H. Spawn.	J. E. Allanson.	Albany.	Albany.	3d Thursday.
DUNKIRK	25	Henry J. Gibbs.	John W. Ware.	John Hilliard.	John Y. Bartlett.	Dunkirk.	Chautauqua.	1st Wednesday.
PALMYRA	26	Mark C. Finlay.	C. H. Brigham.	Chas. T. Walkley.	George McGowan.	Palmyra.	Wayne.	2d Monday.
KING SOLOMON	31	Willet Titus.	C. A. Dutcher.	Chas. H. Langdon.	Warren S. Herman.	Poughkeepsie.	Dutchess.	
JAMESTOWN	32	David E. Merrill.	James Butler.	Chas. D. Wilson.	John B. Shaw.	Jamestown.	Chautauqua.	2d Wednesday.
OLEAN	33	Ed. F. Halliday.	M. Southeron.	Wm. L. Myrick.	A. A. Swarts.	Olean.	Cattaraugus.	1st Wednesday.
HORNELLSVILLE	35	Frank Donahue.	Geo. W. Brown.	Wm. H. Prangen.	B. B. Babcock.	Hornellsville.	Steuben.	2d Friday.
CRYPTIC	37	Frank M. Adee.	R. C. Fonda.	C. M. Collins.	A. A. Trim.	Saratoga Spr'gs.	Saratoga.	2d & 4th Thursdays.
WASHINGTON	52	Warren F. Bascom.	E. P. Newcomb.	D. C. Smith.	John W. Eddy.	Whitehall.	Washington.	4th Thursday.
CORNING	53	S. E. Devore.	Hugh H. Kendall.	Edward E. Magee.	Geo. Hitchcock.	Corning.	Steuben.	1st & 2d Thursdays.
PEEKSKILL	55	Edward F. Hill.	Wm. R. Thorne.	Edmond C. Nation.	Thos. J. Hodgkins.	Peekskill.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
NEPPERHAN	70	Edgar T. Stewart.	Daniel Lewis.	Geo. C. Jolus.	A. St. John Shepard.	Mount Vernon.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
ALPH-Omega	71	Geo. A. Newell.	Fred. T. Gates.	I. L'Hommedieu.	Geo. H. Shattuck.	Medina.	Orleans.	2d Wednesday.
JOHNSTOWN	72	John G. Ferris.	Geo. R. Collamer.	Eugene Moore.	John J. Buchanan.	Johnstown.	Fulton.	2d Wednesday.
GOUVENEUR	73	Edward H. Neary.	J. V. Baker.	Chas. McCarty.	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.	Hugh H. Kendall.....	Corning.	Gen. Grand Council.		
H. Clay Armstrong.....	Montgomery.	H. A. Matteson.....	Dunkirk.	Alabama.	J. H. Kennerly.....	Sulphur Rock.
Fay Hempstead.....	Little Rock.	Theo. M. Barber.....	Syracuse.	Arkansas.	Chas. Lord Field.....	San Francisco.
Wm. Abraham Davies.....	San Francisco.	Lawrence Coffin.....	Brooklyn.	California.	Jos. W. Milson.....	Canon City.
Ernest Le M. Foster.....	Denver.	John F. Baldwin.....	New York.	Colorado.	James A. Chaffin.....	Milton.
John Carlovitz.....	Milton.	John W. Coburn.....	New York.	Florida.	Wm. A. Wolihin.....	Macon.
W. A. Wolihin.....	Maton.	Geo. A. Newell.....	Medina.	Georgia.	Lucienne A. Foote.....	Crawfordsville.
Wm. H. Smythe.....	Indianapolis.	Alfred B. Price.....	New York.	Indiana.		
Rev. Joseph S. Murrow.....	Atoka.	Benj. Strasser.....	Albany.	Indian Territory.		
Wm. M. Shaver.....	Topeka.	R. Kenneth Bickford.....	Buffalo.	Kansas.	John H. Spencer.....	Independence.
Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.	Wm. Homan.....	New York.	Louisiana.	Richard Lambert.....	New Orleans.
Stephen Berry.....	Portland.	William Downes.....	New York.	Maine.	Josiah H. Drummond.....	Portland.
Geo. L. McCahan.....	Baltimore.	John J. Martin.....	Albany.	Maryland.	James W. Bowers.....	Baltimore.
J. Gilman Waite.....	Boston.	Alex. B. King.....	Troy.	Massachusetts.	Wm. B. Lawrence.....	Medford.
Thos. Montgomery.....	St. Paul.	John L. Brothers.....	Buffalo.	Minnesota.	Geo. W. Cooley.....	Minneapolis.
Wm. H. Mayo.....	St. Louis.	Horace M. Hibbard.....	Ithaca.	Missouri.	Noah M. Given.....	St. Louis.
Francis E. White.....	Omaha.	Geo. C. Bishop.....	Albany.	Nebraska.		
Geo. P. Cleaves.....	Concord.	Rev. W. D'O. Doty.....	Rochester.	New Hampshire.	Henry P. Glidden.....	Dover.
Geo. Van Vliet.....	16 Eighth Ave., N. Y. City.	Irving L'Hommedieu.....	Medina.	New York.	E. S. Martin.....	
James C. Munds.....	Wilmington.	A. Oppenheimer.....	Buffalo.	North Carolina.	Wm. M. Cunningham.....	Newark.
Wm. E. Evans.....	Chillicothe.	Geo. L. Kingston.....	Buffalo.	Ohio.	Milton S. Woodstock.....	Corvallis.
Seth L. Pope.....	Portland.	Edw. J. Barrett.....	Troy.	Oregon.	H. F. Miller.....	Charleston.
Zimmerman Davis.....	Charleston.	Ralph C. Christiance.....	Ithaca.	South Carolina.	K. Haskins.....	Nashville.
W. A. Clendening.....	Nashville.			Tennessee.		Brattleboro.
Warren G. Reynolds.....	Burlington.			Vermont.		
Edward R. Hare.....	Paoma.			Washington.		

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.....	Peekskill.	Illinois.	John O'Neill.....	Chicago.
James W. Staton.....	Brooksville.	Wm. H. Sims.....	Hornellsville.	Kentucky.	Wm. Ryan.....	Louisville.
Jefferson S. Conover.....	Coldwater.	Peter Forrester.....	New York.	Michigan.	Emerson M. Newell.....	Holly.
J. L. Power.....	Jackson.	A. P. Knapth.....	Saratoga Sps.	Mississippi.		
Charles Bechtel.....	Trenton.	Frank E. Smith.....	Lockport.	New Jersey.	John B. Bertholf.....	Jersey City.
J. L. Lyte.....	Lancaster.	Frederick Kanter.....	New York.	Pennsylvania.	Geo. C. Johnstone.....	Allegheny City.
William R. Greene.....	Providence.	Wm. Morgan Lee.....	Poughkeepsie	Rhode Island.	A. H. Cushman.....	Providence.
John W. Laffin.....	Milwaukee.			Wisconsin.	W. W. Daggett.....	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 Queen St., London, W. C.	George M. Osgoodby.....	New York.	England, Wales, &c.	Nathaniel G. Phillips.....	London.
Robert Marshall.....	St. John, N. B.	T. A. Williamson.....	Albany.	New Brunswick.	J. V. Ellis.....	St. John.
Robert S. Brown.....	5 Marchmont Terrace, Edinburgh.	William Sherer.....	Brooklyn.	Scotland.	David B. Clark.....	

At Rest from Their Labors.

Union No. 2	Comp. ANDREW BLAKE	Died Jan. 13th, 1900.
Brooklyn No. 4.	“ JOHN DOUGLASS.....	“ June 1899.
“ “	“ JOHN B. HARRIS.....	“ Sept. 1899.
“ “	“ JOSEPH H. BEVAN.....	“ Oct. 1899.
“ “	“ GEO. W. KERSHAW.....	“ March 1900.
Adelphic No. 7.	“ ADOLPH MUEHSAM	“ Aug. 26th, 1899.
“ “	“ FRED’K HERRING	“ Aug. 13th, 1899.
“ “	“ THOMAS DARLING	“ Sept. 23d, 1899.
“ “	“ SAMUEL D. LUNDY.....	
“ “	“ J. B. KIRKLAND.....	
“ “	“ CORN’S S. MORRELL	“ Feb. 18th, 1900.
“ “	“ GEO. SKINNER	1899.
“ “	“ HARRY B. THOMBURY	“ March 7th, 1900.
“ “	“ RUFUS M. STIVERS.....	“ July 19th, 1900.
Central City No. 13.	“ VAN HALON WALTON.....	“ Oct. 7th, 1897.
“ “ “	“ CHARLES ELLIOTT IDE....	“ Dec. 9th, 1899.
Bloss No. 14	“ E. RAY THOMPSON.....	“ Aug. 14th, 1899.
“ “	“ A. L. HOTCHKIN	“ Oct. 16th, 1899.
“ “	“ W. HOWES SMITH.....	“ Oct. 15th, 1899.
“ “	“ ISAAC G. FLACK.....	“ Oct. 27th, 1899.
“ “	“ HORACE H. HENRY.....	“ Nov. 2d, 1899.
“ “	“ E. A. WAGER.....	“ Nov. 28th, 1899.
“ “	“ ALBERT AKIN	“ Feb. 11th, 1899.
“ “	“ JOHN SPAN	“ Feb. 24th, 1899.
“ “	“ EDWARD WALKER	“ Aug. 12th, 1899.
“ “	“ JOSIAH A. WAIT	“ Dec. 17th, 1899.
“ “	“ EDWARD B. COX	“ March 5th, 1900.
“ “	“ JOHN BOETCHER.....	“ March 12th, 1900.
“ “	“ D. S. WETMORE.....	“ March 29th, 1900.

Bloss No. 14.....	Comp. W. JOHN STEVENSON....	Died April 7th, 1900.
“ “	JOHN S. CARTER	“ April 14th, 1900.
“ “	DUNCAN McNAB.....	“ May 19th, 1900.
“ “	HUGH WEIR	“ May 21st, 1900.
Buffalo No. 17.....	WM. D. KOELSCH	“ July 31st, 1900.
Doric No. 19.....	Rev. W. D'ORVILLE DOTY	“ Jan. 5th, 1900.
“ “	EDWARD A. TROST	“ Jan. 24th, 1900.
“ “	JOHN M. BROWN	“ April 25th, 1900.
Keystone No. 20	WM. J. RUNCIE	“ Oct. 8th, 1899.
“ “	GEO. I. WHITE	“ May 18th, 1900.
DeWitt Clinton No. 22	C. W. VANDENBURGH	“ Nov. 1st, 1899.
“ “ “	A. C. GRAVES	“ Dec. 23d, 1899.
“ “ “	JOHN R. WOOD.....	“ Dec. 28th, 1899.
“ “ “	JAS. CALHOUN.....	“ Jan. 8th, 1900.
“ “ “	JOHN ZIMMERMAN, JR.	“ March 21st, 1900.
“ “ “	WM. H. WHISH.....	“ April 23d, 1900.
“ “ “	THOMAS SCOTT	“ May 8th, 1900.
Dunkirk No. 25.....	RALPH B. DAY	“ Feb. 26th, 1899.
Palmyra No. 26	HENRY C. BREMENT	“ March 24th, 1900.
“ “	JOSEPH W. TAYLOR	“ March 27th, 1900.
Hornellsville No. 35..	LEVI FRANK	“ Dec. 14th, 1899.
Washington No. 52... ..	F. W. SPOOR.....	“ Aug. 5th, 1899.
“ “	NORMAN Z. BAKER	“ March 2d, 1900.
Corning No. 53.....	ABRAHAM ARMSTRONG....	“ Aug. 15th, 1899.
“ “	MARTIN ROSENBAUM	“ Nov. 14th, 1899.
Peeckskill No. 55	VALENTINE HANF.....	“ May 26th, 1900.
“ “	BASIL J. GRAY	
“ “	JOHN WORTHINGTON.....	
Johnstown No. 72....	JACOB P. MILLER.	“ Feb. 6th, 1900.
“ “	JOHN E. BURDICK	“ April 30th, 1900.

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

COLUMBIAN COUNCIL No. 1.

William S. Patterson.	Peter Forrester.	Thos. Cunnington.
Peter M. W. Verhoeven.	Garvey Donaldson.	Geo. W. Anderson.
John G. Barker.		James H. Curtin.

UNION COUNCIL No. 2.

John F. Baldwin.	L. K. Goldsmith.	Samuel W. Wiley
John S. King.	W. M. Postley.	Robert Neil.
Geo. H. Toop.	C. H. Sandford.	John J. Brookman.
	Chas. E. Lansing.	

BROOKLYN COUNCIL No. 4.

Claudius F. Beatty.	Wm. M. Smith.	Adolph C. Wenzel.
Albert E. Leach.	Wm. P. Howell.	Charles J. Harvey.
Geo. Nicholson.	Joseph H. Truman.	Chas. G. Little.
Samuel Bennett.		Lawrence Coffin, M.D.

ADELPHIC COUNCIL No. 7.

George Van Vliet.	Wm. Downes.	Frederick Kanter.
Horace Metcalf.	E. M. L. Ehlers.	George E. W. Stivers.
John W. Coburn.	Royal E. Deane.	T. F. Russell.
Wm. H. Andrews.	John R. Gardner.	Fred. E. Davis.
	J. Harris Balston.	Edwin A. Quick by affiliation

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. Cox.	D. D. Houghtaling.	Arthur MacArthur.
Jesse B. Anthony.	William M. Peckham.	T. Campbell Collin.
Chas. Teson.	Joseph A. Leggett.	John P. Deal.
	Edward J. Barrett.	

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.	Theo. L. Wadsworth.	Wm. H. Cass.
Gerard McVicar.	Henry R. Clark.	Geo. W. Voss.
Wm. J. Donaldson.	Charles E. Markham.	Geo. L. Kingston.
Cyrus K. Porter.		R. Kenneth Bickford.

DORIC COUNCIL No. 19.

Henry M. Plant.	Willard S. Bradt.	Ezra M. Sparling.
John W. Merriam.	Samuel C. Pierce.	Edward Edwards.
Wm. H. Maston.	A. D. McMaster.	Harry J. Mulligan.
	Edward Schaefer.	

KEYSTONE COUNCIL No. 20.

David F. Day.	E. A. Rockwood.	H. McMichael.
Stephen M. Ratcliffe.	Warren A. Woodson.	Robt. T. Walker.
Darwin E. Morgan.	Levi S. Gates.	Fred. E. Ogdens.
John L. Brothers.	John C. Gager.	Paul W. Bullard.
	Warren F. Chandler.	

DEWITT CLINTON COUNCIL No. 22.

Frank Chamberlain.	John A. Davis.	T. Austin Williamson.
James W. Morange.	Thomas J. Bishop.	Geo. R. Hodgkins.
John J. Martin.	James B. McEwan.	Willard S. Gibbons.
Edmund R. Willerton.	Benjamin Strasser.	Geo. C. Bishop.
	Alfred A. Guthrie.	

ONTARIO COUNCIL No. 23.

William P. Durrant.	Edward Kendall.	J. Henry Smith.
John N. Macomb.	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.

C. E. Hequembourg.	Benj. L. Harrison.	Henry J. Gibbs, Jr.
Hiram A. Matteson.	Byron Rathbun.	Frank B. Barnard.
	E. L. Clement.	

PALMYRA COUNCIL No. 26.

Elijah Ennis.	George McGown.	S. Nelson Sawyer.
Mark C. Finlay.	John H. 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.	Derrick Brown.
Wm. Morgan Lee.	Edgar M. Weeks.	Willet Titus.

JAMESTOWN COUNCIL No. 32.

John B. Shaw.		David E. Merrill.
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OLEAN COUNCIL No. 33.

J. A. Taylor.	C. S. Hanks.	Albert A. Swarts.
J. K. Palmer.	M. Southeren.	John Sloane.
W. L. Myrick.	John L. Eddy.	Ed. F. Halliday.
	J. Arthur Corbin.	

HORNELLSVILLE COUNCIL No. 35.

John I. Bentley.	Wm. H. Sims.	W. L. Collins.
O. E. Elwell.	L. S. Boardman.	I. S. Lanning.
J. H. Sprong.	Wm. H. Prangen.	B. B. Babcock.
	H. T. Harris.	

CRYPTIC COUNCIL No. 37.

Charles H. Sturgis.	J. Marshall Colcord.	John Bennett.
C. H. Holden.	A. P. Knapp.	Frank M. Adee.

WASHINGTON COUNCIL No. 52.

Norman Z. Baker.

Warren F. Bascom.

CORNING COUNCIL No. 53.

Edward Clisdell.

Jerome S. Billington.

Herbert C. Austin.

Truman S. Pritchard.

John Comosh.

Chas. E. Greenfield.

George B. Hill.

Hugh H. Kendall.

Elbert B. Seymour.

Joseph C. Moore.

PEEKSKILL COUNCIL No. 55.

John Halstead.

N. H. Freeland.

Thos. J. Hodgkins.

David Griffin.

Edward F. Hill.

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.

James H. Jenkins.

Rufus B. Disbrow.

Gideon S. Pond.

M. E. Close.

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.

Harwood Dudley

Fred. L. Carroll.

Frank Hanson.

GOUVERNEUR COUNCIL No. 73.

John McCarty.

Daniel J. Whitney

Edward H. Neary.

Charles McCarty.

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

Your Committee upon Foreign Correspondence again present their Report for the past year. The Grand Councils of the different jurisdictions both of our own and of foreign countries are included in the following list, of which we are able to report thirty-five, at the present, with a hope that ere this goes to press we may have information from Kansas and Ontario, which will enable the writer to say that every known jurisdiction in the world has been included in our present review. We have written several times to our Companions over the border, for information of the Grand Council of Ontario, but, although we have sent to different sources to get information, commencing in July last, we are without the facts to enable us to make report. As to Kansas, we have also written several times, but do not get any response whatever. Probably their proceedings are not printed, but

that does not excuse the courtesy of a reply to inquiries, especially when made for the purpose of including full information of the standing of the Cryptic Rite in a Grand Council Report.

Our list is as follows:

Alabama, - - - 1899	Louisiana, - - - 1900	Ohio, - - - - 1899
Arkansas, - - - 1899	Maine, - - - - 1899	Ontario, - - - No returns
California, - - - 1900	Maryland, - - - 1899	Oregon, - - - - 1900
Colorado, - - - 1899	Massachusetts, - 1899	Pennsylvania, - - 1900
Connecticut, - - 1900	Michigan, - - - 1900	Rhode Island, - - 1899
England and Wales, 1900	Minnesota, - - - 1899	South Carolina, - 1900
Florida, - - - - 1900	Missouri, - - - 1900	Tennessee, - - - 1900
Georgia, - - - - 1900	Mississippi, - - - 1899	Vermont, - - - - 1900
Illinois, - - - - 1899	New Brunswick, - 1899	Washington, - - - 1900
Indiana, - - - - 1899	Nebraska, - - - 1899	Wisconsin, - - - 1900
Indian Territory, - 1899	New Jersey, - - - 1900	General Grand
Kansas, - - - - No returns	New Hampshire, - 1899	Council - - - 1900
Kentucky, - - - - 1899	North Carolina, - 1900	

From a careful study of the returns from the different jurisdictions named above, as far as we have been favored with replies to inquiries, we are compelled to come to the conclusion that the Cryptic Rite is making good headway in the missionary fields of the country, as will be seen by an examination of the pages following. We believe that much to encourage, much to interest and much to aid in efforts to build up the Rite is to be found in the proceedings of the several Grand Bodies reviewed. We commence, as usual, with

ALABAMA—1899.

The sixty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Montgomery, December 4. Five Councils were represented, and a membership of 217 was reported. The proceedings have not been printed since 1893, and our only source of information is through the fraternal courtesy

of R. I.: Companion H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, the Grand Recorder, to whom we have been indebted on many former occasions for like information regarding this Grand Body. He states that there was no business of particular interest transacted at this Assembly, beyond the usual routine.

M. I.: GEORGE A. BEAUCHAMP, of Enfaula, was elected Grand Master, and R. I.: H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, of Montgomery, was re-elected as Grand Recorder.

ARKANSAS—1899.

The thirty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Little Rock, November 23d, M. I.: THOMAS M. HORSFALL, Grand Master, presiding. There are ten Councils upon the roll, of which eight made returns and paid dues, having representatives present. The address of the Grand Master covers (with accompanying documents) nine pages. The decease of two Past Grand Masters of this jurisdiction are noted with proper words of sympathy and eulogy, M. I.: JOHN J. SUMPTER and M. I.: J. H. VAN HOOSE being the deceased companions whose deaths are thus noted. The decease of R. I.: JAMES A. HENRY, their Grand Recorder, who also departed this life during the year, was also noted. The writer has been privileged for a score of years past to have had the friendship and close relations of fraternity with Companion HENRY, and can most sincerely endorse and coincide in the words of commendation which his decease has called from the Companions of this Grand Council. A lifelike portrait of our departed Companion is included in the printed proceedings of this Assembly, and it seems to be just ready to speak, so true to life it is. His work is finished in this life, and well done it was. He lived the life of a true man and mason; ever ready to aid by advice and counsel; by hard work; by words of sympathy to those in need of such and by more substantial assistance where the occasion required such an offering. His was a pattern life, one to be emulated and followed, and his life work will not soon disappear from his sphere of labors, but will remain to inspire and build up the work in which he took such an interest. His labors ended, his reward begins and in his newer, higher, better life he will receive the rest to which, by his work, he is so well entitled.

The address of the Grand Master exhibits a far better degree of earnest labor in his office than is usually found at the present time. His official year was one of work, and great credit is due to him for the example which he has set for those who may in future years follow in his official footsteps. Nearly every Council in his jurisdiction had a visit from him, and some were favored with more than one. Work like this builds up and revivifies the Councils and tends to encourage the Companions to strive still harder to accomplish the great end of the life of a good mason, to advance the

virtues, to aid the distressed, and in short, to live and help others to so live that life will be the better for all with whom they become associated.

Illustrious Companion FAY HEMPSTEAD, of Little Rock, was appointed to act as Grand Recorder, *pro tem.*, taking the place of the deceased Recorder.

Proper action was taken by the body relative to the decease of these distinguished Companions.

A petition was presented by a Royal Arch Companion to this Assembly, stating that there was no Council located in the county of his residence; his desire to receive the degrees of the Cryptic Rite, etc., which was referred to a Committee of Investigation, and upon its favorable report a ballot was ordered and the candidate elected. The material was then turned over to Occidental Council for the conferring of the degrees, with power to affiliate the Companion at once upon receiving the degrees, should he so desire. This is a custom peculiar to this jurisdiction, and in a jurisdiction extending over so much territory as Alabama has, with such a limited number of Councils, there may not be the objection to it, which other jurisdictions would probably have, although within its inherent authority and lawful powers.

The other work of this Assembly was of the usual routine, but a spirit of interest was manifested in its labors that bids fair to hasten a harvest in the coming years which will redound to the credit of this Grand Council. The labors of the Grand Master are entitled to credit for this result in great part.

A report on Correspondence was presented by Companion R. J. LAUGHLIN who reviews, very briefly, the proceedings of seventeen bodies, including New York for 1898, to which is given about one page; in the course of which, referring to the fact that the writer (in his report of that year), complained of not getting answers from different jurisdictions so as to make up his report, bids us to "have patience," stating that he has "utterly failed to get any attention paid to frequent appeals for information regarding one of the Grand Bodies of New York; that big jurisdictions are sometimes too busy to answer little fellows." We have no excuse to make for any body in New York which negligently fails to answer appeals for information of this character, and although we do not know which Body is referred to by our Companion, we trust that he will never have occasion to have such treatment repeated to him again. Companion LAUGHLIN quotes from the "Conclusion" of our Report for that year freely, with approval, and is pleased to say of the report, that "it is very complete." The review of other jurisdictions made by Companion LAUGHLIN covers periods already reviewed by the writer last year, and so calls for no further comment at our hands.

M. I. THOMAS M. HORSEFALL was re-elected Grand Master; address, HAZEN and R. I. FAY HEMPSTEAD, Little Rock, was elected Grand Recorder. Next Assembly to be held at Little Rock in November, 1900.

CALIFORNIA—1900.

The fortieth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at San Francisco, April 16th. Representatives from eleven subordinate Councils, together with Grand Representatives from twenty-one Grand Councils, were present, M. L. AUGUST WACKERBARTH, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers about four pages, principally devoted to matters of local interest. In closing his address he presents some interesting thoughts which should have consideration and careful study. We quote:

"I cannot, however, hand over the gavel to my successor without referring to certain convictions which my year of service has deeply impressed upon me. *Noblesse oblige*. Rank imposes obligation; the Master who tries to do his full duty must look below the surface if he would know the full significance of the symbols and the ceremonies entrusted to his keeping; the deeper he delves, the stronger will his convictions grow that the system of philosophy represented by the symbols of Masonry is older than any date fixed by Masonic legend or Masonic allegory.

"To-day, modern Europe is composed of a dozen or more separate nations, each independent of any other, each working out its own destiny, and having its own mission to perform. Yet these nations once formed a part of the mighty Roman Empire. That Empire, as a political body, has gone to pieces. It was the slow growth of centuries; the various systems of national ethics, of jurisprudence, of religious thought, of customs and manners that entered into the life of the Roman people grew, in process of time, as grows Egypt's sacred symbol, the onion, by layers, one over the other, each fitting itself to the requirements of its particular time and special locality. The political Empire that was held together by the power of the sword, that dominated the world by brute force, has disappeared from the list of nations.

"That other Empire, the Empire of Thought, founded upon the evolution of the human mind, still lives and exercises a controlling influence over every people in Europe. With slight modifications necessitated by time and place, the ancient Roman mind governs modern Europe, the *Jus civile* is still the basis of modern jurisprudence, and the folk lore of the nations can be traced back to the time when the Roman Eagle was the emblem of the state.

"I am convinced that the various branches of Masonry, tinctured though they be by Jewish history and Jewish allegory, separate as they now are in their various divisions, are yet parts of what was once a single mighty system of religious philosophy. Like the present nations that are the off-shoots of the Roman Empire, our present Masonic systems are the off-shoots of an older system that flourished long before the thoughts of man were recorded on the bricks of Assyria.

"I am sometimes inclined to think that the difficulty and the immense labor and patience required in recording delicate shades of meaning, by

means of the hieroglyphic method of writing, gave birth to symbols as a mode of expression. I am not sure, as I was taught when a boy, that symbols and hieroglyphs were invented by the priests for the sole purpose of communicating thoughts by a method that the common people could not understand. So far as history enlightens me, I cannot think that the priests were controlled by such motives. I believe that their whole study was devoted to the laws of nature, to the powers of the human body, and the laws that govern the human mind, to the solving of the question propounded by Job, 'If a man die, shall he live again?' Such a method of life would tend, in the minds of the enquirers, to put all men upon one level in the presence of the Creator.

"It would not next tend to make class distinctions, separated and graded as such distinctions always are, by various degrees of inequality. The difficulty of accurate detail in expression by glyphs would therefore help to explain the selection of symbols, that by common consent, in the spoken language, stood not for a single word but for an idea, or possibly for a group of ideas. I am not acquainted with any symbol or ceremony in any branch of Masonry that is inconsistent with this interpretation of the possible origin of symbolism. The entire Masonic story from start to finish has but one motive, tells but one tale, the interminable effort of the human mind to solve the mystery of the universe, to make smoother the paths of men and to teach by the symbols that after the trials of this world eternal life will be the reward in the world to come.

"The actual ceremonies that take place in a Masonic initiation have no rational significance in themselves if attempted to be interpreted by themselves; on the contrary, by such an interpretation they are for the most part senseless and absurd. By such an interpretation he who has eyes sees not, and he who has ears hears not. But apply the language of symbolism to them, and at once we open a book, every letter and word and page in which blazes with brightest light, and "to him who hath shall be given," becomes a phrase shorn of all ambiguity.

"A Masonic meeting of any kind should always be regarded as a school of instruction. For that reason the Master should hold as many meetings as possible, work or no work. In fact, the very best work is being done when enlightenment is being given to the Brethren, and I know of no more profitable or more agreeable 'work' than an investigation of the real meaning of Masonic symbolism. Such investigation will prove to the thoughtful mind that the Mason who lives the life commanded by Masonic precepts cannot be remiss in any human duty. The Masonic life commands obedience to every law of ethics, the observance of which makes a better husband, a better brother, a better friend, a better citizen. It inculcates all the qualities that go to the uplifting of the home, of society and of the State."

We have given the foregoing in full for the reason that it is in a different line of thought than is usually found in Masonic addresses—thoughts worthy of consideration, of study and of close application to Masonic life and customs. We trust that our intelligent Masonic brethren who delight in the study of Masonic symbolism and who are not satisfied with the shadow, when the substance is attainable, will find much pleasure and comfort in these sources of investigation, the new field, to many, which has been opened by our Illustrious Companion in his address.

There were 102 greeted during the year, and the net gain in membership, above all loses by death, suspensions, exclusion and withdrawn, was 57, which goes to show that the Rite is prospering in this jurisdiction. The ritual of the General Grand Council was adopted, and the Committee upon Address recorded their appreciation of the historical and philosophical disquisition therein contained. The usual business of the Body was transacted. A Report on Correspondence was presented by our esteemed Companion, EDWIN A. SHERMAN, covering twenty-four jurisdictions, including New York for 1899, to which is given two pages of fraternal and favorable comment. In speaking of the address of our M. I. Companion KANTER, he says:

“The Grand Master’s address was not from a *decanter*, but from M. I. FREDERICK KANTER, who is a sweet singer of Israel in the Secret Vault of New York, which is now safe, as the obstruction by Hell Gate in the East River in front of the East Gate has been blown up and all obstacles have been removed.”

Companion SHERMAN then gives nearly a page to the address, quoting freely from its many gems of thought and detailing the work by our Grand Master during that year, and speaking particularly of his loving tribute to the memory of deceased Companions of our own and of other jurisdictions. Relative to the Report on Correspondence of last year he has considerable to say in approval, and is pleased to say that it,

“Is by our liberal, broadminded and genial Companion, P. C. M. : P. : General Grand Master GEORGE H. OSGOODBY, who ably reviews the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Councils.”

And speaking of the subject of revision of the ritual so as to have the same correspond to the facts of history, etc., he coincides with the views presented, saying that the writer is

“Not afraid of investigation or presenting the truth, and for this we admire his candor, frankness and sense of propriety, right and justice, in so important a matter as a true and correct revision of our ritual.”

Upon this subject of ritual revision, Companion SHERMAN, under Minnesota, says:

"Let us teach Truth for the Truth's sake, and not for that which Truth contradicts and makes a lie. We have no right to thus darken the sun and swear and teach anything in the way of fabricated legend, that gives the lie to the Great Light, upon which our Companions are obligated, and which by its own statements makes us out liars in the face of Truth, and deserving of the punishment described by St. John the Evangelist, to whom our Lodges are dedicated. * * * * Masonic legends to illustrate truth should be founded on truth, and agree with history established and confirmed for three thousand years. Revise the rituals accordingly and make them right as they ought to be, and then intelligent men and Masons will value the degrees and be interested in them; and the Chapter will no longer be the mere stone upon which the drawbridge to the Temple Orders is to be lowered, nor the useless whining childish appeal for prerequisite made by the Council."

And under Ohio, he further says:

"If we have time during the coming summer we will take hold of the matter of these rituals of both the Chapter and the Council, arrange and amend the work, correcting the history as it should be, with marginal quotations from both sacred and profane accounts given, to compare the work with; and present the same to our own Grand Chapter and Grand Council, as well as to the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council, that both scholars in history and intelligent directors of the drama in the rituals may judge of the truth and place it alongside of that which is contrary as is now represented."

We have no doubt but that Companion SHERMAN can do much in elucidating the vexed questions and in presenting a true history of the different questions involved in this discussion upon a proper preparation of the rituals, and we look forward for the fulfillment of his half promise, trusting that it will materialize, and that great good may come from a searching investigation and consideration by the Bodies interested, by which, according to the truth of history, the work as it may be corrected, which it will be at some future day, when the several Bodies can come to an agreement on the subject, and thus settle for all time the truth of Masonic history. That there is a crying need of correction goes without saying.

There is a bountiful historical fund of information contained in this review, much of which we would delight to *excerpt*, but space forbids this year. We lay aside the review with regret, and turn again towards it with a longing for more of the *meat* which it contains.

The next Assembly will be held at San Francisco, April 15th, 1901. M. I.: JACOB HART NEFF, No. 1154 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, was elected Grand Master, and R. I.: WILLIAM A. DAVIES, San Francisco, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

COLORADO—1899.

The "Fifth" (is it not the second? See Illinois) Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Denver, September 22d, M. I. JOHN HUMPHREYS, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from six out of seven registered subordinate Councils were present, together with representatives from two Councils under Dispensation, and also Grand Representatives from ten Grand Councils, including New York.

The address covers about ten pages. He reports that most fraternal relations exist between their own and other Grand Councils. Dispensations were issued to institute two subordinate Councils, which were put in working order and appear to be upon a solid basis. A Dispensation was also granted to allow the Cryptic Masons of Kansas and of other jurisdictions to make a pilgrimage into Colorado and to open and to hold Assemblies of Councils within its borders. A Dispensation allowing certain rejected candidates to apply for the degrees at an earlier date than was allowable under their laws for presenting new petitions after rejection was refused very properly we think. Special Dispensations were also issued to the subordinate Councils of the jurisdiction, allowing them to receive petitions at special Assemblies, to ballot thereon and to confer the degrees during the period of time that the pilgrimage of the Grand Council of Kansas was within its borders. The result of this action was that some eighty-five Companions were received and greeted to the degrees of Cryptic Masonry in the Councils of Colorado, and one hundred and twenty-one were received and greeted in Councils of other jurisdictions. The fees received by Councils in Colorado amounting to \$774 from the influence of this pilgrimage. This is a beautiful showing and our Companions are to be congratulated upon the result. The labors attending this pilgrimage were immense, but the outcome has proved that the harvest was also immense. The entire plan of work is reported in the address in detail, but it did not meet with the full of approval of the Body as appears later herein.

There are seven chartered Councils, two others under Dispensation, with a total membership of 428, being an increase of 155 in the past year.

The Committee upon the Grand Master's address, and to whom the matter of the pilgrimage above was also referred, made upon this subject the following report which was approved and adopted by the Body:

"The growing desire among Masons for public display by parades, public installations, pilgrimages and other showy ceremonies are not conducive to the best interests of Masonry, and by reason of their publicity invite the criticism of the profane, and for this alone, if no other reason existed, should be discouraged or positively forbidden."

The Committee recommended that the precedent thus established be hereafter discountenanced, although approving of the acts of their Grand Master under the peculiar circumstances of his surroundings at the time.

The further business was of a routine character and of local interest only. No Report on Correspondence was presented. M. I. WILLIAM W. FIELD, Denver, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. ERNEST LE NEVE FOSTER, same address, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

CONNECTICUT—1909.

The eighty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Hartford, May 9. Representatives from twenty out of twenty-one registered subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from twelve Grand Councils, not including New York. M. I. STEPHEN J. LYON, Grand Master, presiding.

An innovation upon the usual order of proceedings was, that prior to the delivery of the address by the Grand Master, and following the appointment of the standing Committees, the officers vacated their respective stations, which were assumed by the officers of Wolcott Council, who then proceeded to confer the degree of Super-Excellent Master upon six candidates, in a manner, it is said, "that in the future may be equalled, but never excelled." Thereafter the Grand Officers re-assumed their stations and the regular programme of business proceeded. The address covered some nine pages which was devoted to a business like statement of the official acts of the year and to matters of local interest. Under the "State of the Order," he says:

"While the growth of Cryptic Masonry is not as rapid as is merited by the beauty of its degrees and the valuable information that they contain, yet the increase of membership in this jurisdiction during the past ten years has been uniform and steady, increasing from 2,375 members in the year 1889 to 3,595 members in 1899.

"Connecticut now stands fifth in relation to the number of its members amongst the Grand Councils, being only exceeded by Massachusetts with 5,709 members, Ohio with 4,567, Michigan with 4,123, and New York with 4,066 members. These figures are taken from the returns as printed in the official proceedings for the year 1899."

The Grand Master made three official visits during the year himself, and five visits were made by other officers, most of whom, like some other jurisdictions we wot of, waited for an invitation to visit before attempting to perform their official duties by making visits, as required by the General Regulations of this Body, which declares that each Council shall be visited at least yearly. Commenting upon this situation, the Grand Master very justly reprobates the custom by saying:

"A reprehensible custom, which by long observance is now considered as unwritten law, deters many of the officials from making these visits without a special invitation from the Councils assigned to them. These

visitations to be beneficial should be made regularly and not semi-occasionally. My observation has been that those Councils which least need counsel and advice are those most visited, while those less likely to keep close to the ancient landmarks are visited irregularly and then only at long intervals."

This situation is often the case. The large and flourishing Councils are visited and a general good time had by the official visitor and those who accompany him; the work is well performed, as it always is in such bodies, and the result is a glowing report is made of the condition of the Council visited. We do not say this to intimate that such visits to such bodies are not beneficial to them and to the Rite, for our conviction is that they are resultful of benefits; that they build up the Rite, and in short are not only most enjoyable occasions, and the visited body gets a new impetus and new members come in to aid the great work we are, as Masons, engaged in. The fact remains that the weak and feeble bodies which are starving, in actual need of the words of encouragement, of advice, of instruction and the helping hand to build up their Council, discouraged may be from past adversity and trials, often shrinks from asking a visit, although the officers well know that it would be most cheerfully accorded, even though at a great distance from the residence of the visiting official and is, in reality, a labor of love for the Rite upon his part, and thus the advancement of the interests of the Council in the greatest need is neglected, not purposely, but rather thoughtlessly, and the Council becomes of little value to the jurisdiction and eventually becomes dormant, all for the want of the helping hand, the words of encouragement and the assistance which is often needed in these weaker, smaller bodies. The duty of the official visitor under all circumstances is to insist upon the Council making arrangements to receive his official visit, informing them that it is not expected that there will be any extra expenses incurred on account of the visit for entertainment or other than the usual and ordinary expense attendant upon its regular Assemblies. This will do more to build up the Rite than any other course that can be devised. A thorough going, enthusiastic, zealous officer, well posted in the ritual and work can do more to raise the standard of Council work than all of the "parade day" embellishments and gew-gaws that can be brought to the front. Good common sense, accompanied with love of the Rite and ability to instruct, which we must assume that an officer of the Grand Body must be possessed of, will accomplish wonders in visitations of this kind.

The Grand Master also notes in his address, with suitable words of eulogy, the decease of two Past Grand Masters of this jurisdiction, M. I. D. DWIGHT PHELPS, who died September 6, 1899, aged 65 years, and M. I. JAMES H. WELCH, who died December 16, 1899, aged 69 years. He also notes amongst the deaths of distinguished Companions of other jurisdic-

tions, the decease of our own beloved Companion, Rev. WILLIAM D'ORVILLE DOTY, our late Grand Chaplain.

The Deputy Grand Master and the Grand P. C. of W. also made reports of their official visits and work during the year. A substantial increase of membership over all losses is reported. The further business was routine. M. I. HENRY O. CANFIELD, Bridgeport, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. JAMES MCCORMICK was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Assembly will be held in May, 1901, at New Haven.

A Report on Correspondence was presented by Companion JOHN H. BARLOW, P. P. G. M., covering seven of the Independent Grand Councils, which are first reviewed by this Independent Body; nineteen of the Grand Councils constituents of the General Grand Councils, but included in this portion of the review, is contained a review of the proceedings of New Brunswick, and why New Brunswick, which is a foreign body, is in list as a constituent of the General Grand Council, instead of being with the "Foreign" list, which consists of England only, is beyond us. New York is favored with nearly three pages of notice, in which liberal quotations are made from the address of our then Grand Master, KANTLER, with approval and favorable comment.

In speaking of the honor conferred upon our Companion VAN VLIET, as an honorary Past Grand Master, he says that:

"While all such testimonials are pleasant to the recipient as fraternal recognition of services rendered, they seem to us to confer empty honors, that the real honors can be obtained only by actual service."

Companion VAN VLIET has been in actual hard service for over a quarter of a century, and there has been no time within the last score of years and more but what he could have been elected as the Grand Master of New York had he consented to have allowed his name to have been presented to the Companions for that position, but he deemed his best sphere of duty laid in the position of Grand Recorder, which he has so ably filled for those years, and would not therefore consent to the use of his name in connection with the office of Grand Master; hence his Companions unanimously conferred upon him the honorary title of Past Grand Master; well deserved it was, and the body had the right to so confer it. No Companions stands higher than our honorary Past Grand Master in our body. We delight to honor him and ever shall.

Our esteemed Companion in further commenting upon our proceedings is pleased to say:

"The principal feature of the proceedings is the Report on Correspondence by Companion GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, which is more full and complete than any other we have found. Thirty-eight jurisdictions are included; under the head of Alabama, he justly scores the Grand Master for his lack of enthusiasm, which he attributes as one of the causes of the decline of Cryptic Masonry in that jurisdiction."

Under Illinois he quotes with approval what Companion WARVELLE has to say relative to becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council, as being equally applicable to Connecticut as to Illinois. Of course, each one is thereby thoroughly convinced that the "Independent system is the best for their respective Grand Councils. We look forward to the time when the entire system of Grand Councils will be working in harmony as well as in unity of spirit under one head for the advancement of the interests of the Rite. This may not be for many years, but we trust it will come in peace and in the utmost harmony and good will, for, if not in the largest sense agreeable to each body the result would not be as desired by every Body now working for the Rite. There must be perfect harmony, or discord would be sure to mar the work. Better, far better would it be for each Independent Body to continue as such until each one can see the usefulness and that a real benefit would enure to it by becoming a constituent of the General Grand Body.

Companion BARLOW makes very full extracts from the proceedings of the different bodies, but he does not accompany such extracts with the comments and discussion that some of them might well require. If he would give more "Barlow," it would be a pleasure to his co-eds. His review is principally devoted to bare statements of the occurrences as the same are given in the different proceedings, and many of them are open to discussion and comment, which would be beneficial to the craft at large.

The proceedings reviewed are most of them the same which passed under our review last year, hence we do not make as much use of his review as we otherwise would be pleased to make.

ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC.—1900.

The Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Mark Mason's Hall, Great Queen street, W. C., on March 15th.

Companion, Right Hon. the EARL OF EUSTON, Most Illustrious Grand Master, presiding. The BARON DE FERRIERES, P. Dep. G. M., acting as Deputy G. M., and Right Hon. the EARL OF YARMOUTH, Grand Principal Conductor of Work, with all other officers present and in their proper places, and representatives of subordinate Councils. Representatives from fifteen Grand Councils were present, but, as *is always the case*, the representative from New York was absent from his place. In fact, the memory of man and of Masons, cannot call to mind an occasion when he has been present. His office, under the resolution of this Grand Council became vacant, many years since, but his place has not been filled. We are of opinion that a representative should be appointed to represent our Grand Council in this Grand Body, who will take some pride in the position and attend the Assemblies representing, not misrepresenting his constituency, by continual neglect of duty.

The Rite appears to be prospering; one new Council being instituted with a fair membership and bright prospects to start off with.

The M. I. Grand Master, the EARL OF EUSTON, obligated and invested the Right Hon. the EARL OF YARBOROUGH, as Deputy Grand Master.

After the usual business of the Body was accomplished, the M. I. Grand Master retired from the throne, and the Deputy Grand Master assumed it while the work of Royal Master was exemplified by the Grand Lecturer, assisted by several of the Grand Officers.

The Assembly was then closed. Address of the Grand Recorder, C. F. MATIER, Mark Mason's Hall, Great Queen street, London, W. C.

FLORIDA—1900.

No Annual Assembly was held this year. The Rite is at low ebb and hardly exists. Companion HALLMARK, from whom we get our information, has been Grand Master for several years past, but, with the loss of several of his live co-workers, he is well nigh discouraged, and only lives and waits for the dawn of light from beyond the dark clouds which now obscure the sun from their sight. When Royal Arch Masonry revives in this jurisdiction, the advancement of Cryptic interests may be expected and then only. We trust our Companion will not give up, but hold fast for future life and light in the Vault.

No further information is at hand, and while we regret the unfavorable outlook, we can only hope that brighter days will reward our Companions who have borne the heat and labor of the days of adversity and who well deserve the reward of the diligent worker in the vineyard.

GEORGIA—1900.

The fifty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Macon, April 29th. Representatives from nineteen subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from twelve Grand Councils, including New York. The address of the Grand Master, M. I. WILLIAM A. DAVIS, who presided, covers about ten pages solid work. He reports an increased interests in the Rite, and that it is meeting with a fair degree of prosperity. It has suffered the loss of three of its distinguished Companions during the year. M. I. ORLANDO McCLENDON, Grand Master, departed this life September 26, 1899. R. I. W. S. RAMSEY, Grand Chaplain, deceased on March 16, 1900. Sympathetic and proper eulogies were paid to their memories by the Grand Master as well as by the action of the Body, and a large portion of the address and of the proceedings in resolutions and reports relative to the decease of these loved Companions are taken in giving proper expressions to their feelings.

Two new Councils were constituted and one instituted under Dispensation is the report of the Grand Master. A good showing especially when

considered by the adverse circumstances under which the work was done. There are many thoughts expressed by Companion DAVIS in his interesting and able address which we would be glad to repeat, but we must be content with the following:

"Ancient Craft Masonry, in the Rite under which we work, is divided into three general heads. Symbolic, which indicates the Blue Lodge; Capitular, which embraces the Chapter, and Cryptic, which refers to the Council.

"Symbolic Masonry is so called because it is a beautiful system of symbolism, and every step is the teaching of a sublime lesson.

"Capitular Masonry derives its significance from the name of the Body which distinguishes it from every other branch of Masonry, and was intended in its original application to designate it as the head (the true meaning of capitular) of all Masonic bodies.

"Cryptic means secret or hidden, and Cryptic Masonry is that particular part of our institution which refers to the secret Vault in which is deposited the secrets of our Order, and into which we must delve if we would bring to light the sacred treasures which are securely hidden from the eyes of the profane, or less informed.

"Symbolic Masonry teaches perhaps some of the sublimest lessons in which mankind can possibly be interested. It adorns man for this life and points them to the glories of the life to come. It tells us that the grave is not the final end of man. It teaches the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul.

"The belief in a future existence is co-existing with the human race. It antedates the Apostles and the Prophets; it is older than Moses or Abraham, and goes back beyond the days of Noah. Centuries before the dawn of the Christian era when the new made King of Argus was about to offer up his young life in obedience to the will of the gods, she whom he loved so fondly pleaded with him to tell her whether they should ever meet again. He answered:

" 'I have asked that dreadful question of the hills which look eternal,
Of the flowing streams which lucid flow forever,
Of the stars amid whose azure my raised spirit hath trod in glory;
All were dumb, but now, while I look into thy living face, and see the love
enkindled there,
I know that it can never wholly perish.
Yes, we shall meet and know and love again.'

"And, Companions, as sure as there is a heart within you, as sure as there is a world of activity and interest around you, as sure as there is a God above you, so sure is there an immortal principle within you that shall survive when all things else have decayed and returned to the chaos from which they came.

"Capitular Masonry is a lesson of human life, with its ups and downs, its rough ways and smooth, its darkness and light, its mountains and vales, No man has ever yet trod a perfectly smooth way from the home of his captivity here to the City and Temple of his God above. The rugged road and dilapidated bridges, the stony fords, the almost impassible rivers and inaccessible mountains which the children of Israel encountered on their journey from Babylon to Jerusalem are striking lessons of the innumerable obstacles with which we are confronted each day of our lives. Rejoicing, however, in the God of their deliberations, and with their hearts fixed on the holy City, there was no barrier that could impede their progress.

"Every obstacle was surmounted and the destination of their hopes finally obtained. Companions, if our hearts are imbued with the faith which inspired the Israelitish hosts and our eyes are firmly fixed on the eternal goal, we will yet see the mountains of opposition dissolve at our approach, rivers recede at our appearing, rough ways made smooth for our feet, and darkness become as light before us. However dark and rough and dreary and lonesome may appear the way below, we know that there is an eternal City on high, in which the Grand High Priest has preserved a home prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

"Cryptic Masonry informs us that as the secret vault contained the Ark of the Covenant in which were deposited the testimonials of goodness and mercy, and which was to be kept in the *sanctum sanctorum* of the temple, so in every human heart there is an ark of divine mercy in which God has placed the most sacred treasures pertaining to human kind and which He has commanded to be sacredly guarded that they may be made meek for the Sanctum Sanctorum above. Companions, let us remember that the All-Seeing-Eye is upon us, that the trestle board of our lives is before Him as an open book; that the light from the holy Shekinah will penetrate the most benighted soul, and that He who sitteth between the Cherubim will reward us according to our zeal and infidelity. 'I am that I am' is the password that shall remove the walls of ignorance and superstition and gain us admission into the Grand Assembly where the Grand Council is perpetually enthroned.

"There is one feature in Masonry which pervades every branch of our Order. It runs through the warp and woof of the entire Masonic fabric, It constitutes the chief rung in the great ladder on which we must ascend to our eternal Assembly. Charity is synonymous with Masonry.

"There is a charity of benevolence, a charity which teaches to give. A charity whose hand goes into the lowest dregs of humanity; a charity which feeds the beggar at the door, and sends the bread of life to the remotest regions of the earth. A charity which knows no bounds, but is as boundless as the broad universe of God.

"Again, there is a charity which teaches to forgive. A charity which 'vaunteth not itself and is not puffed up' but 'which suffereth long and is

kind.' A charity which speaketh no evil, but overlooketh the faults of erring humanity. A charity which exalteth but never debases; which raiseth up but never pulls down. A charity which relieves the distressed, comforts the sorrowing, strengthens the feeble and encourages the faltering.

"And then there is the charity of love—the acme of all human perfection the corner stone and the cape stone of our institution. Would to God we could manifest it in our daily lives and so exemplify it in our walk and our conversation that it might become a potent agency in our hands for the diffusion of purer light and knowledge.

"If mankind would but base its action on this eternal principle, strife and tumult would cease, and man would be converted from the bitterest enemy into the truest friend of man. If mankind would but base its action on this divine sentiment, the sound of war would be forever hushed, and its deadly instruments changed into implements of husbandry utility.

"The light of love and humanity is growing daily brighter, and God grant that it may continue to shine until it shall become a consuming fire, whose blessed flames shall cleanse each human heart of its dross of sin and crime, and leave it a living stone fitting for that temple whose maker and builder is God."

The extracts which we have given above are so good and instructive that we have felt constrained to give the same at length. The Rite is prospering in this jurisdiction, as it should with such good Masons at the helm to direct the work. Companion THOMAS W. FREEMAN, Grand Sentinel of this Body, deceased October 19, 1899. A Report on Correspondence by Companion A. M. LAMBKIN, in which he reviews the proceedings of twenty-six jurisdictions, including New York for 1899, which is given one page of fraternal notice. The report is principally made of information relative to proceedings of other Grand Councils without comment.

The next Annual Assembly will be held at Macon April 23, 1901. M. I. WILLIAM A. DAVIS, Macon, was re-elected Grand Master, and R. I. W. A. WOLIHIN, same address, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS—1899

The forty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Chicago, October 25th, M. I. WILLIAM L. MILLIGAN, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from forty subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from twenty-six Grand Councils, New York not included. The address of the Grand Master covers seven pages, and is a clear, succinct statement of the official duties performed by him during the year. He says:

"We have cause to congratulate each other that the star of Cryptic Masonry rules high in the heavens, clear and undimmed, no storm in its atmosphere, no cloud on its orbit. Prosperity, peace and harmony encircle and abide in our Councils, and fellowship and brotherly love bind closely together the hearts of the fraternity."

Suitable and sympathetic eulogy is given to the deceased Companions of their own and other jurisdictions. In making suggestions relative to the advancement of the interests of Councils, he gives the following recommendations to officers:

"First.—Make it a point to assemble your Council regularly on the evening provided by your by-laws.

"Second.—Attend the Chapter meetings, for it is there you get your material for the Council.

"Third.—Make yourself and your officers proficient in the Ritual and ceremonies of the Order.

"Fourth.—Answer all communications promptly.

"Fifth.—See that your reports to the Grand Recorder are made, and Grand Council dues paid promptly.

"Sixth.—Unless you are in a position and have the inclination to comply with the above, your Council will not prosper, and you should not accept the position."

We repeat the foregoing, for the reason that the advice is right to the point, and is equally applicable to our own jurisdiction, and if followed by Masters of Councils the result will be renewed prosperity to subordinate Councils and to the Rite at large.

By the report of a Committee upon the Address unanimously adopted the Grand Council congratulated the Grand Master on the prosperous condition of the Craft under his administration, and commended his undivided attention and the zealous fidelity which characterized his Masonic services, which was well deserved. The work was of the usual routine. A report was made by M. I. NATHANIEL BOWDITCH, P. G. M., of his work as Grand Lecturer, which position has been filled by him for eleven years past, and from which he now retires with the love and esteem of his Companions.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to which was referred at the preceding Assembly, the recommendation of the then Grand Master that this Body unite with and become a constituent of the General Grand Council, made its report, which from its importance, we include herewith, as follows:

"To the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, State of Illinois

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence to which was referred at the last Annual Assembly, the recommendation of the Grand Master, viz.: That our Grand Council unite with the General Grand Council, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report that they are of the opinion

the question is of such importance that a decision should only be made after a full and complete understanding should be had by the members of the Grand Council. Your committee held a meeting at Jacksonville early in August, when the question was fully discussed and all of the important points connected therewith considered. It was decided to communicate with the General Grand Master of the General Grand Council and ask his construction of several clauses contained in the Constitution of the General Grand Council. We therefore submit this partial report in a concise form, setting forth such facts and information as we are able to present, and trust that the same will enable the members of the Grand Council to arrive at a wise and satisfactory conclusion of the question. First we desire to call the attention of the Grand Council to the official invitation that has been extended to this Grand Council to unite with the General Grand Council.

"In taking action in this matter the following questions should be considered:

"(1). The status of our members or more particularly those who have received the degrees in Chapters.

"(2). What rights, if any, it would be necessary for us to relinquish.

"(3). If any change in our present ritual would be required.

"(4). To what extent are we bound by the allegiance clause contained in the Constitution of the General Grand Council.

"(5). The additional expense which would be incurred by such union.

In explanation of the foregoing we have the construction of the law by General Grand Master, Illustrious Brother BRADFORD NICHOL, who says:

"(1). That the admission of Chapter made Council Masons into Councils makes them Council Masons the same as if they had received the degrees in a regular Council; that State Grand Councils are the judges of their own members and visitors and are qualified and permitted to regulate their own internal affairs. And that the General Grand Council does not assume to dictate as to the manner or under what circumstances State Grand Councils shall receive or admit visitors or members; from this it would appear that there could be no question regarding the status of our members.

"(2). After a careful investigation of the Constitution of the General Grand Council and Grand Councils under its obedience, we are unable to observe very much difference between their law and our own, and do not feel that a union with the General Grand Council would require any material change except to amend our Constitution to conform to that of the General Grand Council so far as refers to a union of the two bodies.

"(3). The General Grand Council does not require State Grand Councils to adopt its ritual, but recommends it as a means of uniformity.

"(4). The allegiance clause of the General Grand Council is not necessarily permanent; there is no law or ruling compelling a Grand Council to remain a member should they desire to withdraw therefrom.

"(5). The law of the General Grand Council provides that each State shall pay annual dues of fifty cents for each Chartered Council in their jurisdiction.

"The Committee being located at some distance from each other, their absence from home and the delay in correspondence has made it difficult and prevented a definite agreement as to what recommendations shall be made to the Grand Council, but deem it best to present the above statement for the information of the subordinate Councils and their representatives. Preferring to delay the making of a final report until the meeting of the Grand Council."

This report was united in by the full Committee and was followed by a majority report of the same Committee at the Grand Council, which is as follows:

"Supplemental report:

"In addition to that part of our report already presented and which has just been read, we desire to express our belief in a uniform system of the Cryptic Rite with that of the Capitular and Chivalric Masonry. And while this question has been considered by the Grand Council heretofore and met with defeat, yet we believe that the question is growing in favor and feel that the time is not far distant when not only our own but every Grand Council will unite with the General Grand Council, thereby making one strong, healthy governing body, rather than as is now the case, many existing weak independent Grand Councils. We feel that a decision by this Grand Council to unite with the General Grand Council would not only strengthen that body, but would be for the best interests of Cryptic Masonry in general, and add increased interest in our own Grand Council, and that our membership would be increased not only with new material, but with such regulations as might be adopted, bring many Chapter-made Members into our Councils who have hitherto taken no interest in the Rite, or perhaps have never visited a Council since they received the degrees. While we should all be, and no doubt are, equally interested in the success and prosperity of the Grand Council of Illinois, we should also feel interested in the growth and prosperity of the Rite throughout the land, and do what lies in our power consistent with our own rights, to promote and contribute to the welfare of the same. Without going further, and to get an expression of the Grand Council on the question, we offer the following resolution and recommend its adoption.

"Resolved, That this Grand Council accept the invitation of the General Grand Master to unite with them and become a constituent thereof."

This report, recommendation and resolution was signed by two of the three members of the Committee. There does not appear to have been any minority report presented. After a debate of the question and resolution it was put to vote and lost.

The thanks of the Grand Body were rendered to the retiring Grand Master for the energetic and useful activity displayed by him throughout his term of office, and the usual P. Grand Master's Jewel was presented to him by the Body, with appropriate remarks and response. The other work of the Body was routine.

A Report on Correspondence was presented by M. I. Companion GEORGE W. WARVELLE, who reviewed in his always able and interesting manner the proceedings of twenty-three jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, which has less than one page of fraternal notice, in the course of which he says that there is much to commend in the "unique opening" of our Assemblies.

Under Colorado, the question is raised as to the date of the organization of that Grand Council, in which he accords with the sentiments expressed by the writer last year, and which were the subject of some criticism on the part of Companion BARLOW, of Connecticut, in his review, but with Companion WARVELLE coinciding with the views by us expressed, we see no reason to reconsider them. He says:

"The pamphlet under review purports to be a record of the Fourth Annual Assembly of the Grand Council, but immediately preceding the transactions of the Grand Council are the minutes of a 'Convention of the Royal and Select Masters of Colorado,' which, in effect, actually constituted the present Grand Body. If the Cryptic Masons of Colorado still cling to the 'irregular and clandestine' organization which for some years masqueraded as a Grand Council, why then I presume this is the Fourth Assembly, but if, as would seem to be the case, they are acting through a new or regenerated body, which derives its life and legitimacy from the G. G. C., then the proceedings under review must be called those of the First Annual Assembly."

While the writer did not this year comment upon this subject under his review of Colorado, his views were expressed last year, coinciding with those given from Companion WARVELLE above. We do not feel like keeping up a discussion upon subjects where there appears no possible opportunity of convincing the one who takes the opposite side of the argument, and as our Colorado Companions seemed to roll, as a sweet morsel under their tongue, the idea that they date back to the first attempt to organize a Grand Council in that State, we felt like letting the subject drop, still, however, retaining and being of the same opinion as before.

Under the title of "Cryptic Nomenclature," our Companion again brings up the proposition made by him some years ago looking to a change in their official name by substituting the words of "Cryptic Masons," for the present "R. & S. M.," the occasion of which is the fact that the Cryptic Masons of New Brunswick have recently made a change in their name, which is near the one suggested by Companion WARVELLE. If the writer's

memory is not much at fault, he agreed with Companion WARVELLE at the time that a more significant name would be greatly to be preferred to the one then and still in use. We think that the name "Cryptic Masons," suggested by Companion WARVELLE is euphonious distinctive, explanative, and in all respects decidedly better than the "R. & S. M.," of present use.

Commenting upon the so-called "Colorado Pilgrimage," which it seems did not meet with his approval, reading between the lines of his criticisms, and which he closes by saying:

"As to the propriety or impropriety of the foregoing I make no comment, yet it must be apparent that the whole affair was a wide departure from the established conservative policy of the past."

In commenting upon the bestowal of honorary titles brought out by the action of our own Grand Council last year, he expresses his disapproval and does not seem to understand the real facts, which we have covered in our review of Connecticut, to which we refer. We do not think that, as he suggests, it comes within the objections stated relative to "making Masons at sight," as in the latter case, the act is one of a Master, without the assent of the Body over which he presides, while an honorary title conferred by the unanimous vote of the Body itself would seem to take away any possible objection thereto.

In his "Conclusion," which we quote in full, our Companion states some very pertinent ideas, which borne in mind and worked out cannot fail to be to the advantage of the Rite. We agree, in the main, with the suggestions, but cannot think that a migratory Body, in a jurisdiction like New York, would be of any benefit, but believe it would tend in the contrary direction, and we note that Illinois does not adopt this suggestion either, probably for the same reasons that are forceful in New York. He says:

"As stated in my preface the general outlook is good. In a very few jurisdictions there seems to be a struggle for existence; that is, if apathetic indifference can be characterized as a struggle. In the majority of jurisdictions there are indutiable signs of healthy life, while in a comparatively large number the returns present a showing which indicates that the Cryptic Rite has become a permanent factor in Masonic life.

"Our own jurisdiction has not materially changed its position as outlined in my former reports, but with the era of 'good times' that now seem to be commencing in the commercial world we should, by reason of our wealth and population as a State, be able to wrest from some less-favored localities the palm of superiority which they now seem to enjoy.

"I find that in these jurisdictions where frequent official visits are made, where compulsory inspection is provided, where frequent changes in office are effected and where local pride and enthusiasm is appealed to by reason of a different meeting place of the Grand Council each year, the greatest amount of life is manifest and the largest number of affiliates are

found. The ideas involved in our mass conventions are also being cultivated in a number of jurisdictions and the results are good. A survey of the field shows that we are still with the leaders, and a little more aggressiveness, push and zeal will place us in front."

The next Assembly will be held at Chicago, October 24, 1900. M. I. FREDERICK E. HOBERG, Peru, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. GIL W. BARNARD, Chicago, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

INDIANA—1899.

The forty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Indianapolis, October 16-17th. M. I. JOHN W. POTTINGER, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from forty-seven out of fifty registered subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from twenty-one Grand Councils, including New York. An excellent portrait of the present Grand Master, M. I. JOHN BOROUGH, accompanies the printed proceedings. The address of the Grand Master covers over six pages, given wholly to the official duties performed by him and to matters of local interest. The necrology report is full, but no deaths are reported from their own numbers. Two new Councils were constituted, charters being granted at the last Assembly, and one instituted under Dispensation, and one that had been dormant for some years was revived and put into working order again with present good prospects of a better life in the here (not in the beyond), having made some additions to its membership, paid up back dues and generally showing lively signs of vitality. There was a net increase in membership in this jurisdiction of 118.

One of the pleasing incidents of this Assembly was the receipt of a letter from Past M. I. Grand Master SAMUEL B. RICHARDSON, in which he excused his non-attendance at the Assembly by reason of his feeble health which prevented him from appearing in person. After reciting several matters of interest, he closes his letter as follows:

"Illustrious Companions, I may never meet you in our Assemblies on earth, but I have full faith that as we are passing along, hastening to the end, that our lives are precious to our Heavenly Father's great loving heart; that He has power to save all of those who put their trust in Him. Therefore we may part here, but will meet again where there will be no parting. What a meeting that will be! So good-bye, my Illustrious Companions."

"Upon this communication a committee comprised of all of the Past Grand Masters who were present at the Assembly, 16 in number, were appointed, who unanimously reported the sentiments held by them relative to the past work and services of Companion RICHARDSON, calling to mind the

many pleasant meetings at which he had been present and of the social intercourse between the Companions and himself, and ending with a resolution that their report be spread upon the minutes and that a copy be engrossed and certified under the Seal of the Body and be presented to the Companion, which was adopted. A pleasant incident and one which shows the loving sympathy and respect of such Companions for each other in the hour of affliction after years of close intercourse.

Past Grand Master SIMEON S. JOHNSON, of Jeffersonville, was appointed Chairman of Committee on Correspondence for ensuing year, taking the place of Past Grand Master MORDHURST, who, by reason of his many Masonic duties in other bodies, was unable to longer serve, after a service of eleven years in the position, which has been so ably and well filled by him, and whose co-eds. will bear long in memory the interesting and instructive reports furnished by his versatile pen. The present Report is his last, and covers twenty-five jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, to which is given three pages of courteous and kindly notice. A full report, although necessarily brief, is given of our proceedings for that year, and in all of our work Companion MORDHURST does not find aught to criticize adversely.

Under Arkansas, referring to the subject of the failure of Grand Master SHORT to take interest in the Rite so as to build up his Body, says:

"His address is like his name. He had intended visiting Councils, but didn't."

And then quoting from his address:

"It is apparent to all of us that Cryptic Masonry in Arkansas has no life in it; there are various reasons that are given why; but my Companions, the chief reason is the lack of enthusiasm in the Councils Masons themselves. Wherever you find working Council members, you will find a prosperous Council."

To which Companion MORDHURST pithily says:

"Yes. Just so. But how would it do for a Grand Master to set a good example instead of 'intending' to do things."

We are inclined to think that the election of this Grand Master was one of those mistakes which Bodies, both subordinates and Grand sometimes make, with the result that the Body and Rite suffers the consequences of having an inefficient head, losing more than a live Master can recover in double the period of time lost by such incumbency. Grand Masters who are "short" in everything pertaining to the performance of their duties in office are N. G. We do not get that kind in our own jurisdiction and it is difficult to understand why such neglect in office can be the course of any Grand Master.

Under Indian Territory, our Companion mentions the Correspondence Report of Companion MAXEY to that Body and gives this except therefrom:

"This is his description of Companion GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, of New York:

"As some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm,
Tho' round its breast the rolling clouds are spread,
Eternal sunshine settles on its head."

"Poor OSGOODBY! Better luck next time."

It hasn't struck us yet, though the sun has been eternally shining this summer, much to our discomfort, but we've been lucky enough to weather it so far.

Under Maine, referring to the adverse criticism of Companion CHASE, in reference to a decision that it is permissive in Indiana to "solicit," as it is termed, a Royal Arch Companion to apply for the Cryptic degrees, etc., he says:

He surely is too severe; that he "is not in harmony with the generally accepted doctrine, if it may be so termed, that soliciting a Royal Arch Mason to take the Cryptic degrees is permissible."

Our understanding of the question is, that it is permissible to personally request a Royal Arch Companion to apply for and to take the Cryptic degrees. We have did so many times, and never yet had the least idea that there was any objection to the advancement of the Rite by this course. We believe it to be proper, and shall consider it our duty to so act in the future. The rule or law to which Companion CHASE undoubtedly refers, is the law of the Symbolic branch of Masonry, where it is eminently proper and should be followed to the line at all times. See further on this subject under Massachusetts.

He refers to the recommendations of the Grand Master, under Michigan, as to the communication of degrees under certain circumstances and approval thereof by the committee. It was only a few years ago since there was a good deal of caviling by some of the Reviewers of Independent Bodies at the conferring of the Cryptic degrees by communication in cases where new Councils were being instituted in distant territory where there were no Councils located under the authority of the General Grand Council, by Companions authorized to act in the place of the General Grand Master, but we have found "that it makes some difference whose ox is gored," for now comes in Michigan an Independent Body, and whose Grand Master recommended that under such or other circumstances where the necessity became apparent, that the degrees

might be communicated by himself or by some proper officer under the authority of the Grand Master, which recommendation was tacitly approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence and concurred in by the Body. Our recollection is that Michigan was one of those jurisdictions which found fault with the course pursued by the General Grand Master in this regard, and Companion MORDHURST prods them somewhat, good naturedly of course, and now looks to other Independents to call them to the same account to which they heretofore called the General Grand Council without effect.

M. I. JOHN BOROUGH, of Mishawaka, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. WILLIAM H. SMYTHE, of Indianapolis, was re-elected Grand Recorder. Next Assembly to be held at Indianapolis, October 16, 1900.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1899.

The fifth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Chickasha on September 12th. Representatives from four subordinate Councils together with Grand Representatives from eleven Grand Councils, New York, not included, were present. M. I. JULIUS HAAS, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers three pages, including documents, devoted to local matters. The business of the Assembly was also of the usual routine and of local interest. Section 20 of the By-Laws of the Body was amended so as to read:

“Membership in Council shall be dependent upon good standing as a Master Mason and a Royal Arch Mason.”

This but follows the unwritten law as we understand it.

The next Annual Assembly was to be held at Ardmore in April, 1900, but we have no account of its proceedings. There was no Report on Correspondence.

A Memorial was adopted, to be presented to the General Grand Council, asking that the boundary lines of this jurisdiction be extended so as to take in Oklahoma, there being no organized Councils in that Territory. It will probably be presented at the coming Assembly of the General Grand Council which meets in September next at Cincinnati.

KENTUCKY—1899.

This Grand Council held its Annual Assembly at Louisville, October 16th. M. I. WILLIAM DAVIS CANNAN, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from eleven subordinate Councils were present out of twenty-one registered, together with Grand Representatives from seventeen Grand Councils, New York not included. The address of the Grand Master covers about four pages, devoted altogether to local matters. The Grand Master in

the discharge of his official duties suspended the T. I. MASTER of Louisville Council on charges that he had rejected the authorized Ritual and substituted one which he had purchased in open market, which the Companion claimed he had been authorized to use by the consent of the Grand Master, which was denied by the Grand Master, and for continuing to act officially after his suspension. Several peculiar circumstances appear in the case, such as questions of veracity as to the receipt of the advice of suspension, etc., but the Committee appointed for the hearing of charges, etc., found against him. The action of the Grand Master was approved by the Committee of Jurisprudence and by the Body, based largely upon the found fact that he continued to exercise the duties and privileges of his office after his suspension.

M. I. Companion JAMES W. STATON, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence, presented a brief report, including in the list of those received, New York, for 1899. Twenty-eight Grand Councils are credited with sending their proceedings. About two pages are given to the report, and no extended comments are made as to any jurisdiction.

The proceedings were of the usual routine and of local interest.

The next Assembly will be held at Louisville, October 15, 1900.

M. I. JOHN CLARKE, Georgetown, was elected Grand Master, and P. M. I. JAMES W. STATON, Brooksville, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

LOUISIANA—1900.

The forty-fifth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at New Orleans on the 15th day of February. M. I. ROBERT H. CAGE, Grand Master, presiding. Four subordinates Councils were represented and Grand Representatives were present from sixteen Grand Councils, including R. I. RICHARD LAMBERT, Representative from New York. The address of the Grand Master was brief, very brief, only one page, and he regrets to report a state of lethargy, etc., which possibly might have been driven away had the proper efforts been made by those in authority there. The work was routine, and the most important work to be noted was the election of officers.

No Report on Correspondence.

Next Assembly to be held at New Orleans, February 14, 1901. M. I. J. E. PIERSON, New Orleans, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. RICHARD LAMBERT, same address, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

MAINE—1898.

The forty-fifth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Portland, May 3d. M. I. FRANK E. SLEEPER, presiding. Representative from twelve subordinate Councils together with Grand Representatives from twenty-one Grand Councils were present, including New York. The

address covers about six pages, devoted to matters of local interest, and the work was of the same character, routine. The Grand Master intended, at his election, to have visited each Council, but when he was ready the Councils were not, and vice versa; however, he succeeded in making *two* visits, and the Deputy Master made one, while the P. C. of the Work, made two, leaving the majority of the Councils without an official visitation. Another case of "intentions" failing to materialize, but for all this the Councils seemed to take the work in hand so that the Rite is fairly prosperous.

The Proceedings which we have are for 1899, not of the last Assembly, which was held May 2d of the present year, no account of which is yet received, except a brief notice contained in the "Masonic Token," kindly sent to us by Companion STEPHEN BERRY, Grand Recorder, from which we are informed that sixteen Councils were represented and of the names of the officers elected for the present year. M. I. JAMES E. BLANCHARD, being elected at the Assembly of May, 1898, and M. I. BIAL F. BRADBURY, of Norway, being elected as his successor at the last Assembly for the present year.

A Report on Correspondence was presented at the Assembly of 1899 by Companion ALBRO E. CHASE, who reviews briefly the proceedings of twenty-eight jurisdictions, including New York, to which is given nearly two pages, in which he states that the proceedings for the present year, of the last Assembly, will be in the hands of the Grand Council at its Assembly in May last, and that if it does not appear early enough for our use in making up this Report, that we can "blame it" on some other fellow. Well, they did not come to hand, and we call on Companion CHASE for the name and address of the "other fellow."

The review of our esteemed Companion, being for proceedings of Assemblies which passed under our review in 1898 and 1899, are not available for our present work, much to our regret. We have written for their last proceedings, and if they come to hand will have to add another chapter to "Maine."

The next Assembly will be held at Portland in May, 1901.

MARYLAND—1899.

The twenty-sixth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Baltimore, November 15th, ten subordinate Councils being represented, together with Grand Representatives from seventeen Grand Councils, including the representative from New York. M. I. HENRY C. LARBEE, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers two pages, devoted to matters of local interest, and the business was of the usual routine and local. In his address the Grand Master notes that R. I. Comp. WILLIAM DOWNES, of our own Grand Council, and its representative from the Grand Council of Maryland, makes quite full reports relative to our Body.

The Committee on Correspondence reported the receipt by it of the proceedings of the different Grand Councils, but did not present any review of the same. The proceedings of this Body for the years 1897 to 1899 inclusive, are published under the same cover.

The next Assembly will be held at Baltimore, November 14th, this year.
 M. I. HENRY CLAYTON LARRABEE, Baltimore, was re-elected Grand Master and R. I. GEORGE L. MCCAHAN was re-elected Grand Recorder.

MASSACHUSETTS—1899.

Two Special Assemblies of this Grand Council were held for the exemplification of the Work, under the auspices of the Grand Body. The first was held February 22, at Springfield, and the other at Roxbury, November 21st. The Grand Council on each occasion was opened in full form and the stations were subsequently assumed by the officers appointed to the work, and a full exemplification of the degrees in a most creditable manner was had. It is by such work that this Grand Jurisdiction maintains its high standing and keeps at the front. We omit details of the work for want of space; suffice it to say that a degree of excellence prevailed which deserved and brought forth the encomiums of all present.

The Annual Assembly of this Body was held at Boston, December 13th. M. I. SAMUEL G. LYMAN, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from twenty-five subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from fifteen Grand Councils, including New York. Before the address of the Grand Master (covering nearly six pages), was delivered, the records of the Special Assemblies were read and approved. Past M. I. Companion J. F. ADAMS, of Rhode Island, was introduced and received with appropriate honors due his distinguished rank; the Reports of the Grand Recorder and of the Grand Treasurer were then received and acted upon. The Trustees of the Funds, the Committee on By-Laws and the Report of the Committee on Finance were all received and accepted. The address came next in order after the "IN MEMORIUM" to their deceased Companion and long trusted officer, SERANUS BOWEN, had been presented and adopted. It was a touching and loving tribute to a beloved Companion who had been for many years near to the inner heart of the Companions of this Jurisdiction.

The address was a business document interspersed with beautiful thoughts well expressed. After referring to the years of the past when their membership was low and it was a struggle for existence, he says:

"To-day we stand in the front rank, being the largest and strongest Grand Council in this great Union, which should be an incentive for more earnest and united efforts in the future."

He reports that every subordinate Council in the jurisdiction has had its official visit during the year then closing. He advocates monthly Assem-

blies to be held by every subordinate, except during vacation, and also, in view of a disastrous fire which destroyed many records of Amesbury Council, that every Council should provide itself with a certified copy of its Charter for ordinary use, preserving the original securely where there would be no danger from fire, and so also of the records to a certain extent. These suggestions are well worthy of consideration in other jurisdictions.

This Grand Body has a custom of presenting to each Companion upon his coming into full membership in a Council a Diploma (which we have seen), beautiful and worthy of a choice place in the home of the Companion, "a thing of beauty and a joy forever," to the Companion and to his family after him. It has been suggested that a new design be procured to take the place of the one now in use, which begins to show signs of its use and wear. A Committee was appointed to carry out the idea and to present same at next Assembly. We think this suggestion is worthy of being followed in other jurisdictions with pleasure and profit in increasing the interest of Companions in the Rite, and we would like to see it adopted here in New York. One new Council was instituted under Dispensation. His closing remarks were:

"My official connection with this Grand Council, covering a period of three years, has been by far the pleasantest of my Masonic experience, and it is a source of the highest gratification that no discord has broken in on our pleasant relations, and as each year has passed by my appreciation of the honors you have conferred upon me has increased; my gratitude for your loyal support and acts of kindness has also grown stronger. For the courtesies extended to me by the officers and members of the subordinate Councils, I am profoundly grateful, and in retiring from office I shall, I assure you, retain many pleasant memories of my official connection with this Grand Body."

The Body officially approved of the valuable services rendered by the Grand Master and placed it upon record, commending his efficient work in the interests of the Body, as well as of his recommendations, adopting the same in full.

The Grand Master was directed to attend the coming tri-ennial of the General Grand Council at the expense of the Grand Council.

An able Report on Correspondence was presented by our esteemed Companion, J. GILMAN WAITE, who reviewed the proceedings of twenty-three Jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, to which is given two pages of fraternal and pleasant notice. Many of the jurisdictions covered are the same which our last review covered, and hence we are debarred from its use as fully as would otherwise have been a pleasure.

Under Colorado, our Companion dissents from the proposition that a membership in a Council should depend upon good standing as to payment of dues in preceding bodies. He says:

"With all due regard to the honor that is thrown up about supporting the mother body and the like, we are *not* in favor of dependent membership. Why shall a Mason be compelled to pay for what he does not want or enjoy? Will you make your degrees like a job lot at auction that a man buys the whole for the purpose of securing a part that he desires? I hope not."

And under other States he comments upon this question in the same manner. While we do not agree with our Companion, we recognize the fact that there are two sides to this question, and pretty good arguments applicable to each side.

Under Colorado our Companion, after quoting the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence relative to the Pilgrimage so-called from Kansas, states that as regards to the display made in public parades (adverse thereto), he is in accord with the Committee to which we will not say him "nay."

Under Minnesota, speaking of the condition of the Rite and the recommendation by its Grand Master of the pre-requisite requirement, he says:

"We do not believe in the pre-requisite mentioned. Nothing seems more apparent than that the officers and Companions do *not* perform their duty."

Under New Hampshire, speaking of the General Grand Council, its constituents and of the Independent Bodies, he says:

"It is long since the General Grand Council became an assured success. As those who formed it went in of their own free will, so those who remain out can do so by that same token."

This expresses tersely our own opinion. While it would be a source of pleasure and gratification to the writer for the Independent Grand Councils to become constituents, believing that it would be beneficial not only to such bodies individually, but also to the G. G. Council and to the Rite at large, the writer recognizes the fact that such action on the part of any Grand Council now working independently must be of the free will, personal action and desire of such independent Body. There is and never can be anything like compulsion to be used, or even a course of aggressive or unkind treatment towards those who desire to continue to work in their own way. It is the Masonic duty of the constituents of the General Grand Council as well as of the Body itself, to work in harmony with the Independent Bodies, and no less is it the duty of the latter to work in the same fraternal spirit with the former; building up the Rite and advancing its interests in every possible way that is open to those professing the high standard of excellence that each of these bodies have. If we cannot agree to work under one common head, we can and should agree to work in the utmost harmony, laying aside any petty strife or jealousies as unworthy of the high calling which we all profess. If this is done, then

will the day of sunlight and prosperity come to remain with us in all of our outgoings and incomings. From this day forward let the work be upon these lines and the results to the Rite will be seen and be lasting in an advancement of the interests of not only our brethren but of the Rite itself.

Under New York our Companion presents in brief the entire work of our Body, outside of statistics, making many pleasant references to the proceedings had. Speaking of the suggestion made by the writer to the effect that in a review of the proceedings of other bodies, in addition to quotations that there should be fair liberal comments, which would be beneficial, etc., he says:

"This is indeed true. Nothing is more conducive to an advancement than the fair and open consideration of a question in all its bearings so that from many views we may arrive at the best conclusion."

To which he adds, and we thank him for the compliment:

"Companion OSGOODBY has the happy faculty of fitting quotations and comment with such exact nicety that his review is as interesting as it is instructive."

Under Vermont, upon the subject which was referred to by the writer under Indiana, as to comments made by Companion MORDHURST relative to the criticism of Companion CHASE (under Maine) of a decision to the effect that it was permissive to solicit or request Royal Arch Masons to apply for the Cryptic degrees, Companion WAITE thus expresses his views; coinciding with Vermont on the subject:

"It is true that a man's admission into a Lodge must be of his own volition. Having expressed his belief in the Institution, it is commendable to lead him to loftier heights, never for a moment in the examination of our material forgetting that our efforts should be for the making of Masonry rather than to make Masons."

This is our view exactly, "*to lead him to loftier heights*" by enlightenment, by impressing upon the mind the advanced, better light which is to be derived from the higher degrees, and last, but not least, by suggesting and even "soliciting" him to take additional steps in the search for truth and light, which is the sole object of our investigations and work. May all good Masons do their duties in this respect, remembering that only such material as can pass the test of excellence required, should be approached in this respect, "*making of Masonry* rather than to make Masons."

We put aside this interesting review with reluctance, but all things must have an ending, and we cannot give it further space this year. It is in all respects instructive and interesting and will have its beneficial influence with the Craft.

An elegant and life-like portrait of the retiring Grand Master, M. I. SAMUEL G. LYMAN, is published with the proceedings, and is to be printed.

M. I. BAALIS SANFORD, of Brocton, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. J. GILMAN WAITE, Room 209, Masonic Temple, Boston, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Annual Assembly will be held ———. We would like to attend.

MICHIGAN—1900.

The forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Detroit, January 15-16th. M. I. GEORGE D. SMITH, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from fifty subordinate Councils were present, together with twenty-one Grand Representatives from other Grand Councils, including New York. The Grand Masters address covers eleven pages, the larger portion of which is taken up by his necrology report and by documents and correspondence relative to his official duties, etc. He reports one new Council instituted under Dispensation; one Council, grossly neglectful of being constituted after a Charter had been granted to it, had its Charter re-called, and one other Council, being dormant beyond hope of resurrection, had its Charter revoked and its records, property, etc., taken in charge by the Grand Body. Several decisions were made, but as the same are of no general importance, we pass them, being approved by the Jurisprudence Committee and by the Body. There was a net increase of 229 members during the year. The other matters touched upon by the address were of local interest, excepting the account of the decease of P. Grand Master and late Grand Treasurer, Companion GEORGE H. GREENE, and of P. Grand Master and Chairman of Finance Committee, CHARLES R. BAGG, to each of whom proper and appropriate words of eulogy were given and Memorial pages set aside.

A. P. Grand Master's Jewel was directed, procured and presented to the retiring Grand Master, M. I. GEORGE D. SMITH. A curious incident occurred in the presentation of a bill for \$50 for services as Grand Master, rendered in 1880, by the then incumbent of that office, which was directed paid as claimed. There must be something back of this, but we warrant nothing to the discredit of the body, if to any one.

A standing resolution was adopted as follows:

"Be It Resolved, That when any subordinate Council of this Grand Jurisdiction may have heretofore, or shall hereafter become defunct, any member in good standing in such defunct Council shall be entitled, upon application, to a certificate from the Grand Recorder certifying to that fact, which certificate shall confer upon the recipient the same standing, benefit and obligation that would have been conferred upon him by a regular dimit. Provided, that such applicant shall pay to the Grand Recorder all dues that he owes before receiving such certificate; the dues so received shall be turned into the Grand Treasury."

This follows, substantially, the plan adopted by our own Body a few years since. Good seed sown into good ground, etc.

This Grand Body seems to go to the extent in taking steps to forward the Rite, as, evidence thereof, it adopted resolutions authorizing the communication of the degree of Super-Excellent Master to Companions who had not received it, so as to make a sufficient number to enable a Council to confer it on other companions, and also authorized it to be communicated to any Companion who had not received it, or to any Master in like ignorance of it, etc. We note this, as some few years since this Body criticized strongly the communication of degrees under the sanction of the General Grand Council in territory where new Councils were about to be instituted by it, no Royal Arch Companions located in such places having received the Cryptic degrees. This is an advance in the right direction, it has been so done from the earliest periods and will continue to the future years that we know not of.

A large amount of business of local interest was transacted relative to financial matters and other routine work of local interest. A Report on Correspondence was presented by Companion R. I. LOU B. WINSOR, in which he ably reviews the proceedings of thirty-one Jurisdictions, including New York, for 1899, to which is given nearly six pages of very fraternal and courteous review. This is the second attempt at this work by our esteemed Companion, but he assumes the pen as if he had been in the reportorial harness for years. His reviews are interesting, instructive and readable—in fact, twice readable, for that is what we did by the one before us. In his opening he says:

“There is quite an amount of pleasure mingled with the work of reviewing the proceedings of the various Grand Councils, and especially, to me, the various correspondence reports, most of which are written by bright, intelligent Masonic scholars, some of whom have grown old and gray in the service; and the coming in contact with them cannot fail to imbue us with a profounder love for our Grand Old Institution and a greater ambition to acquaint ourselves more fully with a knowledge of its doings.

“In looking over my work this year I am satisfied that it falls short of what a Correspondence Report should be. I confess that the scissors have played a very conspicuous part. I also confess to yielding to the weakness of inserting many of the pleasant (to us) things said of our report last year and have thus subjected myself to the criticism of those who object to the generality of correspondence reports on the ground that they are used by the reportorial corps for the purpose of passing compliments to one another. I am one of the kind, however, that believe that pleasant words and kindly acts pay the best interest, for what they cost, of any investment that can be made, and am always proud to show my appreciation of them.”

We hardly think our good Companion takes the whole view of the latter portion of the quotation above into consideration. A compliment to a reviewer is more of a compliment to the Body which he represents and is reviewing for, than to the reviewer. It in effect states to the Body you have not made a mistake in your selection of the one to take charge of your correspondence; honor given to him is honor given more to the Body, as he is but the creature of the Body, and if his work tends to build up the Body, that is to the credit of the Body which has given him his position. If he is able, intelligent, capable of giving instruction in Masonic matters, then the proceedings of the Body are more sought for, are of more interest, and thus his work becomes a part of the work of the Body, and he is lost sight of in a great degree by the greater influence and standing of the Body itself. As no proceedings of certain jurisdictions came to our Companion, he has taken from our review of last year such information as we had been able to gather by correspondence with the officers of such bodies, giving credit therefor. The writer is pleased that he has been the means of supplying such information. That is one of the principal duties of a Correspondent, and when accomplished so as to afford news of bodies which do not publish their proceedings, it is of substantial service to not only the Body which he is honored by representing, but to other bodies less fortunately situated in regard to the items involved.

Under Colorado, referring to the views expressed by the Committee on Jurisprudence as to the good or bad effects of the Kansas "Pilgrimage," his views are not in unison with the Committee. He says:

"To this learned and profound opinion of this Committee on Jurisprudence, we beg leave to differ. It does not seem to us that the best interests of Masonry call for the confining of ourselves entirely within our Temples; that, in fact, were we to do this the suspicions of the profane that we were banded together for some unholy purpose would be all the more likely to be aroused. We believe that just such public occasions as this pilgrimage of Elsworth Council, public installations, laying of corner-stones, public dedications and other showy ceremonies have been the means of establishing increased respect for our beloved fraternity by the outside world as well as increasing the zeal and devotion of our own members. Let us have an airing occasionally, and certainly Pike's Peak was a glorious place to have one."

This is another of those questions that occasionally arise, in which there are two debatable sides for argument, as, see other views elsewhere in this report.

The information given from Alabama and Florida is taken from our last report, verbatim. In speaking of a certain Grand Master (not of New York or of Michigan) who stated that he had *written* to all of his

subordinate Councils, but who had not followed up his work, he pithily says:

“This appears to be another general who said ‘go’ instead of ‘come.’

Under New York our Companion gives a very full account of our proceedings and makes liberal quotations from the address of Grand Master KANTER, as well as from our review of other bodies, and comments as follows:

“The bright and genial countenance of Grand Master KANTER beams up on us from the first page of the published proceedings. It is apparent that he has been an earnest and devoted Grand Master; he reports having made sixteen visitations during the year; that he witnessed good work in the Councils visited and was greatly encouraged by the enthusiasm displayed. . . . He also reports the completion of the labors of the Committee appointed to procure a grand standard for the Grand Council, and a cut of the standard adorns the proceedings, by which it appears that the same is indeed a beautiful design. He closes his address with an eloquent appeal to his companions to go to work with renewed vigor and devotion to the Rite.”

He also notes the long list of distinguished visitors to our Body by name, and relative to the Correspondence Report he says:

“The report on Correspondence is again by that veteran Masonic writer, Past Grand Master and Past General Grand Master GEO. M. OSGOODBY, and covers seventy-five pages, and, as he says, ‘covers every Grand Council that is known to have an existence in the world. We delight to see the interest and respect shown by one able writer to another as witnessed by Companion OSGOODBY’s review of California which covers eight pages . . . devoted to the report on Correspondence of Companion EDWIN ALLEN SHERMAN. . . . In fact, when we come to the able reports of such Masonic scholars as Companions SHERMAN and OSGOODBY we feel like giving up our own task and stealing theirs bodily.”

Steal away, Companion, but if you keep on writing such reviews as you have presented to your Grand Council, we shall “steal” back again to even up matters. He further says:

“Michigan for 1899 is given nearly two pages, and we blushed more than we did the first time we asked permission of the girl we thought the most of, to see her home from church, when we discovered that he had devoted all but eleven lines to his review of Michigan to our maiden correspondence report of last year, and we kept right on blushing as we read his kindly comments thereon. To be thus taken into the fold of the guild by such a ‘Father in Israel’ in Masonry as Past Grand Master and

Past General Grand Master OSGOODBY is as consoling and comforting to us as is the praise of the school teacher to the boy who has spoken his first piece."

And after making many excerpts from our review, with approval of our comments and criticisms as applied to different jurisdictions, he further says:

"Again we say Amen. In fact, we would make a good deacon in the church with Companion OSGOODBY for the preacher."

We are glad to be informed that our Companion when in his youth attended church, even though he was induced thereto by the anticipation of being favored with such company when returning. He must have had a favorable answer to his request on the occasion above mentioned, and if he is now inclined to become a deacon, he probably thinks that we are too old to become a competitor, or else he does not fear competition in the "going home." Probably has a "cinch."

He winds up his review of New York by quoting in full our closing remarks, and says he has followed our review carefully and been delightfully entertained, and largely profited thereby, etc., which, of course, is pleasing and encouraging for further and renewed efforts to make further reviews interesting and of benefit to the Companions, not only of our own but of other jurisdictions. This is our line of work in the position we fill, and it is a pleasure to be of service and to think that the service is not in vain or without results for good.

Under Vermont, referring to the recommendation of the Grand Master of Michigan to the effect that under certain circumstances it is necessary in the formation of a Council that the degrees be communicated, i. e., where the distance is too great to allow the Royal Arch Companions to go for them, that the Grand Master may exercise his judgment and communicate them, or order it done by the proper officers, and the criticisms of Companion PERKINS, of Vermont, thereon, he says:

"As some of the other correspondents have mentioned this matter, I presume that we will have to make an explanation, as we were one of the members of the Committee on Jurisprudence to whom the matter was referred. You see, P. Grand Master HUGH McCURDY (who is the fountain source from which pretty much all Masonic law in Michigan emanates), is Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence. Now 'our Hugh' is very tender-hearted and he cannot bear to hurt the feelings of a Grand Master by 'sitting down' on him in a way that necessitates its being placed upon record in cold type, so he gets around it, as in this instance, you will observe by referring to the proceedings under the head of 'Report on Jurisprudence.' "Companion HUGH McCURDY submitted a verbal report approving the M. I. Grand Master's acts in regard to decisions and

dispensations, and the same was accepted and adopted.' This disposed of all that it was necessary to act upon and left the foolish recommendation of the Grand Master to be forgotten, were it not for the inquisitiveness of a few prying correspondents like yourself."

Well, this appears to be another of those questions upon which a difference of opinion may exist. We think that the Grand Master was not far out of line when he made the recommendation. The writer received the Cryptic degrees by communication over thirty years since, at the institution of the Council of which he first became a member, and each of its charter members received the degrees in the same manner on that occasion.

This closes our review of this interesting report of Companion WINSOR. The next Assembly of this Body will be held at Detroit, January 14th, 1901. M.:I.:RICHARD A. CATTON, of Detroit, was elected Grand Master and R.:I.:JEFFERSON S. CONOVER, of Coldwater, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

MINNESOTA—1899.

The thirtieth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at St. Paul, October 9th. M.:I.:JOHN FISHEL, Grand Master, presiding. His portrait presents a good frontispiece to the pamphlet before us. Representatives from seven subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from sixteen Grand Councils, including New York. The address of the Grand Master covers four pages given altogether to matters of local interest, and the proceedings were routine and also of local interest. The Grand Master made three official visits and none are noted as being made by other officers. He states that the condition is not encouraging there, no material advance being made, and thinks that making the Cryptic degrees pre-requisite to the Orders, will prove the panacea for the lack of interest. That question has been tried over and over again, with failure written down on each occasion. Give up any such idea and go to work and work thoroughly, earnestly, and by enthusiastic efforts the Rite can be made to advance there as well as in other places. He presented to Companion SWANSTROM the Jewel which had been directed by the Body at its last Assembly. He had made no efforts to secure applications for new Councils, thinking that when Companions wanted to apply, they would present themselves without being encouraged by outside influence from him as Grand Master.

This Body is having some difficulty in regaining its deposits in the St. Paul Savings Bank, and it was referred to the three principal officers, with power. M.:P.:Companion GEORGE W. COOLEY gave an interesting address on Cryptic Masonry in general and deposits in particular. Whether the "deposits" referred to were Masonic deposits, or the "deposits" in said

Savings Bank, we are not informed, but whichever it was, we know that any address coming from our old and esteemed Companion was a good one and worthy of attention from his hearers.

A brief Report on Correspondence was made by Companion THOMAS MONTGOMERY, in which he reviews the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Bodies, including New York, for 1898, to which is given appropriate attention in over one page. His report covers years which have passed under our review last year and some before, and thus we are cut off from making as much use of his review as we otherwise should be inclined to do. The Assembly of this Body was held only about one month subsequent to our Assembly of last year, which brings the proceedings together so closely that to go over and make the full use of his report which it deserves, we should have to take up subjects upon which we have exhausted our ammunition a year ago. We are pleased, however, that we have been of use in our last report in furnishing information about several Grand Bodies from which he had no advices, and in his "Conclusion," he enumerates the Jurisdictions which he has thus been informed of, i. e., Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Nebraska, North Carolina and South Carolina, etc.

M. I. GEORGE FORSYTH, of Brainerd, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. THOMAS MONTGOMERY, St. Paul, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Assembly will be held at St. Paul, on the second Monday of October, 1901.

MISSOURI, 1900.

The thirty-fifth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Kansas City, April 25th, M. I. DAVID M. WILSON, Grand Master, presiding. A fine portrait of the Grand Master introduces the pamphlet to the reader. It also contains the portrait of M. I. ALLEN MCDOWELL, Past Grand Master of 1872-3, which is a speaking likeness. These portraits are accompanied by short histories of their lives. Representatives from eleven Subordinate Councils out of twelve registered, were present, together with Grand Representatives from seventeen Grand Councils, including New York.

The following "Distinguished Visitors," were present, and had the honors due their high stations accorded to them respectively: M. I. GEO. M. MOULTON, Past Grand Master of Illinois, R. I. JOHN CORSON SMITH, Grand Treasurer of Illinois, M. I. EDWARD W. WELLINGTON, Grand Master of Kansas and R. I. REV. A. WATKINS, Grand Chaplain of Kansas.

The address of the Grand Master covers about three pages, devoted wholly to matters of strict local interest. One new Council had been instituted at Joplin, with prospects of a successful life. A Charter was also granted to Clark Council, which had been under Dispensation.

The Report on "Necrology" covers four pages, in which appears a tribute to our own late beloved Companion, REV. WILLIAM D'ORVILLE DOTY, as well as to twelve other Companions who have departed this life in the year preceding, from the different jurisdictions. Memorial pages were set apart to their memories.

The further proceedings were of the usual routine character, of local interest only. A net gain in membership of nineteen was reported.

M. I. JOHN H. MURPHY, of Kansas City, was elected Grand Master, and our long time friend and Companion, WILLIAM H. MAYO, of St. Louis, was elected Grand Recorder.

A short Report on Correspondence, briefly reviewing the proceeding of twenty-eight jurisdictions, was presented by Companion MAYO, principally made up of items, information of the routine work of the Bodies reviewed, having, however, some notable exceptions. New York is favored with fraternal notice of nearly two pages, in which there are excerpts from the address of Grand Master KANTER, accompanied with brief statement of our doings at our Assembly of 1899. The report of the writer on Correspondence has extended and favorable notice, the "Conclusion" thereto being given in full, and of the report, he says:

"That, like the many others he has written, is very interesting from start to finish." Thanks.

This Report covers the same years which we covered in our review of last year, with but four exceptions, which prevents as full use of the same as otherwise would have been the case. Companion MAYO cuts down his review this time as the Body directed a "Short Report on Correspondence" to be included in the proceedings.

He disagrees with the law of Minnesota, in his review of that State, to the effect that a petition of a dimitted Chapter Mason can be received, if in good standing. He thinks that Minnesota's law should be changed so as to recognize "dependent membership." The other States included in the four mentioned, have but information of proceedings, unaccompanied by comments or remarks, hence there is nothing for us to give to our Companions beyond what we have already given under those States. We hope that this Grand Body will not place the same restriction on its Correspondent next year, but allow him to give a more full and free scope in reviewing of other bodies. From his "Conclusion," we quote:

"There are twenty-four Grand Jurisdictions with well and regularly organized Grand Councils which compose the General Grand Council, whose hands and powers for doing good are gradually and surely being strengthened. There are nine well organized and equipped independent State Grand Councils in the United States of America. It does seem that consistency and fraternity would cause these nine State Grand Bodies to cast their lots and influence for doing good in and unite with the other.

twenty-four Grand Bodies, and make one grand and happy family or branch of the American system of Masonry." We agree with the sentiment expressed.

The next Assembly will be held at St. Louis, April 24, 1901.

MISSISSIPPI—1899.

The forty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Vicksburg, February 6th. The representatives of twenty-four subordinate Councils were present, M. .I. ; FREDERIC SPEED, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers sixteen pages, and is a beautiful piece of work, worthy of being quoted in full for the benefit of the Companions of our own and of other jurisdictions. From his review of the condition of the Rite, in Mississippi, we see that the interest in the Rite is on the increase, and some seven subordinate Councils which have been dormant or languishing have been revived and placed upon a solid basis for future usefulness, with largely increased interest and membership. This is the result of having at the head a Grand Master who is not only enthusiastic and zealous at all times, in season and out of season, but who loves the Rite and is not unwilling to give his time and work to its advancement, assisted by a corps of officers with like feelings and ability to work and act in the common interest of building up their Grand Council. His address is one of the best that has come to our notice and is replete with gems of beauty and of historical reminiscences of interest not only to his Companions, but to the fraternity at large.

The plan of working in conjunction with the Grand Chapter, through its Grand Lecturer in the common work of building up Royal Arch Masonry in conjunction with the Cryptic Rite, has not proved as successful as was expected, owing to the neglect of the officer to whom was delegated the work, and he is justly reprobated by the Grand Master for his course of action, or rather want of action, although an appropriation had been made for payment for his services. Another attempt is to be made in the same direction, if suitable arrangements can be made by which the Body can be assured that the work will be faithfully done.

The proposition of the General Grand Master tending to induce this Grand Council to unite in the chain of Grand Councils constituting the constituency of that Body, was presented and considered, but was declined by this Grand Council. Considerable business tending to the advancement of the interests of this Body was transacted.

There was no Report on Correspondence presented. The Annual Assembly for 1900 was to be held at Meriden, in February, 1900, but of which we have as yet received no report. M. .I. ; FREDERIC SPEED, of Vicksburg, was re-elected Grand Master, and R. .I. ; J. L. POWER, of Jackson, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW BRUNSWICK—1899.

We have before us a pamphlet containing the Proceedings of the Supreme Grand Council of the Cryptic Rite for the Maritime Provinces, giving its proceedings for the years 1897-8-9. As we have reported this Body for the years 1897-8, from information furnished us by the present Grand Master, then Grand Recorder, Companion ROBERT MARSHALL, we shall only present at this time the proceedings for the Assembly of 1899, which was held at the City of St. John, on August 21st. M. I. JOHN ALEXANDER WATSON, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives of all subordinate Councils, seven in number, were present. The address of the Grand Master covers four pages, devoted strictly to the business matters of the Body, as well as containing much of the past history of the Rite in that Province. The decease of Past Grand Master, JOSEPH C. HATHEWAY, of that Body, was appropriately referred to. One Council, Chebucto, had been reorganized and put into good shape for future usefulness. He also reported:

"On examination of the original Warrant to Chebucto Council, issued from this Grand Council in 1870, I found on the back an endorsement dated May 28, 1888, from the office of a Grand Council calling themselves the Grand Council of Canada, R. & S. M., and signed by one J. ROSS ROBERTSON as its Grand Recorder, assuming to revoke and annul such Warrant. This being in my opinion improper, our Grand Recorder, under my direction, made the following endorsement thereon. 'By order of the M. P. G. M. of the Grand Council of R. & S. M. of New Brunswick, this endorsement having been made inadvertently and without proper authority, is hereby declared null and void, March 8, 1899. ROBERT MARSHALL, Grand Recorder,' and I then delivered said original Warrant to T. M. Black." I also found a charter under date 28th May, 1888, issued to Chebucto Council, No. 4, from the said Grand Council R. & S. M. of Canada. As I deemed this to be an invasion of occupied Masonic territory, our Grand Recorder, acting under my instructions, made the following endorsement thereon." Then follows a declaration that such charter is "null and void and of no effect." As the Grand Council of Canada (Ontario) is not exhibiting much vitality these days, it is not probable that there will be a great deal of warfare over this episode. The prospects of this Body becoming prosperous are quite good, judging from the work done and proposed for the near future. Its Officers and Companions appear to be earnest in efforts to advance its interests and several new Councils are expected to be organized shortly. One other Council, at New Brunswick, has resumed work after having been dormant for many years.

The name of the Body was changed by unanimous consent, to "The Supreme Council of the Cryptic Rite of the Maritime Provinces." A new Constitution was adopted, which with its General Regulations, Order

of Business, Ceremonial Ritual, Forms, etc., were adopted, and are printed with the Proceedings in a handsome purple-covered pamphlet of fifty-seven pages, including the Addenda. The Grand Representatives to and from the former Grand Council of New Brunswick, of which the present Grand Council now assumes place, are continued in their respective offices. A large amount of work is included within the proceedings of this Assembly. There is no report upon Correspondence. A beautiful view of the "Reversible Falls," situated near the Grand East, St. John, N. B., adorns the proceedings, as well as fine portraits of Past Grand Masters, WILLIAM B. WALLACE and JOHN A. WATSON, and also of the present Grand Master, ROBERT MARSHALL, whose address, as well as that of the Grand Recorder, R. I. JOHN A. WATSON, is St. John, N. B.

The Degree known in this Jurisdiction as the degree of "Red Cross," or "Babylonish Pass," and heretofore conferred in Councils, while not retained in the title to the Body, was authorized to be conferred by any Council in that jurisdiction upon applicants who had first received the degree of "Select, Royal and Super-Excellent Master." The next Assembly will be held at St. John, in August, 1901.

NEBRASKA—1899.

This Grand Council met in Annual Assembly at Omaha, December 13th. Six subordinate Councils out of thirteen registered were present. M. I. JOHN J. MERCER, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers two pages, devoted to local matters only. The work was of the routine character. The Grand Master seems to be much interested in the work of the Rite, and urges the adoption of measures to advance its interest, which, if concurred in by good hard labor and persistency, will place this Grand Council in its former enviable position, as one of the "Workers of the Rite."

A very full report is made of the pilgrimage to Pikes Peak, with the Companions of Kansas. We are most decidedly of opinion that if the same amount of force and labor which was expended in that pilgrimage had been devoted to work in building up their own Grand Council of Nebraska, a most marked and decided advance in interest would have been apparent at the present time, with prospects for the future, which would have been lasting in good results.

The new Grand Master, M. I. DANIEL H. WHEELER, has gained renown and honors in other positions at the head of Grand bodies, and we look to see new laurels around his brows as the result of his labors in the Cryptic branch of Masonry. He is a "hustler" from way back, and if he cannot revive the Rite and push it to the front, with his vim and ability, we miss our guess.

No Report on Correspondence. M. I. DANIEL H. WHEELER, Omaha, was elected Grand Master, and M. I. THOMAS E. WHITE, same address, was elected Grand Recorder. Next Assembly to be held at Omaha, in December, 1900.

NEW JERSEY—1900.

The forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Trenton, January 23d, M. I. DAVID H. LUKENS, Grand Master, presiding. Four subordinate Councils were represented, out of seven registered. Representatives from seventeen Grand Councils were present, but the representative of New York was not present. The address of the Grand Master covers about six pages, devoted to local matters wholly. The Grand Master has worked faithfully during his official year in advancing the interests of the Rite, which enabled him to report an increased interest in some of their subordinates, with prospects of advancement in other bodies. He had granted waivers of jurisdiction to New York and had received some in return, asked by himself from New York.

There was no Report on Correspondence, and the work was routine. The next Assembly will be held at Trenton, January 22d, 1901. M. I. JOSEPH MASON, of Paterson, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. CHARLES BECHTEL, Trenton, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1899.

The thirty-eighth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Concord (in cord also), May 15th. Representatives from nine out of eleven registered Subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from ten Grand Councils, not including New York. M. I. CHARLES H. WEBSTER, Grand Master, presiding. The proceedings are adorned with a portrait of M. I. Companion JOSHUA WRIGHT HUNT, who was Grand Master in 1889-1890. The address covers about five pages, of which over three are given to the eulogy of deceased members, the balance being devoted to matters of local interest. He reports that he personally made five visits to subordinate Councils, and that the other Councils, each and all, received an official visit from the Deputy Grand Master or from the Grand Prin. Conductor of the Work. We recommend the following of this example to those jurisdictions where the Official Visitors simply write to the Councils assigned for his visitation, and then drop all further responsibility and let the Councils languish and often become dormant, when had they performed their duty, as they should have done, the Council might have been encouraged and the Companions had their zeal and enthusiasm awakened and so the interests of the Grand Body as well as of the Rite advanced. Especially do we commend

this to those Grand Masters who start in on their Grand Mastership with such exalted intentions of doing so much, but who, as time rolls on, allow a lethargy to steal over them and end by grossly neglecting the duties of their position, and then report, "I meant to, but didn't." The rite in this jurisdiction is, as might be known without the saying, considering the faithfulness of the Grand Master and his worthy, zealous Deputy and P. C. of the Work, prospering and successful. The reports of the Deputy and P. C. of the Work accompany the Address and show the good work performed by each of them. The work of the Body was routine.

The Grand Master, address Nashua, and the Grand Recorder, address Concord, were each re-elected. This review being of 1899, does not include the last Assembly, which was held at Concord, May 14th, this year, but from which we have no proceedings as yet, except names of officers elect. If the proceedings get away from the printer in time for us to include, we shall add another chapter to this jurisdiction.

A report on Correspondence was presented by our dear Companion, R. I. GEORGE P. CLEAVES, Grand Recorder, covering twenty-six jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, to which is given near two pages of pleasant notice and comment. This Report of Companion CLEAVES, covers jurisdictions for years, every one of which were reviewed by the writer last year for the years presented, hence we are barred from an extended use thereof in this review, although it is one of the most interesting of the papers which have come from his pen for some time. We would also add in this connection, that we are informed by a letter from our Companion that the review which is to come with the proceedings of this year, may be his last service in this direction, being compelled to give up his position as Grand Recorder on account of protracted and severe illness in two members of his family. This information will be received by his Companions of the whole country with deep regret and their loving sympathy will flow out towards him in no small measure. His work in the Correspondence field has been continuous since 1882, when he wrote his first review, commencing the same year that Companion S. STACKER WILLIAMS did for the Grand Council of Ohio, but who was compelled by his own ill health to resign his position in 1898. The writer was first appointed to the Corresponding position for New York, in 1881, and Companion WILLIAM H. MAYO, of Missouri, wrote his first report for that Grand Council the same year, being now the senior of the Corp of Correspondents. During the years which have passed to the beyond, we have learned by our association with the Companions who have been engaged in this labor for the advancement of the interests of Cryptic Masonry, to esteem them in a high degree and have annually looked forward with anticipations of pleasure to the receipt of their Reports, knowing that therein would be found many choice gems of thought and much instruction in the true lights of Masonry. Many of these loved Companions have been called to their reward in another better, higher, truer life,

where there is rest for the weary and where trouble is not known. How long it will be before we may be called to render our accounts for that life, we know not, but in the course of human life, as usually run, the years will not be many before the call of the Grand Master to "rest from labor" will come, and that we may be prepared for that end, with our labors completed here, we sincerely seek. It may be sooner or later, but it is sure to come, and not at a distant day. Then may the broad mantle of Masonic Charity be drawn around our foibles and our short comings be forgotten, and only remembrance be had of what may have been found to have been in accordance with the higher requirements of a true Masonic life. We hope that Companion CLEAVES will continue his labors with us, and that the burdens of affliction now upon him will be lightened and health restored to his loved ones. In the "Conclusion" of our Companion, he says:

"The Rite seems to be as prosperous as in any year since we have written the reports. There are no contentions or disagreements that we are aware of." At the annual Assembly held last May, M. I. CHARLES B. SPOFFORD, of Claremont, was elected Grand Master, and R. I. FRANK D. WOODBURY, Concord, was elected Grand Recorder.

NORTH CAROLINA—1900.

This Grand Council held its annual Assembly in June last. There was but little interest manifested. The proceedings were routine and have not been printed. Our information comes from R. I. Companion JAMES C. MUNDS, Grand Recorder, whose address is Wilmington, N. C. The attendance was small. He says they "are living in a hope of better times."

OHIO—1899.

The sixty-ninth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Cleveland, on the 26-7th days of September, M. I. HENRY E. MORRISON, Grand Master, presiding. Representatives from forty-nine subordinate Councils, out of fifty-two registered, together with Grand Representatives from thirty Grand Councils, including New York. An eloquent address of Welcome was delivered to the Grand Council by Companion EDSON B. BAUDER, of Cleveland Council, which was responded to by the Grand Master. Two of the Grand Representatives to this Body have deceased during the past year, being from Tennessee and from England and Wales. The address of the Grand Master covers nearly eight pages, and is a strictly business document, including therein certain reports of different officers; assignments for visitations, etc. Forty-six Councils out of the fifty-two had received an official visit, and the other six were unable to fix

a date for visitation which was satisfactory. A decided increase in interest in Cryptic Masonry is shown, and those Councils which are not flourishing (very few in number), are themselves to blame for their condition, being caused by lack of interest or negligence on the part of their officers. He also reports the institution of two new Councils and has high hopes for their future. A Past Grand Master's Jewel was presented to M. I. Companion JOHN B. ROMANS, who is now living on the Pacific Coast. The pamphlet contains a picture gallery of some of the distinguished sons of Ohio, who have been Grand Masters of this Grand Body, commencing with Companion HENRY E. MORRISON, incumbent in 1898-9; Companion CHARLES C. KIEFER, incumbent in 1860-1-2, who died March 12th 1899; Companion HENRY THEOBOLD, incumbent in 1873-4, who died July 2d, 1899, an also of Companion WILLIAM M. CUNNINGHAM, who has ably filled the positions of M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, as well as having been the Grand Master of the Grand Council in 1864-5-6. He was the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence at the time that the writer was appointed to the same position in our own Body, and he has now resumed that position, bringing to it long experience and a most distinguished ability acquired in a very busy masonic life, always active and full of life and zeal. In addition he is now and has been for many years the honored Grand Representative of our own Grand Body near the Grand Council of Ohio. The Deputy Grand Master and Grand Principal Conductor of the Work also presented verbal reports of their labors. The Grand Recorder reports a net gain in membership of 229. The Grand Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$2,904.01, after having disbursed \$2,928.35, which is a handsome showing for this A. No. 1, Grand Body. The M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge having received an invitation to lay the Corner-stone of a new College building in Cleveland for the 28th of September, extended an invitation to this body to attend and assist in the ceremonies of the day, which was courteously accepted and the Body attended accordingly. In Memoriam of the decease of the departed Companions, suitable Obituaries were presented and Memorial pages set apart to their memories. The Committee on Republication of the laws, etc., reported the completion of their labors and had 500 copies printed for distribution. An appropriation of \$400.00 was made for the reception and entertainment of the General Grand Council and General Grand Chapter at their Triennial Assemblies in Cincinnati in September, and a Committee was also appointed to act in the premises in conjunction with the like Committee to be appointed by the Grand Chapter.

An exhaustive and full report was made by the Committee on Masonic Home, covering twenty-three pages, in which this Body is greatly interested. The report is by Companion J. W. CHAMBERLAIN and is of absorbing interest. The Grand Master was authorized to donate to the

Home, \$200.00 if, in his opinion, the finances of the Body warrant that amount to be given. An Amendment to their By-laws was offered to increase the annual dues from subordinate Councils to the Grand Council from fifty to sixty cents, the additional ten cents to be given to the Masonic Home. This lies over under Constitutional provisions until the next Assembly for action. The Grand Master elect was authorized to procure an appropriate Past Grand Master's Jewel and to present it to Companion MORRISON, the retiring Grand Master.

Our M. I. Companion, WILLIAM M. CUNNINGHAM, after an interval of eighteen years, again assumes the position of Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee, and presents a report covering forty-nine pages and twenty-five jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, to which is given three pages of fraternal notice. An epitome of the proceeding is given, in which he says that the address of Companion OPPENHELMER is an interesting recital of his performance of official duties for the year then past. He also compliments the Report on Correspondence as being "very interesting," "reviewing, with accustomed vigor and ability, the proceedings of thirty-six Bodies, from which our Companion quotes liberally from our introduction, comments, criticisms and opinions not adversely.

We have referred to Companion CUNNINGHAM, in connection with what we have said herein before, to which we call attention. From the "Salutatory," of Companion CUNNINGHAM, we give the following, asking that it be considered with that care which it is entitled to for its intrinsic worth.

"After an interval of eighteen years the writer again assumes the duties of Chairman of the Committee, and in this connection it is pleasant to state, that in the long interval mentioned, his affection and love for the Cryptic Rite has never waned. Within the memory of the writer the Rite has had many difficulties with which to contend, all of them more or less due to the apathy of its own membership. If the zeal of its followers was only commensurate with the beauty and worth of its degrees, the Rite would occupy the high position in Free Masonry to which it is entitled in every Grand Jurisdiction in which it has placed its steady increase in numbers, although very slow for many years, a more careful study of its esotery and a greater interest in the Rite, is doubtless largely due to the increase of official visitations made to subordinate Councils and a general dissemination of a knowledge of the Rite through reports on Correspondence. In this connection also, a more general cultivation of its social features, continued active work and more regularly attended meetings will do more for the growth of Cryptic Masonry than all the clamor of any pre-requisite feature to other preferments could possibly do. * * * * *

"In this connection, in the opinion of your Committee, the value of reports on Foreign Correspondence to the Rite are entirely underestimated by, not only the Companions at large, but also by many writers on correspondence themselves. A careful observation for many years of the benefits derived from a correct knowledge of the local affairs, manners and methods of business, decisions, legislation, social functions and literature of other Grand Jurisdictions obtained only, by the general reader, from Reports on Correspondence to the Grand Bodies of the several Rites in Free Masonry, whether Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery, has been fully convincing of their usefulness and necessity to every branch of the Institution. * * * * * In this connection also, the writer does not believe that these reports are for the purpose of advertising the fanciful theories of their author or for personal amusement in any sense. In the abstract or report of the Proceedings of the different jurisdictions reported, the courteous, fraternal criticism, however, of all decisions and legislation, is legitimately within the province of the Committee; all ascerbities and unfraternal personalities on the other had are absolutely out of place therein, and all slangy expressions are as equally distasteful, as really *witty* allusions are acceptable."

This introduction by our Companion is so replete with good sense and the standard of usefulness is placed so high, that we consider it will be appreciated and welcomed by our Companions of our own Grand Council, so repeat it. This Grand Body met so soon after the Assembly of our own Body last year, that the jurisdictions reviewed in this Report, are, every one of them, the same that we had under consideration last year, which again leaves us without the full, free use of the comments and criticisms of Companion CUNNINGHAM, which we should otherwise deem it not only a duty but a pleasure to present to our Companions. We, however, will bring out some of the opinions of the writer upon subjects which are still of present interest, and not out of date as regards our last review.

Under California, commenting upon the reviews expressed by Companion SHERMAN, of that jurisdiction on the subject of making the rituals historically correct in all particulars, he says:

"In the opinion of the writer the symbolic teachings of Free Masonry are not at all dependent upon the historical accuracy of the traditions upon which it is founded. The lessons taught by its symbolism and not the literal sense of the letter, is the important factor to the Masonic student. If they harmonize literally it is well, and, if they do not, the purpose of the lesson is equally accomplished by its interior or symbolic meaning and again it is well."

And under the same State, he quotes from Companion SHERMAN'S review of New York, upon the difference between executive and ministerial powers, which he says is a very satisfactory presentment, as follows:

"The Executive is administrative power and authority, the Secretarial purely ministerial and subordinate, and they should ever be kept separate and apart, or trouble is sure to occur in the body or bodies of men of which they form a part, and the Brother should not be lost in the officer of a Fraternity, for then he ceases to be a brother, and so far as he is concerned, he is no longer a member of a Fraternity which for himself he destroys."

Under Indiana, he expresses his disapproval of the degree of Super-excellent Master being attached to Cryptic Masonry, except as a side degree to be conferred without charge, so that Companions would not be barred from visiting in jurisdictions in which it was made a regular degree in the system of their work. He further says, under Indiana, and we agree with him:

"The value of the Cryptic Grades is too great to permit them to be hawked about at merely nominal rates. Reasonable but not exorbitant fees will really enhance their value in the eyes of intelligent Royal Arch Masons who have not yet received them, whilst anything less than ten dollars would indicate that they were cheaply held in value by their possessors.

Under Maine, he concurs with the opinion of Companion Chase, Correspondent, that Grand Councils have the right to confer the degrees, unless prohibited by its own Constitutional Enactment, and says:

"The granting of certain powers and privileges to its subordinates does not, in the opinion of your Committee, debar a Grand Council from the exercise of any of its functions. That which it has power to do through its Subordinates is inherent with itself, unless the exercise of that power is surrendered by its own action."

And he quotes Anderson's Constitution (A. D. 1773) Article XIII. of the General Regulations (page 61) in support of his position, which we deem well-founded.

Under Washington, criticising the language of the Committee on Jurisprudence which we also criticised last year, and have referred to under Vermont hereinbefore, he seems to agree with the volumes of adverse criticism which has been uniform with every Body which has taken any notice of it. He says:

"Which to your Committee, seem to be not only illtimed in relation to the Body to which the Grand Council owed its existence and its filial

loyalty, but unnecessary, as the General Grand Council itself had already modified the claimed objectionable regulation by the adoption of the logical conclusions in the resolution submitted by Past General Grand Master Josiah H. Drummond."

But we must close up on this review. We most cordially welcome Companion CUNNINGHAM back to the guild, bidding him "God-speed" in his good work; always remembering that he takes the place of an equally able Companion, whose time would not allow him to continue longer in the same line of work at the present. We liked the former reviews of Companion ACKLIN, as we liked those that Companion CUNNINGHAM used to spread before us, and which he now resumes. Au revoir, but not good-bye to both.

M.:L. WILLIAM T. MCLEAN, of Sidney, was elected Grand Master, and our dear Companion, R.:I. WILLIAM E. EVANS, was re-elected Grand Recorder. The next Assembly is to be held at Columbus, October 9th, 1900.

OREGON—1900.

The fifteenth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Albany, June 4. Representatives of four out of six registered subordinate Councils were present, together with Grand Representatives from seven Grand Councils, including the representative from New York. M.:I. M. S. WOODSTOCK, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers six pages, in which he reports a decided increase in interest in the Rite there. Two Councils have been given Dispensations, and one other had been duly instituted. This increase of interest is attributed to the unflagging energy and work of the Grand Master, and he is entitled to great credit. He has been a worker, and an enthusiastic Grand Master can almost always find a way to advance the interests of the body which he presides over. The particular work of this Grand Master, brought from the body, by the Committee appointed to consider the acts of its officers, the following well-deserved tribute, which was adopted:

"We congratulate the Grand Council and our Most Illustrious Grand Master upon the flourishing condition of the Cryptic Rite, and especially upon the successful and satisfactory manner in which our Grand Master has discharged his official duties."

This Grand Master honors New York by being its representative near the Grand Council of Oregon. A proposition was made to drop the office of Grand Illustrious Master out of their line of offices, and action thereon was deferred to its next Annual Assembly, which is to be held at McMinnville, April 3d, 1901. There is no Report on Correspondence. The other work was routine.

M.:I.; JOHN M. HODSON, Portland, was elected Grand Master, and R.:I.; SETH L. POPE, same address, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

PENNSYLVANIA—1900.

The forty-fourth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Lancaster, February 27th, M.:I.: **WILLIAM B. FLICKENGER**, Grand Master, presiding. His portrait adorns the pamphlet of Proceedings. Representatives from twelve subordinate Councils, together with Grand Representatives from twelve sister Grand Councils were present, New York not being represented. The Address covers about eight pages, given to matters of local interest generally, and the proceedings were of the usual routine. The Rite appears to be fairly prosperous, and a net gain of 19 in membership was made. Not a large gain, but it is not required that there be a large gain in order to have a Body in a prosperous condition. Prosperity does not always depend upon large additions; many elements go to make a Body interesting and prosperous, and a large membership of material that is careless and neglectful of advancement is to be deplored as wasted efforts, and it is harder to get over the bad influence of many members who are neglectful than it is to pass along and make a successful ending with a smaller number who will build up and work faithfully in advancing the interest of the Rite, as under the first condition the Body loses, and in the other it gains. He notes the reception of an invitation to visit Adelpic Council, of New York City, on an occasion when the officers of the Grand Council of Massachusetts were received, and expresses his regret that he was unable to attend; also, that certain waivers of jurisdiction had been asked and granted between the two jurisdictions. Full reports are made by the official visitors of the Body, showing that the Rite is generally prospering. A resolution was offered that their Constitution be amended, so that within one year after the suspension of a Companion for non-payment of dues he could be restored to good standing by a two-third vote of Companions present, due notice being given to the members of the application; it now being necessary to petition anew for the degrees. Why should the period of time in which such restoration can be made be limited to one year? We think it may often be injurious to limit the time to such a short period. The consideration of the proposed amendment lies over one year, under Constitutional provisions.

A suitable Testimonial was authorized to be procured and presented to Grand Master **FLICKENGER** from the Body. Suitable and proper action was taken upon the decease of Past Grand Master **ANDREW J. KAUFFMANN**, whose death was reported to our Grand Council last year.

A report upon Correspondence was presented by R.:I.: Companion **JAMES E. STEVENSON**, in his usual inimitable style, covering twenty Grand Jurisdictions, including New York for 1899, to which is given about two pages of fraternal mention, in which he speaks of our elaborate and ceremonious opening with approval. He also notices the address of our Companion, **KANTER**, as being a long and carefully prepared paper, itemizing many of its features, and it is apparent that it met with his com-

mentation. He speaks of other matters of our proceedings and work, giving two pages to our Body out of eleven pages given to the whole twenty which he reviewed. He repeats the list of the Bodies reviewed by the writer last year, 38 in number, saying that it covers every known jurisdiction in the world, and that as

“This is information not readily accessible to the readers of this report, we have thought that such list would be of benefit to them. . . . Companion OSGOODBY always writes the most complete and exhaustive report which is presented to any Grand Council. He quotes literally from the addresses of the Grand Masters, notes about everything which was done by each, and in most instances quotes freely from the gems—as well as pebbles—which appear in the reports on correspondence. We regret that his report for 1899 cannot be placed in the hands of every Companion—reader of reports—in this jurisdiction. If that should be done we would cheerfully forego the exquisite pleasure (?) which it affords us to write a report, and would simply add as a foot-note to his report, “Me too” Commendation by OSGOODBY is proof that the commendeo has not far gone astray. We beg to offer him the assurance of our most distinguished consideration.”

Under Colorado, speaking of the communication of degrees for purpose of organizing a Council, he says:

“We suppose such method of procedure may be necessary in the spread of the Cryptic gospel in new fields of labor.” Which coincides with our previously expressed views.

Under Maine, speaking of a dispensation allowing a Council to remove its place of meeting from one room to another in the same building, he characterizes it as an “absurdity,” with which we agree. Another dispensation granted to allow a Council chartered to hold its meetings in a certain place, to have a special meeting and to ballot on candidates in another town, he disapproves of, on the ground that it was in violation of its charter. Again right.

Companion STEVENSON in his review confines himself chiefly to a report of the acts and proceedings, without making extended comments, this year, which we presume is for the reason that his private business has not allowed him the necessary time to do the usual amount of work on his report; which conclusion we arrive at, as he has resigned his position as Correspondent for want of time to give it proper attention. We very much regret to bid him “good bye” as in the several years which we have been working in this field together, we have been taught that he was always to be relied upon as a faithful co-worker, enthusiastic, zealous and always up-to-date in his work. We shall miss his views and work, but we are to have M. I. Past Grand Master JOEL S. EABY, as the Chairman of the

Committee in his place, and we shall not be without a good man at the helm of this field of work in the Keystone State, and we welcome him to his new field of Masonic labor.

In his "Conclusion" he states the reasons for his withdrawal from the work quite fully, and closes with:

"My companions, we must part here, and I sincerely hope that you will join me in repeating the sentiment of Tiny Tim: 'God bless us, every one.'"

And we each and all unite in the prayer.

M.:I.:JAMES B. YOUNGSON, of Pittsburg, was elected Grand Master, and R.:I.:JOSHUA L. LYTE, Lancaster, was re-elected Grand Recorder. Next Assembly will be held at Allentown, February 26, 1901.

RHODE ISLAND—1900.

The fortieth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Providence, April 10th, M.:I.: CHARLES B. MANCHESTER, Grand Master, presiding. The information which we have is from a circular and letter from R.N.I.: WILLIAM R. GREENE, Grand Recorder, as the Proceedings are not and will not be printed this year, the custom being in this jurisdiction to print but once in three years, including all under the same cover. We are informed that there was a small gain in membership. The Companions of this jurisdiction have lost by death M.:I.:EUGENE STEVENS, who was called to a higher life January 6th, 1900. We are in receipt of a "Memorial" notice of his decease.

The business of this Assembly was routine and of local interest. M.:I.: WILLIAM I. CHATTERTON, Pawtucket, was elected Grand Master, and R.:I.: WILLIAM R. GREENE, Providence, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1900.

The forty-first Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Charlestown, February 13th. Representative of five subordinate Councils and ten Grand Representatives from sister Councils, not including New York, were present, M.:I.:A. E. FUGLE, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers four pages, devoted to matters of local importance principally. The business of the Body was routine. A Report upon Correspondence was submitted in quite a brief form, giving very brief information from twenty-five jurisdictions (not including New York), was presented by Comp. ZIMMERMANN DAVIS, Grand Recorder. This report contains statistics only as a general thing, and is brief—exceedingly brief. There was an increase of 35 members during the year, and the interest in the Rit seems to be on the advance amongst the Companions of this jurisdiction.

One custom, peculiar to this jurisdiction, is, that a Committee upon Nomination of Officers is appointed to make up a list of Companions to be voted for. This was done, and the Companions so nominated were unanimously elected by one Companion casting the ballot of the Body. This custom would hardly meet with favor in most jurisdictions.

The next Annual Assembly will meet in Charlestown on February 12th, 1901. M. I. ALBERT E. FUGLE, Columbia, was re-elected Grand Master, and R. I. ZIMMERMAN DAVIS, Charlestown, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

TENNESSEE—1900.

The fiftieth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Nashville, January 29th. Representatives from twelve subordinate Councils, out of twenty-one registered, being present, M. I. W. CRUTCHER, Grand Master, presiding. His address covers four pages and has a ring of the true metal. Many of the thoughts presented are too good to keep down in old Tennessee, and we are constrained to quote them for the benefit of a larger constituency. He says:

"Companions, must I tell you that I admire ambition, or rather emulation, and that while I may not be able to make brilliant this morning the thoughts which crowd upon my mind as I come before you to render this account, I beg that you credit me with a sincere heart, one full of love, ever faithful to the high command of my Companions. By your behest I wear this distinction and honor, and not one hour of the year just closing have I forgotten its high responsibilities, and the fact that the good and the true and the brave have preceded me and that their spotless lives have moulded and made our history. If I can but touch the hem of their garments it will assure me that within your hearts I too may find a soft warm welcome.

"The Mission of our Brotherhood is so high and pure that no hand is rude enough to tarnish its courts or pull down its pillars. Like the exalted men of Israel, whose lives were continually blessed by God's favor, these sacred courts become the receptacle of friendships and ties that cannot kill.

"In this last Council of the Nineteenth Century let us renew our fealty and strike from our lives all unhallowed desires and unholy aspirations, lest we fall away from our first attachments.

"Let us remember that we are a part of the great and mighty force which is surging in this universe against these selfish desires which so often dominate the human heart.

"There is no question that this is a restless age, and our great duty is to see that we are not swallowed up in this vortex in which so many perish, and that the hopes and aims of a noble ambition and grand pro-

fession like ours do not find their grave. The love of money, the love of fame and of honor is pressing down into the hearts and lives of men so deep, that high and holy things are forgotten. We often hear that the poor are neglected, and the sick are not visited, and the orphan is not fed and clothed. Companions, we must watch and we must pray, lest these great duties be neglected. To God let us be devoutly thankful for His gracious care in the past, and that so many are permitted again to meet around this altar. He has kept and He has blessed us, 'blessed be His name.' Let us pray, let us trust that He will still watch and guard and protect our glorious fraternity and crown our lives with noble deeds."

The address was full upon the memories of the departed Companions of the sister Grand Councils, where the grim reaper had gathered in a harvest of the distinguished Companions of the Rite, but further was given to local interests.

The work was routine, and there was no Report on Correspondence.

The officers-elect were installed by M.A.P.: BRADFORD NICHOL, General Grand Master. The next Annual Assembly will be held at Nashville, January 28th, 1901. M.:I.:R. E. THOMAS, Cumberland City, was elected Grand Master, and R.:I.:W. A. CLENDENING, Nashville, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

VERMONT--1899.

The forty-second Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held at Burlington, June 13th. We have not received the proceedings for 1900, but if we do in time, look out for a second chapter under this head. Representatives from sixteen out of nineteen registered subordinate Councils were present at the Assemble of 1899, together with Grand Representatives of twenty-three Grand Councils, including New York. M.:I.: CHARLES A. CALDERWOOD, Grand Master, presiding. The address covers some ten pages, of which about seven are given to his Necrology report. The balance being devoted to an account of his work during the year and to matters of local interest. One Council, dead beyond hope of resuscitation, had its Charter revoked, being one of the three not represented. He made several visits to Councils, and we assume that others were made by other officers, as he states that other visits will be in other reports, but we fail to find the reports referred to in the proceedings. One important recommendation made by him and adopted by the Body, was, that all Commissions at whatever date issued, should expire with the tri-ennial of the General Grand Council, stating that this is the law of the Grand Commandery and of the Grand Chapter of that jurisdiction. Upon the condition of the Rite, he says:

"The condition of the Rite throughout this Grand Jurisdiction I may safely say is good. Many of the Councils have done a fair amount of

work; some have every reason to be proud of their record; harmony prevails throughout the length and breadth of the Grand Jurisdiction, and the Cryptic Rite will still continue to march on to nobler deeds and more ambitious achievements."

There was a net gain of sixty. The proceedings were routine. The Grand Master was commended by the Body for his zeal and earnestness for the Cryptic Rite and the earnest wish expressed that the Grand Commandery might at an early date require all candidates for the Orders of Knighthood to first obtain the Cryptic degrees as a pre-requisite. Memorial pages were set apart in memory of departed Companions of this and of other jurisdictions.

A Report on Correspondence was presented by R.:I.:Companion, MARSH O. PERKINS, which covers twenty jurisdictions, including New York for 1898, to which is given nearly three pages of kindly and fraternal notice. He compliments the address of our then Grand Master, as being a business-like presentation of official acts and review of a successful administration. He mentions the procurement of a Grand Standard, and the amendment of our Constitution by creating the office of Grand Standard Bearer, but says:

"Something far more appropriate, as we think, is the recognition of worth and merit by conferring the honorary title of Past Grand Master upon the veteran Grand Recorder, George Van Vliet, who has served faithfully and with distinguished ability, as Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, for upwards of a quarter of a century, and previously thereto as a safe and wise counselor and worker in the Grand Body."

He also is pleased to say, speaking of the Correspondence Report:

"The Report on Correspondence, the most elaborate of the year and equally good, is again submitted by Companion GEORGE M. OSBOODBY. His review covers thirty-six states, countries and provinces, and puts him at the head of the procession."

And makes several quotations therefrom, with approval. Like some other jurisdictions, his Report covers years which have each and all passed under our review in our last report, and are familiar to our own Companions, which we regret, as it is replete with choice selections and comments, liberally made, in the most fraternal spirit. If we only had furnished to us the proceedings of their Assembly held the present year, in June last, instead of being compelled to go back another year in the past, we could give freely its storehouse of good things. Companion PERKINS, why cannot you stir up your printer to get out your annual proceedings a little earlier so that they may be "up-to-date" with our procession? June to the last of August, it seems should be sufficient time to get them out. Our own report will be in the hands of the printer before our Grand Body meets,

and we hope that the proceedings will be distributed within a month after it closes. This suggestion is equally applicable to several other jurisdictions, which are in the same habit. A change in this respect would be highly appreciated, not only by the writer, but by the Companions of our own jurisdiction, who are disappointed in not getting all of the good things which are furnished, but which get old, often before they can be served up to their mental tables of refreshment.

We take it, that Companion PERKINS is not favorably impressed with the idea of "communicating degrees," as suggested by the Grand Master of Michigan, to which we have before referred in this report. The writer would not be in favor of it as a matter of convenience, but only as a matter of necessity in the instances which he has suggested in another place herein.

Commenting on the remark made by Companion CLEAVES in his review of 1898, under New Hampshire, which he quotes, he says:

"Isn't he in error in asserting that 'the true and only freemasonry is the three symbolic degrees?' We think so. The separation of the Royal Arch from the M. M. degree did not change the character of its 'freemasonry,' but rather broadened and emphasized the lessons of the symbolic degrees, to say nothing of the fact of revealing of the long lost masters word. And then, the Cryptic degrees throw enough side light upon the symbolic to stamp them with an element of pure freemasonry that must not be overlooked."

Under Washington, he gives a severe adverse criticism to their breath of war and defiance, which we had occasion to criticise likewise in a former review last year. He says:

"Perhaps the Grand Council will become tired of waiting for the shoulder-hitter, and knock off the chip herself. That would be about in line with the professions of Grand Master and Committee, and fully as sensible as their utterances, which were neither called for by any relation of the General Grand and its constituent, or by any new exigencies which had presented themselves in the case of the constituent alone. We believe the General Grand is open to criticism in many things, but we also believe that no constituent into which the former has breathed the very breath of life can consistently or rightfully defy its parent, or rebel against voluntarily accepted conditions. If it does either, we imagine such constituent will quickly find that it is not 'a bigger man than old Grant' after all."

All of which is in accordance with the views expressed in our own criticism of the same matter. Under Kansas, speaking relative to the action of that Grand Council in granting a seat and a vote to a Companion who had been of great service in the advancement of the Rite in connection

with the establishment of a Council and in the Colorado pilgrimage, and whose services had been of real, unquestioned value, he says:

"By what lawful authority we know not, as he was at the time according to general usage a representative of no organized body. The Council U. D. was but a creation of the Grand Master, and presumably non-existent as an organization by the terms of his dispensation. No organization had been effected under the charter. What then did the T. I. M. represent? Zeal and good works we are willing to concede, but we find nothing in Section 1, of Article I, of the Constitution of the Grand Council that admits of such representation, or the delegation of such powers. The courtesy of a seat on the floor of the Grand Council was rightly and properly extended, but by what constitutional authority was the privilege of voting granted?"

We must agree with Companion MARSH in his conclusions, but we feel like giving a great meed of credit to the Companion thus honored, for the very valuable services rendered by him, and our Companion, in making his criticism, appreciates the same, but raises a constitutional question which he seems to have the best of. However, we also notice that the Companion thus honored, or attempted to be, was the recipient of a further and unquestionable honor by the Grand Council, which was, his election subsequently as the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the Grand Council, provided, however, that he was then a member of an organized body, so as to entitle him to such election, or otherwise qualified under their Constitution.

M.·I.·DANIEL PAYSON, of Windsor, was elected Grand Master, and R.·I.·WARREN G. REYNOLDS, of Burlington, was re-elected Grand Recorder.

WASHINGTON—1900.

This Grand Body met in its Annual Assembly at Tacoma, June 11th. Its Proceedings are not yet printed. We have information by letter from the Grand Recorder, that six subordinate Councils were represented, being all of its subordinates. They have greeted fifty Companions during the year and lost one by death and one by suspension, leaving a net gain of forty-eight, and a present membership of 278. M.·I.·JOHN N. PRATHER was elected Grand Master, and R.·I.·EDWARD R. HARE, Tacoma, was re-elected Grand Recorder. Date of next Assembly not given. All of above information is had by personal correspondence with the Grand Recorder, who kindly gave us prompt answer to letter of enquiry.

WISCONSIN, 1900.

This Grand Council met in Annual Assembly at Milwaukee, February 21st., M.·I.·W. W. PERRY, Grand Master, presiding. The proceedings

are printed under same cover with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter and consist of four pages. The address of the Grand Master was extemporaneous, and no copy was furnished to the Grand Recorder for publication. It is said of the address:

"It was full of good thoughts and advice and encouragement to the Companions."

The report of the Grand Recorder shows that in the past year there were 89 promoted, 135 greeted, and that the membership is 1,133. That a balance of \$90.65 remained over in the treasury from the preceding year; that \$134.60 was collected for dues and \$34.70 expended in disbursements, leaving \$99.90 cents surplus, which was added to the former balance in treasury, making total assets on hand of \$190.55.

The further statement was made in relation of the rite as follows:

"Past M.:I.:Grand Master WILLIAM C. SWAIN briefly addressed the Grand Council and suggested the propriety of making investigations as to the desirability of the Grand Council of Wisconsin becoming a constituent of the General Grand Council. Upon motion Companion Swain was appointed a committee to make such investigation."

The Body is progressing financially and in membership, as is shown by the foregoing, and also from the fact that an appropriation was made to pay the Grand Recorder for past services and fixing his compensation at \$50 per year for the future. Arrangements were also made for the procurement of a room for use of the Body at the next Annual Assembly where there should be no interruption and where more time could be given to business of the Body, and the Recorder was authorized to procure new charters, etc., for the proper conduct of its business, and to make special efforts to have a more general representation of the subordinate Councils at the next Assembly.

The Grand Master and Grand Recorder were each re-elected; address, Milwaukee.

We sincerely regret to hear of the fact that R.:I.:Companion JOHN W. LAFLIN, Grand Recorder, is in ill health—so much so, that he is absent from home in hopes of a recovery. We most earnestly hope that he will speedily recover. Our acquaintance with him has been most pleasant for over a score of years, and we have been placed under obligations to him year after year for information of this Grand Council.

We shall look for the time to soon arrive when we can congratulate the Companions of this Grand Body upon uniting with the General Grand Council. A hearty welcome awaits their favorable action on this question.

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL UNITED STATES 1900.

This Body will hold its next Triennial Assembly at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 24th, 1900. M.:P.:General Grand Master BADFORD NICHOL will preside over its deliberations, and a large attendance is expected of representatives from the several Grand Councils of its constituency, as well as many distinguished Companions hailing from independent Grand Councils.

The address of the General Grand Master will be an able and interesting presentment of the condition and work of the Body for the past three years. In his fraternal notice of deceased Companions of its jurisdiction, as well as of the independent Bodies, suitable and proper testimonials will be given of those who have passed to their spiritual life, and their memories eulogized. In addition to our late lamented Companions, R.:P.:SERANUS BOWEN, General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, and R.:P.:Reverend WILLIAM D'ORVILLE DOTY, General Grand Chaplain, there will be the names of twenty of the permanent members of this Body and ten Past Grand Masters of independent Grand Councils, who have been called to their reward beyond this life, who will have sympathetic notice from the General Grand Master.

A large proportion of the address will necessarily be taken up by the Colorado matter and its organization of a Grand Council. And considerable space will be taken by the report of the re-organization of Cryptic Masonry in Iowa, under the authority of the Body. There have been fourteen subordinate Councils organized in Iowa since that territory was turned over by the Grand Chapter of Iowa to the General Grand Council, and the early establishment of a Grand Council is expected to be consummated, and another constituent added to the roll of the General Grand Council. We gave full information on these subjects last year, and so omit details now.

A full statement will be made of the efforts made and work done in certain other Grand Councils, now independent, to secure their consent to become constituents of the Body, as well as the prospects for such efforts to assure success in the future, a full report of which we have before given. There will be at least three of these Bodies which are now "independent," to become constituents during the next Triennial period. That's our prophecy.

There will be certain recommendations made for the Body to act upon, one of which will be in reference to memorializing the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, upon the subject of making the Cryptic Degrees pre-requisite to the Commandery. This should be granted. Another recommendation will be that the General Grand Master have authority conferred upon him to grant charters to Councils during the interim between the Triennial Assemblies of the Body, not compelling the

Councils, U.D., to wait for a period of one, two or three years before receiving charters. This is worthy of consideration and favorable action.

We also understand that an application is to be made to the body to pay over to the Grand Council of Colorado the dues paid to the General Grand Body by Canon City Council, in that jurisdiction. We see no reason why this should be done. If done, why not pay over to each Grand Council organized under authority of the General Grand Body the dues received from the subordinate Councils instituted by it? There would be as much reason for the one as for the other, in our opinion. There is surely no Masonic right to require such a payment, and we can see no equitable right thereto. The amount to the credit side of the ledger of cash balance, now amounting to over two thousand dollars, would be wiped out entirely, and the Body could begin with a clean sheet, without money, and live on faith, if the idea should be carried out so as to repay all dues received from subordinate Councils to their present Grand Councils. It should not be done.

There were fourteen subordinate Councils instituted in Iowa only during the present Triennial period, as against fifty-four at large in the last period. There are thirty-six subordinate Councils now under the G. G. Council, twenty-two of which paid dues for some, if not for each, year of the period passing. Eleven other Councils became dormant. Thirteen of the Grand Bodies, constituents of this Body, make use of its ritual.

Of the permanent members of this Body they are distributed in the different States as follows: Arkansas, 10; California, 20; Colorado, 6; Florida, 1; Georgia, 4; Indiana, 19; Indian Territory, 6; Kansas, 16; Louisiana, 8; Maine, 18; Maryland, 6; Massachusetts, 8; Minnesota, 19; Missouri, 22; Nebraska, 12; New Hampshire, 14; New York, 14; North Carolina, 4; Ohio, 14; Oregon, 8; South Carolina, 12; Tennessee, 21; Vermont, 11; Washington, 7; making a grand total of 279 permanent members.

The subordinate Councils under the immediate jurisdiction of this Body are distributed in the following States and Territories: District of Columbia, 1; Arizona, 1; Idaho, 1; Iowa, 14; Montana, 4; Nevada, 4; New Mexico, 1; North Dakota, 7; South Dakota, 2; Utah, 1.

We are indebted to a copy of the address of the General Grand Master and the report of the General Grand Recorder for the information, to a large extent, given herein.

We conclude from what we have gathered that the General Grand Council is having a large degree of prosperity and that its field of usefulness is rapidly extending. May the time soon come when all of the Grand Councils of the United States unite in this one head for their own, as well as for the benefit of the Rite generally.

IN CONCLUSION.

We have gone over the field of Cryptic Masonry and endeavored to cull from it the most beautiful and instructive thoughts that were to be gathered. The information that is presented is highly gratifying. Prosperity seems to abound generally throughout the United States in this particular branch of Masonry. A few jurisdictions are languishing, but most of these would give a far different report if due and diligent efforts were only made to advance the work. Thorough work by enthusiastic officers will show a marked degree of prosperity. This subject has been commented upon in other parts of this review, to which we refer the inquirer. There is nothing to discourage, and much to encourage those who love this work, to persevere in their endeavors to advance the interests of the Rite.

We have reviewed or given information from every known *live* Grand Council in existence, here or abroad, excepting the Grand Councils of Kansas and Ontario, from which we have been unable to get a word of information, although we have written three times to the Grand Recorder of Kansas for something, even though their proceedings had not yet come from the printer. We think he must be out catching, or fighting grass-hoppers, as he has no time to answer inquiries. As to Ontario, it must be sleeping the sleep that is lethargic and ends in death.

As for our review, it speaks for itself. Its all there but Kansas as far as *live* Grand Councils go. We hope that it will prove of interest to our companions and that they will be amply repaid for its perusal; if so, we shall deem ourself well remunerated for the labor expended. Many changes

have come to us and to our companions in the score of years and more that we have been engaged in this work. Many have gone to reap their reward in the better life and with them we must in the natural course of human destiny expect to soon mingle. "Dust to Dust," is the inflexible rule that governs humanity here and there is no escape from that law. Our work should be so well done here that we may be prepared for the life that awaits those who so live and work here as to become entitled to the greeting of the faithful when our spirits go in to the unknown life that is before us. May we each be so prepared.

Fraternally submitted,

Geo. M. Osgoodby

For the Committee,

171 Broadway, New York City.

OFFICERS OF GRAND COUNCIL

Elected and Appointed Aug. 28th, 1900.

GEO. MCGOWN, Palmyra.....	Grand Master.
JOHN P. DEAL, Green Island.....	“ Deputy Master.
WILLARD S. BRADT, Rochester.....	“ P. C. of W.
PETER FORRESTER, 18 Broadway, New York City	“ Treasurer.
GEO. VAN VLIET, 16 Eighth Ave., New York City.	“ Recorder.
JOHN R. GARDNER, 100 William St., N. Y. City..	“ C. of the G.
N. H. FREELAND, M. D., Tarrytown	“ C. of the C.
IRVING L'HOMMEDIEU, Medina	“ Marshal.
GEO. R. HODGKINS, Albany	“ Standard Bearer.
JOHN W. COBURN, 366 W. 116th St., N. Y. City..	“ Lecturer.
CHARLES STEWART, Brooklyn	“ Steward.
REV. WARREN C. HUBBARD, Brooklyn.....	“ Chaplain.
JOHN MALCOLM, Buffalo.....	“ Sentinel.

LIVING PAST GRAND MASTERS.

JOHN D. WILLIAMS,	ALEX. B. KING,
GEO. M. OSGOODBY,	GEO. A. NEWELL,
JOHN J. MARTIN,	JOHN F. BALDWIN,
JOHN W. COBURN,	A. OPPENHEIMER,
JOHN L. BROTHERS,	FRED'K. KANTER,
R. C. CHRISTIANCE,	JAMES B. McEWAN.
JOHN N. MACOMB,	

