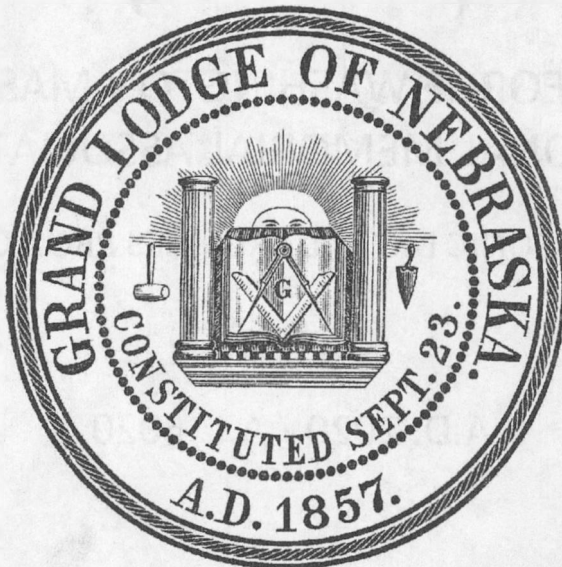


**1869**  
**PROCEEDINGS**  
of the  
**GRAND LODGE**  
of  
**Ancient Free & Accepted**  
**MASONS**  
of the  
**STATE OF**  
**NEBRASKA**



**A.D. 1869 / A.L. 5869**

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LIST OF  
STANDING COMMITTEES  
OF THE GRAND LODGE.

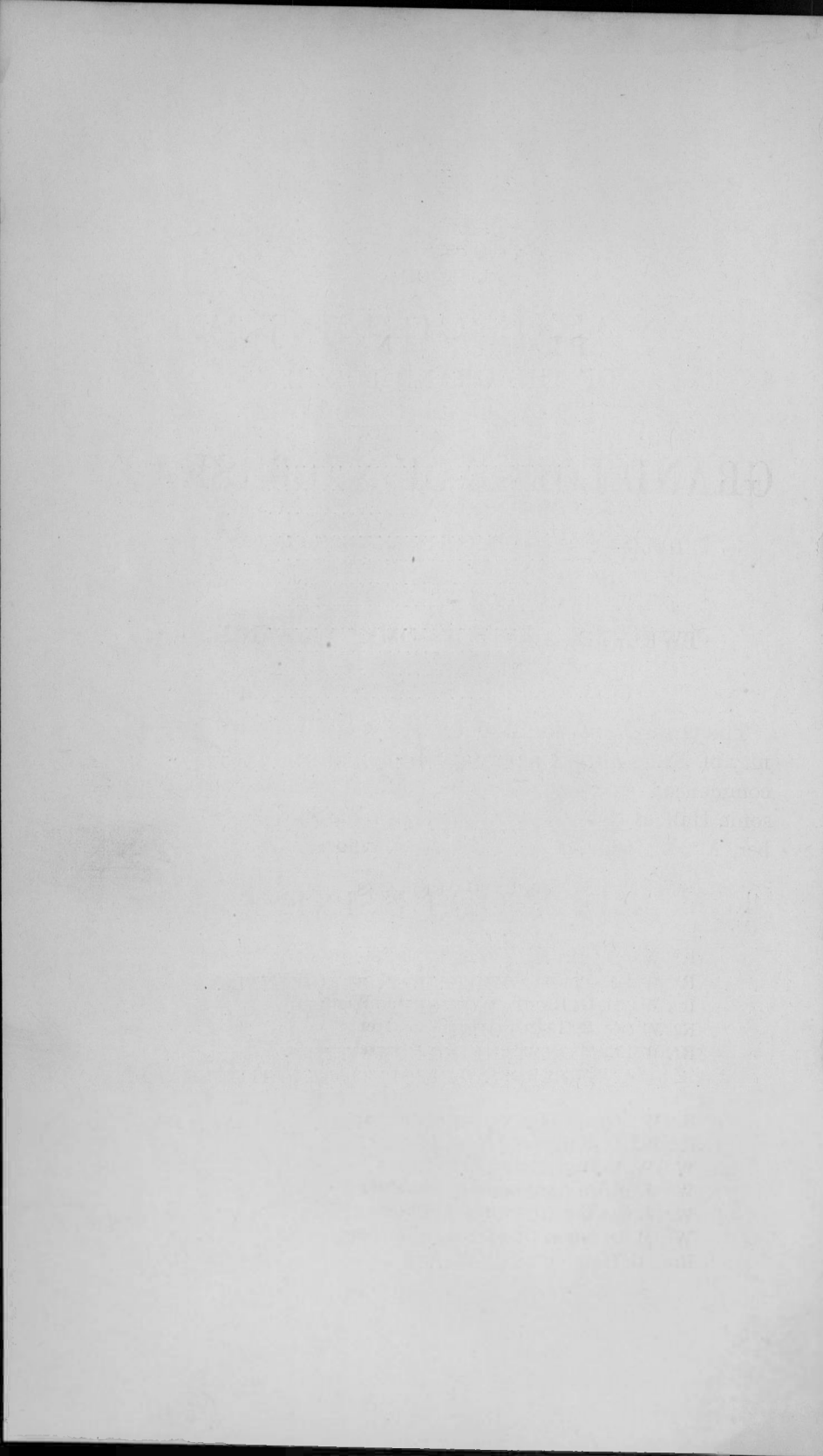
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1. ON ACCOUNTS.....3 to 5 Members.
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2. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.
3. OPENING OF GRAND LODGE.
4. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.
5. READING AND REFERRING RESOLUTIONS, PETITIONS AND  
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6. ANNUAL ADDRESS AND REPORT OF M. W. GRAND MAS-  
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7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
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11. OTHER BUSINESS GENERALLY.





# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA,

HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, OCTOBER 26, 1869.

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## TWELFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

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The Grand  $\square$  of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nebraska, commenced its twelfth Annual Communication in the Masonic Hall at Nebraska City, Tuesday, the 26th day of October, A. L.: 5869, A. D. 1869, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

### GRAND OFFICERS.

#### ELECTIVE.

R.: W.: D.: G.: M.: HARRY P. DEUEL, *as* Grand Master ;  
R.: W.: A. P. COGGSWELL, *as* Grand Senior Warden ;  
R.: W.: H. O. HANNA, Grand Junior Warden ;  
R.: W.: G. B. GRAFF, Grand Treasurer ;  
R.: W.: R. W. FURNAS, *as* Grand Secretary.

#### APPOINTED.

R.: W.: GEO. C. BETTS, Grand Chaplain ;  
R.: W.: O. B. HEWETT, Grand Orator ;  
W.: W. E. HILL, Grand Lecturer ;  
W.: J. W. CHADDUCK, Grand Marshal ;  
W.: J. Q. GOSS, Grand Senior Deacon ;  
W.: M. DUNHAM, Grand Junior Deacon ;  
Bro.: G. HAIL, Grand Tyler.

## PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M.: W.: R. C. JORDAN, Past Grand Master;  
 M.: W.: D. H. WHEELER, Past Grand Master;  
 M.: W.: R. W. FURNAS, Past Grand Master;  
 R.: W.: HENRY BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master;  
 R.: W.: GEO. B. GRAFF, Past Deputy Grand Master;  
 R.: W.: E. H. CLARK, Past Deputy Grand Master;

A □ of Master Masons was opened in due form. Prayer by R.: W.: Grand Chaplain Rev. Geo. C. Betts.

The M.: W.: Grand Master announced the following committees:

*On Credentials*—Bros. Reed, Gardner and Hayes.

*On Visiting Brethren*—Bros. Whitmore, Brown and Cole.

The □ was then called from labor to refreshment until two o'clock, P. M.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1869.

The □ was called from refreshment to labor at two o'clock, P. M. Officers as before, except R.: W.: Grand Secretary Bro. Wise having arrived, was in his place as Grand Secretary.

Bro. Reed, from Committee on Credentials, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

## REPORT ON CREDENTIALS.

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska:*

Your committee respectfully report that they find the following Grand officers, past Grand officers and representatives of subordinate □ present and entitled to one vote each in each capacity in which they appear in Grand □, as Grand officers, past Grand officers or representatives:

## GRAND OFFICERS.

M.: W.: Harry P. Deuel, D.: G.: M.: and acting Grand Master.  
 R.: W.: A. P. Cogswell, Grand Senior Warden, *pro tem.*  
 R.: W.: H. O. Hanna, Grand Junior Warden.  
 R.: W.: Geo. B. Graff, Grand Treasurer.  
 R.: W.: J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary.  
 R.: W.: Geo. C. Betts, Grand Chaplain.

R.: W.: O. B. Hewett, Grand Orator.  
 W.: Wm. E. Hill, Grand Lecturer.  
 W.: J. W. Chaddock, Grand Marshal.  
 R.: W.: J. Q. Goss, Grand Senior Deacon.  
 R.: W.: M. Dunham, Grand Junior Deacon.

## PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R.: W.: R. C. Jordan, Past Grand Master.  
 R.: W.: D. H. Wheeler, Past Grand Master.  
 R.: W.: R. W. Furnas, Past Grand Master.  
 R.: W.: Henry Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master.  
 W.: Geo. B. Graff, Past Deputy Grand Master.  
 W.: E. H. Clark, Past Deputy Grand Master.

## REPRESENTATIVES.

NEBRASKA □, No. 1—J. Q. Goss, Worshipful Master; W. T. Small, proxy for Senior and Junior Wardens.

WESTERN STAR □, No. 2—John Reed, Worshipful Master; N. S. Harding, Senior Warden; C. W. Seymore, proxy for Junior Warden.

CAPITAL □, No. 3—R. C. Jordan, Worshipful Master; E. A. Allen, proxy for Senior Warden; A. Atkinson, proxy for Junior Warden.

NEMAHIA VALLEY □, No. 4—O. B. Hewett, Worshipful Master; R. W. Furnas, proxy for Senior Warden; A. P. Cogswell, proxy for Junior Warden.

OMADI □, No. 5—Wm. Adair, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Senior and Junior Wardens.

PLATSMOUTH □, No. 6—J. W. Shannon, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Senior Warden; J. N. Wise, proxy for Junior Warden.

DECATUR □, No. 7—J. R. Reed, proxy for Worshipful Master; W. Outhwait, proxy for Senior Warden; J. R. Reed, Junior Warden.

FALLS CITY □, No. 9—J. F. Gardner, proxy for Worshipful Master and Junior Warden.

SOLOMON □, No. 10—E. H. Clark, proxy for Worshipful Master; Lorin Miller, proxy for Senior Warden; Saml. Burns, proxy for Junior Warden.

COVERT □, No. 11—C. F. Whitmore, Worshipful Master; C. F. Catlin, proxy for Senior Warden; C. S. Demary, proxy for Junior Warden.

NEBRASKA CITY □, No. 12—R. H. Dickey, proxy for Worshipful Master; R. M. Hills, Senior Warden; J. Dan. Lauer, proxy for Junior Warden.

ORIENT □, No. 13—D. R. Holt, proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens.

PERU □, No. 14—D. C. Cole, Worshipful Master; W. Bagley, Senior Warden; Jacob Ettlinger, proxy for Junior Warden.

FREMONT □, No. 15—S. W. Hayes, proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens

EUREKA □, No. 16—W. R. Cain, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Senior and Junior Wardens.

ASHLAND □, No. 18—A. W. Richards, proxy for Worshipful Master; C. S. Wortman, Senior Warden; Israel Beetison, Junior Warden.

LINCOLN □, No. 19—H. T. Davis, Worshipful Master; Max Rich, Senior Warden; H. T. Davis, proxy for Junior Warden.

ROCK BLUFFS □, No. 20—J. A. Walker, proxy for Worshipful Master; David Ross, Junior Warden.

CUMMING CITY □, No. 21—Nathan Carter, Worshipful Master; J. H. Hungate, Senior Warden; E. G. O. Groat, proxy for Junior Warden.

A constitutional number of □ being represented, the Grand Marshal, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, proclaimed the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska duly opened for the dispatch of business.

On motion of Bro. Dunham, it was

*Resolved*, That all Master Masons in good standing be and are hereby invited to be present and witness the deliberations of this Grand □.

The M.: W.: Grand Master announced the following

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. *On Accounts*—Bros. Jno. Reed, Wortman and Gage.
2. *On Charters and Dispensations*—Bros. Graff, W. E. Hill, Hayes and Coggsell.
3. *On Foreign Correspondence*—Bros. Furnas, Hewett and Betts.
4. *On Ways and Means*—Bros. Dunham, Hewett and Seymore.
5. *On Charity*—Bros. Davis, Hanna and Catlin.
6. *On Grievances*—Bros. Gardner, Cole, Chadduck, Clark and W. E. Hill.
7. *On Unfinished Business*—Bros. Allen, Clark and J. R. Reed.
8. *On Pay Roll*—Bros. Whitmore, Wise and Beetison.
9. *On Jurisprudence*—Bros. Furnas, Wheeler, W. E. Hill, Jordan and Chadduck.
10. *On Subordinate Returns*—Bros. Wheeler, Dunham and Graff.
11. *On Printing*—Bros. Shannon, Hewett and Cole.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed Bros. Demary and Burk as Grand Pursuivants.

Past Deputy Grand Master E. H. Clark presented the amended By-Laws of Solomon □, No. 10, which, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Past Deputy Grand Master G. B. Graff offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Grand □ of Nebraska, at its Annual Session in 1867, adopted a resolution requiring the payment of one dollar for each and

every member of each subordinate  $\square$  of this jurisdiction, to be collected and paid by such subordinate  $\square$ ; and

WHEREAS, The report of the Grand Secretary shows that at least one subordinate  $\square$  in the jurisdiction has neglected or refused to pay the same; therefore

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be instructed to inquire into the matter, and report, without delay, if such failure or refusal does not exhibit such contumacy as would require the notice and action of this Grand  $\square$ .

Bro. Goss presented the new code of By-Laws of Nebraska  $\square$ , No. 1, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler presented the petition of Richard Burge and seven other brethren, recommended in form by Nemaha Valley  $\square$ , No. 4, asking a dispensation for a new  $\square$  to be located at Hillsdale, in Nemaha County, and to be called Hillsdale  $\square$ , U. D.; Richard Burge to be the Worshipful Master, Z. F. Evarts to be Senior Warden, and J. T. King to be Junior Warden.

On motion, the papers were referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas announced that he had in his possession the annual address of M.: W.: Grand Master O. H. Irish, who was, by reason of a federal appointment as U. S. Consulate at Dresden, Saxony, absent from the jurisdiction and the United States.

On motion, Bro. Furnas was requested to read the following

#### ADDRESS.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand  $\square$  of the State of Nebraska :*

BRETHREN—Being about to depart from your jurisdiction and for a time to sojourn in the old world, it becomes necessary for me to report my official acts during that portion of the masonic year now passing, in which I have had the honor of presiding over the craft as your Grand Master.

When this is laid before you, may it find you gathered in peaceful communication around our holy altar, as did the ancient people of God at Jerusalem, in their annual service in the temple, wherein our ancient Grand Masters labored.

In the past, the fostering care of an all-wise Providence has been around us as an order, presiding in the midst of our deliberations, leading us forth for purposes of benevolence, and to the accomplishment of good. May

that influence be around you as you are assembled together again! May that Divine Being who only can impart wisdom be with you in all your communications, and such plans be devised and such measures be adopted as tend to His honor and glory, and the greatest good of our common humanity.

During the year I have issued dispensations for new  $\square$  as follows, to-wit: One at Pawnee City, Pawnee County, called Pawnee  $\square$ , U. D.; one at Lafayette Precinct, Nemaha County, called Lafayette  $\square$ , U. D.; and the brethren at Tecumseh, Johnson County, having failed to secure their charter, I issued a dispensation for a new  $\square$ . I understand that other dispensations have been granted by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, but they have not been officially reported to me.

In this connection I deem it my duty to call your attention to the necessity of setting forth more specifically the duties of the Deputy Grand Master, so that the question whether he has the power to issue dispensations when the Grand Master is in the East, may be settled or more clearly understood, and no conflict of jurisdiction or authority may occur.

A great many questions of masonic law have been submitted to me during the past year, most of them involving the same principles settled by previous decisions, and need not therefore be referred to in this place. Some, however, it becomes my duty to lay before you, as involving grave issues to which the craft in subordinate  $\square$  attach great importance. In order to a full understanding of the points involved, as I am not to be present to make any explanations of the circumstances attending the several cases, I herewith embody so much of the letters of submission as is necessary, together with my answers thereto, suppressing so much of the letters as are of a mere personal character.

First, being questions from Plattsmouth  $\square$ , No. 6:

OFFICE SECRETARY PLATTSMOUTH  $\square$ , No. 6, A. F. AND A. M. }  
December 9, 1868. }

M. W. O. H. IRISH, *Grand Master, Nebraska City:*

*My dear Sir and Brother*—By the action of Plattsmouth  $\square$ , No. 6, had at a regular communication held on Monday, the 7th inst, I was instructed to submit to you the following statement of facts, and ask for your decision and direction in the premises:

On Monday, the 2d day of November last past, the  $\square$  being in regular communication, the petition of ——— for the mysteries of Freemasonry, recommended by ———, was read, received and regularly referred to an investigating committee consisting of ———. On Monday, the 7th inst., the  $\square$  met in regular communication, when the committee reported favorably on the petition. On motion, the report was received, the committee *discharged* and a balloting ordered. The ballot was subsequently spread, and resulted *unfavorably*, and the applicant was declared duly rejected. After the transaction of other business, the question of the jurisdiction of this  $\square$  was raised by ———, when a lengthy discussion of the question en-

sued; a majority of the members present concurring in the opinion that the applicant was without the jurisdiction of this □. \* \* \* \*  
 Bro. ——— assumed the position that the petitioner was without the jurisdiction of this □, and hence, the proceedings had by the □ were null and void, and that therefore they should not be spread upon the minutes. He then offered the following resolution (in substance, being verbal): "That all of the actions had by the □ in the case be expunged from the record or dropped from the proceedings." The resolution was supported by motion for adoption and a second; but the Worshipful Master refused to entertain it, for the reason that the adoption of it would rescind the former action of the □, seeking the Grand Master's decision in the premises.

I certify the foregoing to be a true exposition of the facts in the case.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of the □, this 9th day of December, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868.

J. N. WISE, *Secretary.*

The Worshipful Master of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, addressed to me a communication, dated the 10th of December, 1868, giving the facts as stated in the foregoing letter, and adding: "I permitted the discussion to take considerable latitude, holding that the action of the ballot could not be reconsidered, and that having received the petition, referred it to a committee, received the report of and discharged the committee, and balloted for the candidate, he was virtually our property, so far as regarded the right of any □ in this Grand jurisdiction to confer the degrees on him. If we erred in acting on his petition, it was done unwittingly and without any desire to infringe on the rights of Rock Bluffs □, but that having acted, we could not reconsider the action, or expunge the proceedings in the case."

He also referred in detail to authorities in support of his opinion. After giving the whole subject a careful consideration, during which time I received numerous letters from members of the □, which I do not think necessary to lay before you, I made the following answer, viz:

"OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS FOR NEBRASKA, )  
 NEBRASKA CITY, January 28, 1869. }

"J. N. WISE, Esq., *Secretary Plattsmouth □, No. 6, A. F. and A. M.:*

"*My dear Sir and Brother*—On account of the presentation of conflicting statements as to facts and arguments in the matter of the rejection of Mr. ———, an applicant for the degrees in masonry in your □, I have been compelled to withhold my opinion until now.

"If, as it seems to be admitted, the candidate resides within the jurisdiction of the □ at Rock Bluffs, his petition was not at any time properly before the Plattsmouth □, and it could not therefore, without the consent of the former □, acquire jurisdiction over him, either by receiving, referring or acting upon the petition. Jurisdiction is conferred upon the *nearest* □, and a rejection by another is, in reality, so far as it affects the candidate or the □ having jurisdiction, no rejection at all; the whole proceeding being null and void, it need not be regarded by the □ within

whose jurisdiction he resides, but it may proceed to receive and act upon his petition, and, if duly elected, they may confer the degrees, the permission of the former □ not being necessary to enable them to do so.

"In the case referred to, Plattsmouth □, No. 6, having acted in the premises through a misapprehension of the facts, under the supposition that they had jurisdiction, should now, when the circumstances are known, and it is ascertained they had no right to entertain the petition, return it to Mr. ———, stating that for want of jurisdiction the whole proceeding upon it was null and void, and that he stands as though his application had never been received; and the records of the □ should show the facts just as they transpired, together with the statement that the proceedings on the application having been found illegal for want of jurisdiction, are therefore null and void.

"Fraternally,

"O. H. IRISH, *Grand Master.*"

Second, a case from Capitol □, No. 3. A letter from the Worshipful Master of Capitol □, No. 3, under date of December 22d last, recites certain facts, as follows.

"Bro. Case, an old Past Master of eight years standing, having been earnestly solicited by Bros. Jordan, Dunham, myself and others to connect himself with our □ and become its Worshipful Master, in order that the work might be harmonized with the adopted work of the Grand □, and brought up as near the standard of perfection as possible. He was a member of a Connecticut □ (one which he organized). He received his dimit therefrom, and submitted it to our □ on the night of the election. He was well known by *all the working members of the □*, and cordially recommended by them as an upright man and a bright Mason."

The letter then states, that pending the consideration of his petition for affiliation, "The hour for the election of officers came." "The first ballot stood between Bros. Case and Goodman, a few scattering. My opinion was asked, 'What would be the effect of his (Case's) election?' I gave it as my opinion, that it would make him a member. In this I am endorsed by decisions in the Grand □ of Connecticut, Ohio and California. He (Case) was then elected by a majority, over Goodman, of four. The result seemed to meet with general approval. In accordance with my decision, he stands upon our books as a member of our □, and I know of no valid reason for not installing him. The position is not one he desires or solicits. All the active members of the □ are in favor of him. \* \* \* \* I have stated the case. If I hear nothing to the contrary, I will proceed to install, first Monday in January.

"Fraternally yours,

"J. N. RIPLEY, *W. M. Capitol □, No. 3.*

"P. S.—A special dispensation, I suppose, will be required to install on first Monday in January, as our By-Laws require on or before St. John's



day. I prefer to install, and allow the matter to go to Grand □ for adjudication. R.”

Answer :—

“ OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS FOR NEBRASKA, }  
NEBRASKA CITY, December 28, 1869. }

“ J. N. RIPLEY, Esq., *Worshipful Master, &c.* :

“ *My dear Sir and Brother*—Your favor of the 22d came to hand on the 25th. After a careful examination thereof, I am compelled to *overrule* your decision, making the brother referred to a member of your □ by virtue of a majority vote in his favor for Worshipful Master, and will state the general principle of masonic law, as applicable to the matter, in our jurisdiction.

“ No dimitted Mason can be made a member by *implication*; he can only become so by being regularly proposed by petition, which must be properly referred to the appropriate committee, and at the time prescribed in the By-Laws, he can be balloted for, and upon a *unanimous* vote in his favor, declared elected. The vote must be by secret ballot, be directly upon the question of membership, and *unanimous*. The Grand Master has no power to dispense with *these three* requisites. He can only dispense with time.

“ The officers of a □ must be chosen from among affiliated Master Masons, and those only are eligible who have served as Wardens of a chartered □, or are already actual Past Masters.

“ It cannot be possible that Capital □, one of the oldest in the state, numbering among its membership several of our most skillful and experienced craftsmen, has no one who is competent to take the East, who, for the good of masonry, and at the request of his brethren, will do so. If such should, however, be found the case, a dispensation could be issued by the Grand Master, allowing the Worshipful Master to be elected from among the floor members. The petition requesting such dispensation must be by request of the □, certified under seal, and signed personally by all of the Past Masters, Wardens and Past Wardens thereof. Meantime the old officers will hold over and discharge the duties of their several stations as heretofore until their successors are lawfully elected and duly installed.

“ I am, fraternally, yours, &c.,

“ O. H. IRISH, *Grand Master.*”

Third, question from Plattsmouth □, No. 6. The Worshipful Master of Plattsmouth asks the following question, viz:

“ Are those brothers members of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, A. F. and A. M., whom you named in the dispensation to McCoy □, U. D., at this place, entitled (while in active membership with the □ U. D.) to take part and act in Plattsmouth □, No. 6, the same as though they were not, for the time being, dimitted from one □ by becoming working members of

McCoy □, U. D., or does their relation still stand the same as though they had not become members of the □ U. D.?"

Answer.—\* \* \* "The brethren of McCoy □, U. D., working as members therein by virtue of dispensation, cannot be regarded as active members of other □ within one Grand □ jurisdiction. Their petition for dispensation was a virtual request for leave to withdraw; and, so far as Plattsmouth □ is concerned, in giving their consent to and recommending the same, they gave the individual petitioners leave to withdraw. The dispensation having issued, and having been accepted by the brethren named therein, their membership in Plattsmouth □ remains in abeyance until the dispensation ceases to have force and effect, to be determined by the action of the Grand □ in granting or withholding a charter." \* \*

I have granted dispensations for the conferring of degrees, dispensing with time in several cases when there seemed good cause to do so.

It will be necessary to refer to the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master's report in order to have a complete record of the year's proceedings. Today I surrender the emblem of authority into his hands; and as from the Grand East I take my last look o'er the craft, I behold peace and harmony everywhere prevailing. There is no confusion among the workmen. They receive their wages and are content. Ours is the temple of peace. Concluding this, my last, communication to you as Grand Master, I would wrong my feelings did I not give utterance to the emotions of my heart for the confidence you have expressed by elevating me once and again to the highest post of honor in your power to bestow. For this and the many other tokens of regard that I have received at your hands, I am deeply grateful, and shall treasure them and memories of you each in fraternal remembrance. The most pleasing and touching recollections of my life will draw me back to be with you in memory, at least, and in spirit if not in person, as you gather around our holy altar.

O. H. IRISH, *Grand Master.*

After which the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, Harry P. Deuel, acting Grand Master, delivered the following

#### ADDRESS.

*To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:*

In accordance with the regulations of the Grand □, I hereby present to you a recapitulation of my official acts since the last communication of the Grand □, a portion of which time I have *ex officio* acted as Grand Master, owing to the departure of M.: W.: Bro. O. H. Irish, Grand Master, from this jurisdiction. I will briefly state them.

On the 10th of February last, I received a petition from Bros. J. N. Wise, Wm. D. Gage, Wm. Winterton, E. Davis, J. D. Tull, G. H. Black, Andrew Tull, C. E. Foggy and Wesley Barnes, asking permission to form and locate a new □ at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, to be known as Macoy □,

with Bro. J. N. Wise to be first Master, Bro. Wm. D. Gage to be first Senior Warden, and Bro. John D. Tull to be first Junior Warden.

The reason that the application was made to me, was, that the M. W. Grand Master was absent at the time from the state, and not expected to return soon, they accordingly applied to me. The petition being in due form, and accompanied by the recommendation of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, I granted the petitioners a dispensation to form a new □, under the title, and with the officers as were recommended in the petition.

May 28th I received a petition from Bros. H. B. Case, Seward B. Davis, John Cameron, Edwin Davis, H. Welles Thain, J. N. Rippey, D. Frank Powell and J. B. Redfield, asking that a dispensation be granted them to form a new □ at Omaha, Nebraska, to be known as St. John's □. The petition was in proper form and recommended by Capitol □, No. 3, and Covert □, No. 11, and in accordance with the eleventh Article of the Constitution of the Grand □, I granted them the dispensation to form the new □, under the title, and with the officers as recommended.

July 1st I received a communication from M. W. Bro. O. H. Irish, stating that he was about to depart from the jurisdiction of this Grand □, and that he would be compelled to vacate the Grand East, and that the duties of Grand Master would devolve upon me until the next meeting of the Grand □. My brethren, it was with no few misgivings that I received this communication, fearing that I would not fill the position in a manner that would be satisfactory to this Grand body. Knowing, as we all do, the masonic skill, the sound judgment and unwavering integrity possessed by our absent Grand Master, it was but natural that I should be fearful that I would but poorly fill the place that he has so worthily represented. Yet I have endeavored, during the short time that has intervened between his departure and this meeting of the Grand □, to have my official acts to be at least free from censure, and if I have erred, it has been in judgment only, not in intention.

August 5th, at the unanimous request of the officers and members of Cumming City □, No. 21, I granted them a dispensation to change their place of meeting from Cumming City to Blair, distant about two miles. They gave as their reasons, that a much larger proportion of their masonic brethren live at Blair, and in their judgment they had not a sufficient number to warrant the forming of another □, yet they deemed it for the best interests of the order in that locality that the □ be removed. Such being the representations, and the request of the □ being unanimous, I granted the dispensation for its removal, subject to the approval of this Grand □.

August 19th, an application for a dispensation to form a new □ at Tekamah, Burt County, Nebraska, under the title of Tekamah □, was made to me by Bros. A. T. Conkling, Wellington Harrington, A. E. Morehouse, John Thomas, R. J. Bardwell, Hiram Coleman, D. L. McLaughlin, N. R. Folsom, J. F. Mason, C. K. Conger, J. W. Filson, J. H. Campbell, J. D. Batchelder, Seth Grosvenor, H. Dennis, W. W. Mason, David Clark and

George Robinson. It was accompanied by the recommendation of Decatur □, No. 7, and I accordingly granted the dispensation.

August 26th, I received a communication from one of the brethren of Tecumseh □, stating that the officers of the □ were not in a prosperous condition—that there was “confusion among the craft,”—and that he thought it necessary that the attention of the Grand Master should be directed to it. It being at the time impossible for me to attend to the matter personally, I requested R. W. Wm. E. Hill, Grand Lecturer, to proceed to Tecumseh and examine if the charges were well founded. He did so, and reported to me that he had visited said □, had investigated said charges, and deemed them without foundation, and that he considered that the affairs of the □ were in a truly prosperous condition. I attach the letter of the brother making the complaint, and also the statement of Bro. Hill, to my report. They will explain the condition of the □ much better than I can, without rehearsing the whole.

I have granted several special dispensations that □ be permitted to act upon the applications of brethren about to leave the jurisdiction who were desirous of receiving the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees sooner than the time prescribed by their By-Laws, but I have only done so upon the application of the Master, and consent of the □. I am opposed to the granting of special dispensations to confer degrees. Except in cases of the utmost necessity, it is much better that a candidate wait the required time before advancement, perfect himself in the lectures of each degree, and satisfy the □, not only that he is worthy and well qualified, but also “that he has made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees;” by so doing he can not only readily visit sister □, but will confer honor upon the □ that made him a Mason.

There is a subject which I would suggest be brought before this Grand □, which I think is of great importance to the craft. It is in reference to procuring a uniformity of work throughout the state. Scarcely two □ work alike in the details, and I earnestly suggest that the Grand □ remedy this evil. Our sister State of Iowa, I understand, has adopted the plan of having a Grand Lecturer, and several assistants, or Custodians of the Work, they receiving the work from him. Dividing the state into districts, they require of each custodian to personally visit each □ throughout his jurisdiction, and instruct its officers. Brethren petitioning for dispensation are required to send the Master proposed, to the custodian of his district, and exemplify, or learn the work. When found correct he gets a certificate, without which a dispensation cannot be granted. I am informed that it works well. Perhaps with our limited number of □ it could be arranged that the Grand Lecturer visit each □; the details, however, I leave with you, sincerely hoping that the Grand □ will take action in regard to the matter.

I have received a circular from the Grand □ of Louisiana, complaining of the action taken by the Grand Orient of France in recognizing and establishing friendly relations with the Supreme Council of the A. and A.

S.: Rite of the State of Louisiana. They claim that the said Supreme Council is a spurious organization that has created clandestine  $\square$  in their jurisdiction, and they ask the sympathy and support of sister Grand  $\square$  in the stand they have taken in regard to those Grand bodies. Their reasons are given in their circular, which is quite lengthy, and which I present with my report to the Grand  $\square$  for its consideration.

On the 3d of September, I received from Lincoln  $\square$ , No. 19, a request that I be present at, and assist in the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the public buildings to be erected there. It being impossible for me to be present, I requested R.: W.: Bro. D. H. Wheeler, to act as my proxy on that occasion. He did so and made the following report.

These, my brethren, constitute my official acts, and to you do I refer them, feeling confident that your wise and careful consideration will correct whatever errors (if there should be any) that I may have unintentionally made. And now, my brethren, let us proceed to our labors, remembering that the all-seeing eye of Him who judges us according to our works is upon us, and may they be such as will meet with His Divine approbation.

H. P. DEUEL, *Deputy Grand Master.*

Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler, as a Special Deputy Grand Master, submitted the following report :

*To the M.: W.: H. P. DEUEL, Acting Grand Master of Nebraska :*

*Worshipful Brother*—On the 19th of September last, I received from you a dispensation authorizing and empowering me, as your Deputy, to proceed to Lincoln and in true masonic form, according to the established usages of our order, lay the corner-stone of the State University. In accordance with your request, I proceeded to Lincoln, and on the 23d day of September, assisted by Bros. H. T. Davis, as Deputy Grand Master; J. Q. Goss, as Senior Grand Warden; S. P. Sibley, as Junior Grand Warden; J. W. Shannon, as Grand Treasurer; M. H. Whittredge, as Senior Grand Deacon; A. B. Fuller, Junior Grand Deacon; W. W. Scott, as Grand Chaplain; H. C. Lett and J. W. Cramer, Grand Stewards; J. N. Silver, Grand Architect; C. S. Chase, Grand Marshal; J. W. Patrick and J. W. Rhodes, Assistant Grand Marshals; A. W. Kellogg, Grand Sword Bearer; A. G. H. Hastings, Grand Pursuivant; and J. Helman, Grand Tyler, laid the corner-stone with masonic ceremonies. The occasion was one long to be remembered with pride and pleasure by those in attendance at that time, and by the fraternity of Lincoln, who did so much to make the occasion a success and a credit to the fraternity. Accompanying my report will be found a full report of the proceedings had upon that occasion.

Fraternally, &c.,

D. H. WHEELER, *Special Deputy Grand Master.*

Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the annual address of the M.: W.: Grand Master and also that of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, be referred to a select committee of three, whose duty it shall be to designate appropriate committees to whom the several subject matters contained in each shall be referred.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed Bros. Furnas, Wheeler and Goss said committee.

Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler, from special committee appointed at special session of this Grand  $\square$  held at Omaha on the 24th day of June last, submitted the following report, which was received and ordered spread upon the minutes of the Grand  $\square$  :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :*

Your committee appointed at the special convocation of the Grand  $\square$  held at Omaha City on June 24th, A.: L.: 5869, to prepare and present suitable credentials to M.: W.: Orsemus H. Irish, who is about to absent himself both from the jurisdiction of the United States and of this Grand  $\square$ , that he may be the better enabled to dispense and obtain masonic light, report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and have forwarded to M.: W.: Bro. O. H. Irish the credentials, properly engrossed, in the English, French and German languages. The expense of the same was eight dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. WHEELER, }  
R. W. FURNAS, } *Committee.*  
GEO. B. GRAFF, }

Bro. Betts presented the credentials of Bro. C. F. Catlin, accrediting him as Grand Representative of the M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  of the District of Columbia near the M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska, and offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a special committee of three be appointed by the M.: W.: Grand Master, to whom the credentials of all representatives from sister jurisdictions to this Grand  $\square$  shall be referred, and whose duty it shall be to report what action is necessary, on the part of this Grand  $\square$ , to properly acknowledge these acts of fraternal relations.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed Bros. Betts, Gardner and Whitmore said committee.

The R.: W.: Grand Secretary presented the testimony and papers in the case of an appeal of Henry Hickman from the action of Capitol  $\square$ . [The papers are voluminous, and not of a character to appear in print.]

On motion of Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler, the papers were referred to the Committee on Grievances.

The R.: W.: Grand Secretary, J. N. Wise, stated that he had received a communication from M.: W.: Grand Master H. G. Reynolds, of Illinois, stating that an appointment had been issued by the M.: W.: the Grand □ of that jurisdiction to Past Grand Master R. C. Jordan, as representative of that Grand □ near the Grand □ of Nebraska, a year or more since. In regard to which Past Deputy Grand Master E. H. Clark offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the matter of the appointment of Past Grand Master R. C. Jordan as representative of the Grand □ of Illinois near the Grand □ of Nebraska, as stated by the R.: W.: Grand Secretary, be referred to the Committee on Credentials from other jurisdictions.

Bro. C. F. Catlin offered the following amendment to section 17 of the By-Laws of this Grand □, which, agreeable to the provisions of section 33 of same, lies over until next session of the Grand □:

#### DUTIES OF GRAND LECTURER.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to attend all the communications of the Grand □. He shall, under advice and with the concurrence of the M.: W.: Grand Master, cause the work of the several subordinate □ to be uniform, and upon all questions of difference of opinion in the discharge of his duty, the decision of the M.: W.: Grand □, when in session, and of the M.: W.: Grand Master, at all other times shall be final. He shall visit each and every subordinate □ within the jurisdiction at least *once each year*, and shall devote to them all the time that may be necessary in order that the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens and Senior Deacon, at least, shall be *thoroughly* instructed in the established work of the jurisdiction, and are fully qualified to confer the several degrees of masonry in accordance with it; and to see that all errors and irregularities be rooted out, and for this purpose it shall be his *duty* to exemplify the work of each degree as taught by him, whenever it is possible to do so; and if it shall come to his knowledge that any officer or □ within the jurisdiction shall ignore or refuse or fail to comply in every respect to the uniform and established work adopted by the Grand □ of Nebraska and communicated by him, it shall be his duty to instantly report the same, either to the Grand □ or the Grand Master, as aforesaid, for their immediate action. It shall also be his duty to be present at the opening and organizing of □ U. D., and impart to them all necessary instruction, unless he shall be satisfied, by previous examination, that the officers of said □ are fully compe-

tent and qualified to perform all the duties connected with the □. The Grand Lecturer shall have authority to appoint a Deputy to assist him in the discharge of his duties, for whose acts he shall be personally responsible to the Grand □. And for these services shall be paid by the Grand □, upon the presentation of his bill, accompanied by a written or printed certificate signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary of each subordinate □, to the effect that he has faithfully performed all the duties of his office as herein described, the sum of — dollars for each and every day occupied in the discharge of the duties of his office, and mileage at the rate of — cents for each and every mile actually traveled; and each subordinate □ shall defray all his necessary expenses during his sojourn with them.

The same brother offered the following as an amendment to the By-Laws, and as a new section, the number to be hereafter designated, which, under the rule, lies over until next session :

No dispensation shall be granted by the Grand Master (or in his absence the Deputy Grand Master) for constituting a new □, until he shall have received a written or printed certificate signed by the Grand Lecturer under his own private seal, which certificate shall set forth that he has carefully *examined* the proposed Worshipful Master and at least *one* of the Wardens, and that each of them has a thorough knowledge of the uniform and established work of the jurisdiction, and are fully competent and qualified in every respect to confer the several degrees of masonry in accordance with it, and to discharge and perform all other duties that may devolve upon them in connection with the □.

Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas presented the following as M.: W.: Grand Master Irish's financial report, which was referred to Committee on Accounts:

NEBRASKA CITY, July 1st, 1869.

*The Grand □ of Nebraska, in account with O. H. IRISH, Grand Master:*

CR.

By amount received as fees for dispensations issued to new □ as follows, viz:

From Tecumseh □, U. D.....	\$10.00
From Pawnee □, U. D.....	10.00
From Lafayette □, U. D.....	10.00

Total.....	\$30.00
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DR.

To stationery, printing and blanks, as per bill of items rendered herewith

by Price & Miller, for the current year.....	\$18.25
To postage on official correspondence and circulars.....	6.25
To cash to balance account.....	5.50—\$30.00

R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master Deuel presented the following as his financial report, which on motion, was referred to the Committee on Accounts.



H. P. DEUEL, in account with Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :

DR.

To amount received for dispensation to Macoy $\square$ , U. D.....	\$10.00
To amount received for dispensation to St. Johns $\square$ , U. D.....	10.00
To amount received for dispensation to Tecumseh $\square$ , U. D.....	10.00
	\$30.00

CR.

By amount paid Grand Secretary..... \$30.00

The M.: W.:, the Grand  $\square$ , was then called to refreshment until 8 o'clock, A. M. to-morrow.

## SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, October 27, 1869.

The M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$ , was called to labor at 8 o'clock A. M., the M.: W.: Grand Master in the East, and officers as before.

Past Grand Master Furnas, from special committee to whom was referred the address of M.: W.: Grand Master Irish, and R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master Deuel, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the addresses of the M.: W.: Grand Master and the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, for the purpose of designating appropriate committees to whom the several subject matters therein contained should be referred, beg leave to recommend—

1st. That so much of the M.: W.: Grand Master's address as refers to the dispensations granted for new  $\square$  at Pawnee City, at Lafayette, in Nemaha county, and at Tecumseh, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

2d. That so much as refers to the powers of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

3d. That so much as refers to the decisions of the M.: W.: Grand Master, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

4th. That so much of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master's address as refers to the dispensations granted for new  $\square$  at Plattsmouth, Tekama and Omaha, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

5th. And that so much thereof as refers to the dispensation granted the Cumming City  $\square$  to change the place of its meeting to Blair, and for the special dispensation for conferring degrees, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

6th. That so much thereof as refers to the uniformity of work, be referred to a select committee of three.

7th. And that so much thereof as refers to a circular from the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
JOHN Q. GOSS,

Past Grand Master Furnas, from the Committee on Judiciary, made the following report, which on motion, was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska:*

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence and to whom was referred the resolution of inquiry proposed by Past Deputy Grand Master Graff, as to whether a refusal or neglect of a  $\square$  to pay the tax assessed for the benefit of the Orphan Fund, did not exhibit such a degree of contumacy as to demand notice and action of the Grand  $\square$ , report that they have no hesitancy in declaring that a  $\square$  refusing or neglecting to pay said tax, disobey the edicts and mandates of this Grand  $\square$ , and are without doubt subjects of discipline at the hands of the Grand  $\square$ , or Grand Master.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
W. E. HILL,

Bro. Betts, from special committee to whom was referred the credentials of representatives from other Grand jurisdictions near that of Nebraska, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Masons of Nebraska:*

The special committee appointed to receive the credentials of representatives accredited from various Grand  $\square$ s of Masons to this Grand  $\square$ , and to report thereon, respectfully submit the following:

Your committee cannot but hail with peculiar pleasure the revival of an ancient masonic usage in the appointment of representatives by sister Grand  $\square$  to this Grand  $\square$ , duly commissioned to bear to us expressions of good will and assurances of fraternal sympathy, interest and affection, from the several bodies accrediting them.

That the system thus inaugurated must be productive of the ends professed to be sought, viz: the cultivation of a more intimate correspondence, the strengthening of brotherly love and the promotion of the order in its unity, integrity and purity—all will most cordially admit and believe; and that the bond—always strong—which unites Masons to Masons, wherever met, will thereby receive additional strength and beauty.

Your committee take pleasure in reporting that the following named

brethren have been honored by commissions addressed to them by the Grand Masters of the Grand ☐ herein named:

- R.: W.: Past Grand Master R. C. Jordon, from the Grand ☐ of Illinois.  
 R.: W.: C. F. Catlin, from the Grand ☐ of District of Columbia.  
 R.: W.: H. P. Deuel, from the Grand ☐ of Indiana.  
 R.: W.: H. O. Hanna, from the Grand ☐ of Georgia.  
 R.: W.: Wm. R. Cain, from the Grand ☐ of New Jersey.  
 R.: W.: J. W. Chadduck, from the Grand ☐ of Alabama.  
 R.: W.: H. T. Davis, from the Grand ☐ of West Virginia.  
 R.: W.: J. N. Wise, from the Grand ☐ of Tennessee and Missouri.  
 R.: W.: R. W. Furnas, from the Grand ☐ of Ohio and North Carolina.

In appreciation therefore, of the courtesy of the Grand Masters issuing these commissions, and to give effect to the intention had in the appointments, as well as to express our own desire to reciprocate the love and attention of our M.: W.: brethren, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the representatives duly commissioned from Grand ☐ of Masons recognized by the Grand ☐ of Nebraska, be invited to seats and to participation in the deliberations of this Grand ☐ when in session.

GEO. C. BETTS, *Chairman*.

Bro. Hays offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary:

*Resolved*, That the territorial jurisdiction of subordinate ☐ shall extend half way to the nearest ☐, and that Art. 15, rules and regulations for the government of subordinate ☐, be amended so as to conform to this resolution.

Bro. Catlin presented amendments to By-Laws of Covert ☐, No. 11, which were referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Bro. Catlin offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the name of "Cumming City" ☐, No. 21, be changed to "Washington" ☐, No. 21.

Bro. Hewett offered the following resolution, which on motion of Past Grand Master Wheeler, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to compare, revise and re-arrange, the Standing Resolutions of this Grand ☐, and that said committee be instructed to report at the next session of this Grand ☐, as to the legal effect and operation of each of said rules, as compared with the Constitution and By-Laws, and usages of Masonry.

Bro. Jno. Reed offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the R.: W.: Grand Treasurer be requested to submit to the Grand □ an exact report as to the financial condition of the Grand □; its indebtedness, together with assets, and means of liquidating the same.

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare and report at the next session of this Grand body, a form of installation ceremonies for the Grand officers of this Grand □, a ceremony of laying corner-stones, funeral ceremonies, and all ceremonies used on masonic occasions, including all the necessary forms and blanks; said committee to act in conjunction with a like committee already appointed by the Grand Chapter for a like purpose; and when collated and adopted by the Grand body, to be printed, with a short digest of masonic law, as a text book of Nebraska, for the craft.

Bro. Hewett offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Grand □ now proceed to ballot for a point at which the next session of this Grand □ shall be held.

Bros. Jno. Reed and W. E. Hill were appointed tellers, and several ballots were had, which finally resulted in selecting Plattsmouth as the place of holding the next session of the Grand □.

Bro. Cogswell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the next session of this Grand □ be held, commencing on the 21st day of June, 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M., of said day.

Bro. Jno. Reed, from the Committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska:*

Your committee to whom was referred the financial accounts of M.: W.: Grand Master Irish and R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master Deuel, have examined the same and find them correct.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN REED, *Chairman.*

Past Grand Master Furnas, from Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred the new code of By-Laws of Nebraska  $\square$ , No. 1, have carefully examined the same and find them to be in compliance with masonic law and usage, and in conformity with the laws and regulations of this Grand  $\square$ , and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the new By-Laws of Nebraska  $\square$ , No. 1, be, and the same are hereby approved.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,	} Committee.
R. C. JORDAN,	
D. H. WHEELER,	
W. E. HILL,	
J. W. CHADDUCK,	

On motion of Bro. Hewett, the Grand  $\square$  proceeded to the election of officers, Bros. Demary and Seymour, tellers. The election resulted as follows :

Bro. H. P. DEUEL, Omaha, M. W. : Grand Master.

Bro. W. E. HILL, Nebraska City, R. W. : Deputy Grand Master.

Bro. A. P. COGGSWELL, Brownville, R. W. : Senior Grand Warden.

Bro. H. O. HANNA, Falls City, R. W. : Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. GEO. B. GRAFF, Omaha, R. W. : Grand Treasurer.

Bro. R. W. FURNAS, Brownville, R. W. : Grand Secretary.

Grand Treasurer Graff offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to procure a proper place in which the annual address shall be delivered, and the public installation of officers take place.

Bros. Henry Brown, W. E. Hill and John Reed, were appointed said committee.

Bro. E. H. Clark was granted leave of absence for the remainder of the sesson, and Bro. R. C. Jordan authorized to act as his proxy.

The M. W. the Grand  $\square$ , was then called to refreshment until 8 o'clock A. M., to-morrow.

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### THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, October 28, 1869.

The M. W. the Grand  $\square$ , was called to labor at 8 o'clock

A. M., the M.: W.: Grand Master in the East. Officers as before.

The M.: W.: Grand Master elect, announced the following appointed officers, who on motion, were confirmed by the Grand □.

- Bro. H. T. DAVIS, Lincoln, R.: W.: Grand Chaplain.
- Bro. J. F. GARDNER, Falls City, R.: W.: Grand Orator.
- Bro. C. F. WHITMORE, Omaha, R.: W.: Grand Lecturer.
- Bro. D. C. COLE, Peru, R.: W.: Grand Marshal.
- Bro. WM. ADAIR, Dakota, W.: Grand Senior Deacon.
- Bro. M. DUNHAM, Omaha, W.: Grand Junior Deacon.
- Bro. M. RICH, Lincoln, Grand Steward.
- Bro. N. CARTER, Blair, Grand Steward.
- Bro. W. R. CAIN, Arago, Grand Sword Bearer.
- Bro. S. W. HAYS, Fremont, Grand Standard Bearer.
- Bro. J. M. BURKS, Nebraska City, Grand Pursuivant.
- Bro. J. W. SHANNON, Plattsmouth, Grand Pursuivant.
- Bro. W. D. GAGE, Plattsmouth, Grand Tyler.

Bro. Graham, from the Committee on Grievances, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal of Henry Hickman, from the action of Capitol □, No. 3, in indefinitely suspending him from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, would respectfully report, that we have examined the papers in the case, which are very voluminous, and find the proceedings regular, and that the appellant had a fair trial by the □.

We find nothing in the case, that in the opinion of your committee, would authorize this Grand □ in disturbing the action of Capitol □, and we offer for adoption the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the action of Capitol □, No. 3, in indefinitely suspending Henry Hickman, be, and the same is in all things affirmed.

J. F. GARDNER,	} Committee.
J. W. CHADDUCK,	
D. C. COLE,	
C. W. SEYMOUR,	

Past Grand Master Furnas, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the action of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master in granting permission to Cumming City

□ to change its place of meeting from Cumming City to Blair, have had the matter under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the action of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, in granting permission to Cumming City □ to change its place of meeting to Blair, be, and the same is hereby approved.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
R. C. JORDAN,

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the amendment to Section 17, of the By-Laws, relating to the duties of Grand Lecturer, introduced by Bro. Catlin, beg leave to refer the same back to the Grand □ without comment, and request that it be referred to the special committee on Work.

R. W. FURNAS,  
R. C. JORDAN, } *Committee.*  
D. H. WHEELER,

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the By-Laws of Solomon □, No. 10, beg leave to refer the Grand □ to paragraph 4, Section 4, By-Laws of this Grand body, in which it is made the special duty of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, to examine all By-Laws presented for approval. The committee therefore return the papers and recommend that they be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
R. C. JORDAN,

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the decisions of M. W. Grand Master O. H. Irish, in relation to a difference of opinion existing between Plattsmouth and Rock Bluffs □, as to jurisdiction; and also the question in Capitol □, as to the case of Bro. Case, have had the matter under consideration, and are of the opinion that the decisions of the Grand Master are correct, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the decisions of the Grand Master in the case above referred to, be and the same are hereby approved.

R. W. FURNAS, }  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
R. C. JORDAN, }

Bro. Graff, from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following

#### REPORT.

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your Committee to whom was referred the application of St. John's □, U. D., for charter, report, that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find them correct, and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the By-Laws of St. Johns □ be, and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

*Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Bros. H. B. Case, Seward B. Davis, John Cameron, H. Welles Thain, J. N. Rippey, J. B. Redfield, A. W. Wyman, Alfred Kelly and H. L. Latey, constituting them a □ of A.: F.: & A.: M.: under the name and style of St. John's □, No. —, to be located at the city of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska; and further, that the legal representatives thereof be entitled to seats in this Grand □,

*Provided*, That as the dimits of some of the brethren do not accompany the papers, your committee recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to retain the charter in his possession until such papers are placed in his hands.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF, }  
JOHN Q. GOSS, } *Committee.*  
W. E. HILL, }  
S. W. HAYES, }  
A. P. COGGSWELL, }

Bro. Catlin offered the following resolution as a substitute for the report of the committee, which was duly seconded :

*Resolved*, That the dispensation issued by the Deputy Grand Master, under date of May 28, 1869, authorizing the organization of a new □ to be known as St. John's □, and located at Omaha, Nebraska, be and the same is hereby cancelled, and that said □ be ordered to immediately surrender the same to the Grand □, together with all the funds and property belonging to it, and that all persons initiated, passed or raised therein shall receive such certificates as may be necessary from this Grand □ in order that they may affiliate with any regularly constituted □ in whose jurisdiction they may hereafter reside; and all brethren of said □ affiliated elsewhere, shall at *once* be considered subject to and in full membership with the □ with



which they were connected at the time or previous to the organization of the above □.

After considerable discussion, a vote was taken on the adoption of the substitute, which was lost, and the vote recurring on the report of the committee, the same was adopted.

Bro. Jno. Reed, from the committee appointed to select the place for the delivery of the address and installation of officers, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your committee on whom was imposed the duty of procuring a suitable place for the delivery of the oration and installation of officers, report that they have procured the use of the Court House for two o'clock P. M. to-day.

H. BROWN, }  
W. E. HILL, } *Committee.*  
JNO. REED, }

Past Grand Master Furnas, from Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which, on motion, was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address referring to the powers of the Deputy Grand Master in this jurisdiction, and desiring the Grand □ to define his duties and powers, have given the matter careful consideration, and report, that there seems to be no doubt, upon a literal construction of the letter of article 11 of the Constitution, that the Deputy Grand Master has an equal right with the Grand Master to issue dispensations during the recess of the Grand □. Your committee, however, are of the opinion that such is not the spirit of said article, and that it was not the intention of the original framers of that instrument that the Deputy Grand Master should in any case possess or exercise powers not in strict subordination to the Grand Master. By a reading and proper construction of articles 9 and 10 of the Constitution, the committee feel warranted in the conclusion that the officers Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, only exercise the powers of Grand Master in cases of the death, absence or disability of the Grand Master. The adoption of the following resolutions is recommended :

*Resolved,* That it is the opinion of this Grand □ that the powers of a Grand Master, during the recess of the Grand □, are supreme, and that the Deputy Grand Master should not exercise the power of granting dispensations or performing any other official act, during recess, except in case of absence, death or disability of the Grand Master, or by his authority or instruction.

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand □ that article 11 of our Constitution should be so amended as to read, "During the recess of the Grand □, the Grand Master has power to grant dispensations, under his private seal, for new □.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER,  
R. C. JORDAN,  
W. E. HILL, } *Committee.*

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution introduced by Bro. Hayes in relation to rule 15 of the regulations of this Grand □, defining said rule, have had the same under consideration, and are of the opinion that the rule referred to is already plain, viz: That the □ nearest the residence of the applicant, regardless of county lines, has exclusive jurisdiction in all respects.

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER,  
R. C. JORDAN,  
W. E. HILL, } *Committee.*

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution of Bro. Hewitt in relation to comparing and revising standing resolutions of this Grand □, have had the same under consideration, and report the same back to the Grand □ and recommend its passage.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER,  
R. C. JORDAN,  
W. E. HILL, } *Committee.*

Leave of absence for the remainder of the session was granted Bros. Ross, Walker, Bagley and Betts.

Bro. Graff, from Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the application of Tecumseh □, U. D., for a charter, report that owing to the destructive fire in September last, their property, with all proceedings, was burned, but they have submitted By-Laws, which, on examination, are found to be in conformity to masonic law and usage. They recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the By-Laws of Tecumseh □ be and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

*Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Bros. S. L. F. Ward, Clarence

Gillespie, John Cochran, E. J. H. Nicholson, John L. Conlee, Jos. W. Buffum, C. Woodley, Alex. Bivens, S. W. Bivens, A. J. Fanning, E. A. Ellsworth, M. L. Stover, John Lum, S. P. Miller, Chas. R. Bryant, H. E. Taylor and A. W. Buffum, constituting them a  $\square$  of A. F. and A. M. under the name and style of Tecumseh  $\square$ , No. 22, to be located at Tecumseh, in Johnson County, Nebraska; and further, that the legal representatives thereof present be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand  $\square$ .

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} Committee.
JOHN Q. GOSS,	
W. E. HILL,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	

Also the following, which was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska:*

Your committee to whom was referred the By-Laws and proceedings of Takama  $\square$ , U. D., would report that they have examined the same and find them in conformity to masonic law and usage, and at the request of said  $\square$ , U. D., they would recommend that a dispensation be re-issued by the Grand Master to the same brethren, empowering them to act until the next meeting of the Grand  $\square$ .

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} Committee.
JOHN Q. GOSS,	
W. E. HILL,	
S. W. HAYES,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	

Also the following, which was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska:*

Your committee to whom was referred the application of Pawnee City  $\square$ , U. D., for a charter, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said  $\square$ , and find them correct and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the By-Laws of Pawnee City  $\square$  be and they are hereby approved by this Grand  $\square$ .

*Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Bros. R. A. Kennedy, J. L. Edwards, John Pierson, C. F. Nye, John W. Manning, John Orr, William Lydia, J. M. Humphrey, Aug. Rice and G. W. Collins, constituting them a  $\square$  of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Pawnee City  $\square$ , No. 24, to be located at Pawnee City, Pawnee County, Nebraska; and further, that the legal representatives thereof present be entitled to seats in this Grand  $\square$ .

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} Committee.
JOHN Q. GOSS,	
W. E. HILL,	
S. W. HAYES,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	

Also the following, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the application of Lafayette □, U. D., for a charter, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find them correct and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the By-Laws of Lafayette □ be and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

*Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Bros. R. W. Sheldon, M. B. Reymon, J. W. Conger, Ira P. Conger, M. V. Spencer, George W. Smith, Lewis Dunn and Geo. W. Sheldon, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Lafayette □, No. 23, to be located at Lafayette Precinct, Nemaha County, Nebraska; and further, that the legal representatives thereof present be entitled to seats in this Grand □.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} Committee.
JOHN Q. GOSS,	
W. E. HILL,	
S. W. HAYES,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	

The M. W. Grand Master appointed as a committee to revise, collate and re-arrange Standing Resolutions, &c., Bros. Furnas, Hewett, and W. E. Hill.

The Grand Secretary reported that two thirds of the subordinate □ in the jurisdiction had voted favorably on the Constitutional amendment submitted to them, viz: to amend Art. 2 of the Constitution by striking out the words "duly constituted of the chartered," and instead thereof insert the words "of subordinate □, and the Masters and Wardens elect of □ to whom charters may have been granted."

It was moved that a vote be taken on the amendment, which was accordingly done, and lost.

Bro. Goss, from Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the amendments to By-Laws of Solomon □, No. 11, have examined the same and recommend their approval.

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} Committee.
JOHN Q. GOSS,	
W. E. HILL,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	
S. W. HAYES,	

Bro. Catlin offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which was duly seconded, and under the rule is spread upon the minutes, and submitted to the subordinate ☐:

Amend Art. 7 of the Constitution by adding to it the following:

Except that of the Grand Lecturer, who shall be elected by ballot as above, to serve for the term of five years from the date of his election, or until his successor shall be duly installed. In case of the death, absence, or inability of the Grand Lecturer, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to fill the vacancy by appointment until the next session of the Grand ☐, when another shall be elected to serve during the remainder of said term.

Bro. Adair offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That T. W. Bedford, Past Grand Treasurer, be held responsible for the full amount of Grand ☐ funds in his hands, and that the present Grand Treasurer be instructed to proceed to collect the same as soon as possible.

The R. W. Grand Secretary Wise submitted the following financial report, which was referred to the Committee on Accounts:

J. N. WISE, Grand Secretary, in account with Grand ☐:

DR.			
To Grand ☐ dues and School Funds received—		DUES.	S. FUND.
From Nebraska ☐, No. 1.....		\$ 14.40	\$ 19.80
From Western Star ☐, No. 2.....		33.90	57.00
From Capitol ☐, No. 3.....		50.70	77.40
From Nemaha Valley ☐, No. 4.....		25.20	41.40
From Omadi ☐, No. 5.....		16.80	28.20
From Plattsmouth ☐, No. 6.....		16.80	33.60
From Decatur ☐, No. 7.....		12.30	16.20
From Falls City ☐, No. 9.....		20.10	
From Solomon ☐, No. 10.....		14.40	19.80
From Covert ☐, No. 11.....		38.10	49.20
From Nebraska City ☐, No. 12.....		18.60	28.20
From Orient ☐, No. 13.....		6.90	
From Peru ☐, No. 14.....		12.30	18.60
From Fremont ☐, No. 15.....		25.20	26.40
From Eureka ☐, No. 16.....		8.40	7.80
From Ashland ☐, No. 18.....		11.70	5.40
From Lincoln ☐, No. 19.....		17.00	18.00
From Rock Bluffs ☐, No. 20.....		4.20	8.40
From Cumming City ☐, No. 21.....		4.50	6.00
From Macoy ☐, U. D., charter fee and dues.....		35.50	
From Pawnee ☐, U. D., charter fees and dues.....		35.50	
From St. Johns ☐, U. D., charter fee and dues.....		55.00	
From Lafayette ☐, U. D., charter fee and dues.....		38.50	
From M. W. H. P. Deuel, dispensation fees.....		30.00	
		\$546.00	\$461.00
Total amount.....			\$1,007.40
CR.			
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....		\$1,007.40	\$1,007.40

The R.: W.: Grand Secretary also submitted the following report relative to Grand representatives to and from this jurisdiction:

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

I beg leave to submit the following statement of a part of my official actions during the past year.

On the 24th of August last, by request of the R.: W.: Deputy, and acting Grand Master, H. P. Deuel, and in pursuance of a resolution of the Grand □ adopted in June, 1867, I addressed circulars to all the sister Grand □ in the United States and Canada, and also to the Grand Orient of France, requesting them to recommend suitable brethren near those several Grand □, to receive the appointment of Grand Representative of the Grand □, and also requesting the appointment of representatives near this Grand □. In pursuance of said circular, I have received and delivered to the proper persons, commissions as follows :

R.: W.: H. P. Deuel, from the Grand □ of Indiana.  
 Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas, from the Grand □ of Ohio.  
 Bro. R. R. Livingston, from the Grand □ of New York.  
 Bro. H. O. Hanna, from the Grand □ of Georgia.  
 Bro. W. R. Cain, from the Grand □ of New Jersey.  
 Bro. C. F. Catlin, from the Grand □ of District Columbia.  
 Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas, from the Grand □ of North Carolina.  
 Bro. and Rev. Geo. C. Betts, from the Grand □ of South Carolina.  
 Bro. E. A. Allen, from the Grand □ of New Brunswick.  
 Bro. J. W. Chaddock, from the Grand □ of Alabama.  
 Rev. Bro. H. T. Davis, from the Grand □ of West Virginia.  
 Bro. R. R. Livingston, from the Grand Orient of France.

I have likewise received the appointment of Grand Representative from the Grand □ of Tennessee and Missouri.

Upon the recommendations of the several Grand □, Grand representatives have been appointed as follows, by M.: W.: O. H. Irish, Grand Master, Baron F. A. Von Meusch, near the Grand □ of Saxony, and by R.: W.: Deputy and acting Grand Master H. P. Deuel, as follows :

Bro. James O'Connor, near Grand □ of Tennessee.  
 R.: W.: Geo. Frank Gouley, near Grand □ of Missouri.  
 Bro. Joseph E. Wells, near Grand □ of Georgia.  
 Bro. Geo. W. Harris, near Grand □ of New York.  
 Bro. Wm. J. Wroth, near Grand □ of Maryland.  
 Bro. Charles Bechtel, near Grand □ of New Jersey.  
 Past Grand Master William Storer, near Grand □ of Connecticut.  
 Bro. John M. Palmer, near Grand □ of Illinois.  
 M.: W.: Grand Master Martin H. Rice, near Grand □ of Indiana.  
 Bro. C. S. Rollin, near Grand □ of Iowa.  
 Bro. E. D. Hillyer, near Grand □ of Kansas.

Bro. John H. Russell, near Grand □ of District Columbia.

Bro. Robert Gwynn, near Grand □ of Ohio.

Bro. J. B. Batchelor, near Grand □ of North Carolina.

Bro. Edwin M. Hastings, near Grand □ of Alabama.

Bro. A. B. Seger, near Grand □ of Louisiana.

Bro. Lawrence C. Owen, near Grand □ of California.

R. W. R. S. Bruns, near Grand □ of South Carolina.

R. W. B. F. Martin, near Grand □ of West Virginia.

I have also received communications from a number more of the Grand □, stating that as soon as they could procure blanks, and from others that as soon as they could bring the subject to the attention of their Grand □, commissions would be forwarded.

I have also received a communication from the Grand Orient of Italy, assuring this Grand □ of their cordial and fraternal esteem, and requesting the establishment of more intimate relations between the two bodies.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary.*

The R. W. Grand Secretary submitted the following report relative to Columbus □, No. 8, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

In obedience to a resolution adopted by this M. W. Grand □ at its last annual communication, and found on page 35 of the printed proceedings of that year, I notified Bro. C. B. Stillman, late W. M. of the late Columbus □, No. 8, of the action of the Grand □ in relation to said □, and instructed him to forward the charter, and all the effects of said □ to me. To this letter I received no answer. I again addressed, subsequently, a similar letter to him, with like result. Sometime subsequent to the writing of the latter, I received a communication from him, making inquiry in reference to the action of the Grand □, and asking how he should send the charter and effects, which I answered, giving instructions as to the manner of sending the said articles. I have heard nothing from the Bro. since.

Likewise, in obedience to a resolution adopted at the same session, and found on page 37 of the printed proceedings, I collected from Plattsmouth □, No. 6, the sum of three hundred dollars, the amount loaned to said □ by the Grand □, in 1865, and have used the same in defraying the expenses incident to the Grand Secretary's office, as will appear in my financial report.

#### LIBRARY.

Since the last annual communication of the Grand □, I have added to the Grand □ library, twelve bound volumes, and a considerable number of unbound books. There is also a box of books in the Express office, from the Grand □ of California, which I have not taken from the office in consequence of the large expense attached to it, without first consulting the Grand □, the charges being \$13.80. I was informed by letter from the

Grand Secretary, that the Express Company agreed to carry it through for five dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary.*

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary, in account with Grand □ :*

DR.

Oct. 22, 1868.	To draft on Grand Treasurer.....	\$275.79
Mar. 1869.	To cash collected from Plattsmouth □, No. 6.....	300.00
	To cash for 4 copies bound Proceedings sold.....	10.00
	To cash for Express charges refunded, on library books.....	2.50
		<u>\$588.29</u>

CR.

Oct. 22, 1868.	By cash draft sent Luse & Griggs on reprint of 1867.....	\$300.00
	By exchange on same.....	75
Oct. 4, 1869.	By paid H. D. Hathaway for printing as per voucher .....	10.00
	By draft sent Griggs, Watson & Day, on printing, 1868.....	300.00
	By exchange on same.....	75
	By cash paid freight on Proceedings.....	5.00
	By cash for drayage.....	25
	By cash for twine.....	25
	By cash for box rent.....	50
	By cash for postage.....	25.00
	By cash for Express charges.....	1.63
	By cash for stationery.....	3.66
	By cash paid on library books, (express charges).....	2.50
	By cash for circulars, Grand Representatives.....	3.00
	By cash expense of trip to Nebraska City to consult with the Grand Master .....	8.00—\$667.29
		\$ 79.00
	By Grand Secretary's salary 1 year and 4 months, \$400.00 per year.....	\$533.00
		<u>\$612.00</u>

Past Grand Master Wheeler submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved,* That so much of the Grand Secretary's report as refers to the non-payment of the Orphans' Fund be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska was called to refreshment until two o'clock P. M. to-day.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

OCTOBER 27, 1869.

The M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska was called to labor at two o'clock P. M.



The hour having arrived for the delivery of the oration and the installation of the officers, a procession was formed, and under charge of the W.: Grand Marshal, the Grand □ proceeded to the Court House, where R.: W.: Bro. O. B. Hewitt, Grand Orator, delivered the following

#### ORATION.

*M.: W.: Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand □ :*

In this world of constant change, durability is an infallible test of virtue. Whatever of creation is most enduring is of most value. Of the works of man, those which best abide the wear of time are most worthy our regard. Of social customs and institutions, those which have best withstood the innovations of progress furnish the highest evidence of real worth. God and truth only are eternal and unchangeable, and these qualities seem to be the true tests by which the soundness of all things is to be tested. So true is this, that men, by seeing more of the effect than of the cause, soon learn to reverence age rather than virtue; and human institutions are often clung to long after their usefulness is gone, only because they are *old*. Hence it may be objected, that as concerns these institutions, age is no proper test of virtue; that political, social and religious customs and usages often continue long after their usefulness is gone, yea, even after they have become positive abuses, oppressive and inimical to the human welfare. It is true that customs and institutions built upon an expediency, and to serve a temporary purpose, do thus degenerate; but those founded in truth, and which supply a real want of humanity, being based upon principles of justice, are as enduring as the eternal hills, and will continue as long as man exists. This we claim for Masonry, and when called upon to prove the value of our order, as one evidence, we are accustomed to point to our ancient record. This may be sufficient to the minds of some. Its age undoubtedly entitles it to respect and gives it dignity in the eyes of the world, and is evidence, so far as it goes, that it is based upon just principles.

But it is incumbent upon us to show, further, that our reverence for it is not the result of a prejudice or the mere fanciful and romantic regard which men have so often manifested for effete institutions. True, it has existed since a time so far back that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, and history has no record of its beginning. And we may claim that the longer it has existed, and the better it has been known in pays past, the higher it has advanced in the estimation of good men. It has survived the attacks of enemies most powerful and fanatical, and sustained itself during all its past history unaided by church or state, or any other means save its own native integrity. Monarchs have arrayed their power against it, popes have thundered their anathemas in its face, and, for a season, the popular voice was raised in the wild clamor of passion, to

denounce and overthrow it. Yet it has survived and overcome all these influences, and is to-day *stronger* and may be *more useful* than ever before; while institutions sustained by popular favor, based upon traditionary worth, their usefulness gone, soon go down to oblivion, being swept away by the breath of power, popular rage, or borne down by the steady, onward march of progress.

The people of this age have no romantic regard for ancient institutions, as such; and Masonry *does* not and *dares* not rest its claims for respect upon its past alone. Its hoary locks can gain it no favor in the eyes of this generation, and therefore its present proud position is evidence that it contains the vital elements of truth and justice, and has a foundation upon which it may rest in confidence and security.

I design, therefore, M. W. Grand Master, to present to the view of this audience some of the foundation stones upon which the structure of Freemasonry rests. In other words, I purpose to discuss the polity of Masonry considered with reference to its social, political and religious influence.

Socially, Masonry has a character of its own as unique as it is distinct; and in this respect it may be said to supply a need of humanity which no other institution ever has or ever can. Other organizations have attempted to pattern after this order in this, and have succeeded only just so far as they have been able to copy Masonry. This social feature of Masonry is founded upon the universal brotherhood of the human family, and the consequent principle of universal charity which pervades the whole system. It ignores and repels all forms of sectarianism and partisanship, because they tend to embarrass the exercise of this charity in full harmony and accord. In the application of its benevolence it levels all distinctions of caste, title and privilege; and while it does not fail to give honor to whom honor is due, yet it solemnly teaches monarchs and princes that, as men, they are no more than the humblest peasant. This bond of nature is the essence and substance of all there is in the mystic tie, as taught and practiced in the usages of Masonry. It is only applying practically the classic poet's thought:

"Sum homo, et nihil humanitate alienum puto."

But it may be asked, if this is so, why make any secrecy about it? Why make public professions of these noble sentiments only to put them in practice according to mystic ritual? We answer, mysticism and secrecy have nothing to do with the precepts and principles of Masonry. These may be known and read of all men. Secrecy is assumed only as a shield and protection—a shield from our enemies, who would destroy, and a protection from the unworthy, who would betray. Union and harmony are the life of Masonry. Hence everything which can breed discord must be carefully excluded. Sincerity and candor are essential among its members, and this can only be secured by good faith and open frankness, so that all shall be held in equal esteem. For these reasons, certain tests are applied to all applicants for membership, and certain instructions enforced upon the mind of the initiate by appropriate ceremonies and lectures, to the end

that having within him the germ of a higher manhood, by these aids his soul may move upward to a purer light.

In this connection it is proper to notice some objections which have been unfairly urged to prejudice the judgment of men against the order. It is sometimes insinuated, rather than openly charged, that Masons are clannish; that their fraternal obligations require, or tend to induce, a disregard to the higher claim of the social compact; that Masons will shield each other from the claims of justice, and go so far even as to violate their corporeal oaths in the administration of judicial affairs, if they may thereby serve or screen a brother.

Such charges are easily made, and, to prejudiced minds, not easily refuted. To the candid and rational, they refute themselves. It scarcely becomes the dignity of the order to notice them, even with a denial. Yet, lest the malice of our enemies should go so far as to assert them anew and insist that our silence is an admission, I here unequivocally declare that all such charges are false *in toto*. There is nothing in the spirit, principles or practice of Masonry to justify them. Inconsiderate and weak men, professing Masonry, may have misapprehended or disregarded their obligations; yet wherein they have acted unworthily, they have so acted not because they were Masons, but being morally unsound, they so remain in spite of the better light of their masonic instruction.

Masonry teaches and enforces the highest reverence for Deity, and holds all legal obligations as sacred; that "the All-seeing Eye is ever upon us," and will hold us ever accountable for the least willful deviation from the straight path of rectitude. How is it possible, then, that it can justify men in disregarding their duties as citizens or their oaths as ministers of law?

Again: The principle of entire obedience to the civil laws, under whose protection we live, is strictly inculcated in the teachings of Masonry. How can we be taught to regard law in precept and principle, and at the same time be licensed to disregard and violate it in practice? Such a deduction is most absurd, and, as before said, refutes itself.

Socially, Masonry has other and far different aims and purposes. It is the machinery and organism which, amid all the strife and discord of the world, where interest clashes with interest, prejudice with reason and bigotry with license, adjusts and balances the innate charities of human nature in such a manner as that whatever passion takes the lead in the motives of action, men are not allowed entirely to forget the precepts of the Christian's golden rule. In this the world is indebted to Masonry for much that has been done towards softening and smoothing the naturally rude and barbarous nature and customs of men. While in this respect it may not claim equal honor with the spirit of Christianity, yet it has no doubt been an efficient agent in preparing the way for the benign influences of the church. While we admit cheerfully that one of the great merits of the Christian religion is its uncompromising spirit, its absolute intolerance of all idolatry and superstition, and all the forms of heathen worship, yet we must also admit what history so plainly proves, viz: that

this has been the fruitful source of strife and feud among men. The Savior himself declared, "I come not to send peace on earth, but a sword;" and the success of Christianity as the great renovating agent of the world, involved the necessary overthrow or reform of all the ancient social, civil and religious institutions. The social and civil discord of the dark ages was the inevitable consequence. This chapter of history was a necessary experience for the success of the Christian faith. Yet, standing as we do now at this advanced stage of social progress as compared with those days, we can look back and find in every page much work for the Master and craft in affording social protection and aid for the unfortunate victims of tyranny, superstition and bigotry.

The past is easier to read than the present; but what now appears to have been so servicable to that age, as seen from our present stand point, will be looked upon ages hence as being no less useful in our day. There is no doubt as much occasion for the influence and work of Masonry now, as there ever was in the past ages—not, perhaps, in the same form. But so long as there is a spirit of intolerance, barbarism, mercenary selfishness and ignorance in the world; so long as unbridled passion sways the minds of men; so long will there be work for the Masters, Wardens, and craft. If the social condition of man has improved, so has the light of masonry increased. If man has advanced in knowledge, morality and social courtesy, so has the standard by which these virtues are tested. As men obtain a clearer insight into the principles and qualities of virtue in the abstract, so should they become better schooled in the practice and application of truth and justice.

That such is the aim of masonry, a single fact is sufficient to show. We have as our patrons, the two most exemplary, earnest and benignant men of which history has record. Why should Masons have claimed the patronage of the Sts. John, unless it was through reverence for the loveliness and purity of their characters, and a purpose of making their inspired precepts the basis of masonic instruction? Consider our patron St. John the Baptist. How earnest and devoted to truth and duty; how bold in his reproof of iniquity; with what clearness of insight he saw spiritual truths; how clearly he read the signs of the times, and how eagerly he leaped forth to catch the glow of the Great Light about to come. A model of earnestness, sincerity and devotion; the ideal hero, the consistent martyr—history has nothing to compare with him. The only fit parallel and counterpart of this Most Excellent Grand Master, is found in the social and moral loveliness of the beloved disciple. The one represents truth and virtue in their sternness and reality; the other exhibits them in the light and beauty of love. In one is the ardor of pure carbon, when properly ignited; in the other the glowing and lovely splendor of the well cut diamond. As patterns of human excellence, we boast that these men are our models. Whatever goes to make up the amenities of social life, we find especially exemplified in their conduct and enforced by their precepts; and as Masons we have thus learned to prize the sympathies of affection, the

charms of courtesy, the cheer of kindness, the beauty of virtue, and the value of truth. Is it possible, or even probable, that these have had no good influence upon men as Masons, and through Masons, upon the world? During the past eighteen centuries, like leaven they have been working upon the social customs of the human family, shedding upon men a light and joy divine. As the sun of day in his vernal return brings the soft and balmy air of spring, renewing the gladness and bloom of youth to nature, so have these beams of the Sun of Righteousness been softening and smoothing the asperities of strife, melting the flinty heart of hate, dissolving the frosty clods of selfishness, "comforting the sorrowful, soothing the anxious, cheering every path of life and smoothing the pillow of death." Surely it is a false and violent presumption that men led by such lights are not guided aright.

But we are to consider the political bearing and influences of Masonry. In this we disclaim all partizanship. As partizans the influence of the order is nothing. If it has anything to do towards forming or changing men's political (*i. e.* partizan) relations, it can only be in the most remote and indirect manner—so remote and indirect as to be entirely indefinite and undefinable. Parties, creeds and sects, are odious to Masonry; and while it can tolerate no discord in itself, it discountenances everything that can tend to hamper or embarrass freedom of opinion and conscience. It insists upon the largest liberty in this respect, and has ever been the champion of free thought. It was this liberal and just view of men's rights and capacities, which, during the days of despotism, made Masons the subjects of severe proscription among rulers. When the history of Masonry becomes better known, it will be found that it has always been the most earnest protester against all forms of oppression, especially of that sort which seeks to bind the minds and consciences of men. It was the first of existing institutions to perceive and recognize the value of human nature politically; and during all the progress of modern times, it has been diligent with the working tools of the craft, in bringing to view the latent capabilities of the human soul. Recognizing at once the allegorical idea of representing humanity and the wants of human society, by the structure of the magnificent architectural type, it saw in the structure and material of this temple, the blending harmony which shall reign among men when equal and exact justice shall be dealt to all; ignorance dissipated by the light of knowledge, crime abolished by a guaranty of equal rights, want and poverty supplanted by industry and temperance, and all crowned by the golden dome of peace reflecting the beams of that light which brings the good news and glad tidings of great joy to all people.

Under this allegory, Masonry sees in each individual something worthy the solicitude and supreme care of the State. It sees further, that governments were ordained not for the benefit of the few, but of the mass, and each individual of the mass; that the legitimate purpose of government is to benefit man as a race, not men as a class; to furnish the means of support, education and protection, and the instrumentality of improving the

moral, social, physical and intellectual condition of the human family, individually and collectively; to insure to each, protection in his right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The political, like the social polity of Masonry, is founded upon that universal charity which knows no bounds, and as such has been a beacon for the friends of liberty in all ages. While earnest for the rights of the people as a principle, yet it seeks in no way to control the affairs of State, and will not allow that its organization should be prostituted to the purpose of propagating any political dogma or theory, nor of inaugurating any particular policy, or establishing any special dynasty. It undoubtedly has been one of the strongest conservative forces in government. It abhors revolution and discord, and delights in peace and glories in reform. While it has always been adverse to sudden changes in the forms of civil government, and has an absolute disrelish for the rude forces which break and tear the texture of social order; yet keen-sighted and far-seeing, it knows that changes must come; and when the social elements are thrown into convulsion, calm and earnest in the exercise of charity and philanthropy, its voice is heard sternly proclaiming the universal brotherhood of man. It allows neither the fierce and passionate discords and tumult of war to silence its admonition, or stay its work of charity, nor the piping tranquillity of peace to lull it into a forgetfulness of man's inhumanity to man. But we have recently been challenged in a very unamiable tone and spirit to exhibit evidences of the value of the religious instruction of Masonry.

It would be sufficient in fairness to treat this attack with the silent contempt which all such bigotry deserves; and sufficient in answer to admit, what is evidently one of the glories of our order, although charged as a fault, viz: that we do disclaim all sectarianism. But that we reject the doctrines and teachings of Christianity, is a charge both false and calumnious. Both history and tradition show Masonry to have been one of the earliest and most efficient aids of Christianity. Older than the Christian dispensation, its essential principles are but parts, or co-ordinates of the truths of the same divine revelation. The Bible every where among Masons is the rule and guide of their faith and morals. And when the dawn of the new dispensation appeared, those of that day whom we call Masons, instinctively sprang forth to catch the glow of that light which the Sun of Righteousness has shed upon the world, and received the new revelation in the simplicity of childhood. It was the *magi* the wise men of the East who first recognized His star, and came with incense to worship at Bethlehem's shrine. They first heard and interpreted the angel's song, "On earth peace, good will to men." And during all the period since, Masonry has been as the right arm of Christianity. In seasons of the fiercest proscription and persecution, it has furnished the haven, the shield and covering of the Christian Church. Whether pursued by the blindness of unbelief, the besotted ignorance of heathen superstition, the jealousy of kings and tyrants, or the fanatical intolerance of popery, the true Christian and believer has ever found Masonry his providential friend and protector.

Whoever knows the history of John the Baptist in the wilderness, Cyprian at Carthage, Athenasius at Alexandria, Martin Luther at Worms, or the remarkable story of the fortitude and protection of the Moravians and Waldenses, will find much to justify the claim of Masonry as the friend of Christian faith.

But besides all these there are reasons why Masonry should have been from the beginning the natural ally of Christianity.

Up to the time of the new revelation it had been the burden of all speculation and philosophy to prove the doctrine, or rather to confirm the hope of the immortality of the soul of man. The myths and mysticisms of heathen lore were composed of various systems of reasoning and symbolic demonstration to satisfy the craving for an assurance of another and better life of perpetual duration. The inquiry was first suggested to the terrified Cain, when he saw the lifeless form of Abel stretched before him as senseless as the clod upon which he fell. It occupied the meditations of the anchorite in his solitude, and puzzled the sophists in their discussions. If a man die shall he live again, was the query which challenged all the means of instruction, and all the powers of demonstration. Mystic ceremonies and symbolic illustrations were resorted to, to trace out an assurance of this in the analogies of nature. The devotees of the Egyptian and Elusinean mysteries, and the Chaldean sages, sought to elucidate the subject—and their voices are echoed to us from the academic grove as we listen to the reasoning of Plato. And the hopeful cheer with which Socrates drinks the poison and takes leave of his friends, shows us that the lights of nature had not been wholly studied in vain. The same light guided Cato to a proper appreciation of the value of human life, and confirmed Cicero in his placid philosophy.

Freemasonry as dealing with the knowledge and practice of science and virtue, could not neglect or overlook this all-absorbing subject.

Assuming as its fundamental doctrine an unqualified belief in an infinite, all-wise and eternal Being,

"whom none can comprehend and none explore,  
Being whom we call God, and know no more,"

it taught and elucidated immortality, inculcated virtue, and illustrated moral responsibility. In these respects it was akin to Christianity, and it was therefore proper and consistent that some of the apostles should have become patrons of the order.

I have said that it was the principal object of the ancient mysteries, as well as of speculative philosophy, to elucidate and confirm the notion of immortality. This they did by reasoning from such premises only as nature suggested. By investigating and comparing the analogies which seemed to indicate a separate spiritual existence, making use also of such intuitions and aspirations as were known to belong to the human soul, to illustrate and strengthen their conclusions.

But these premises were too limited for any positive demonstration of the great question. They might serve to elucidate, but could not solve the

problem. Their highest assurance was only a probability. And although in weighing the testimony on either side the poise was in favor of the affirmative (immortality), it was yet difficult to feel satisfied with a decision where judge, jury and witnesses, were all interested parties. For there was unquestionably a strong desire, a longing after immortality, which, though it might afford a ground for hope, could but embarrass an impartial decision upon the arguments *pro* and *con*. The following is perhaps a fair example of what the reasoning upon the subject might have been.

Starting upon the premises (which seem fair and just) that mere matter cannot be conscious—cannot love, hope or fear—that no arrangement of atoms can ever give mere matter the power to think and reason, it seems conclusive that inasmuch as man is conscious, hopes, fears, thinks and reasons, there is a part of man immaterial in its nature, and this part is called the soul. This soul not being material, is not affected by a dissolution of the material part, viz: the body; and hence, this reasoning, thinking, conscious part, is *capable* of existing when the material part is dissolved.

The soul being thus capable of existing apart from the body, and being in existence now, it is a fair presumption to conclude will continue to exist when the material body shall die.

Again, by considering the nature of the soul, we find it possessing qualities essentially spiritual in their nature. The power to will, and, by an intuition, to decide upon the moral qualities of actions, and also of forming judgment as to the qualities of things in the abstract, indicates a capacity above any created material or mere animated object, and also a power of contemplating things spiritual and divine. All these are evidences to confirm the presumption that the soul will survive the body.

Thus, having shown that the soul is capable of a future existence, and that it probably will continue to exist, there is reason to believe it will live forever. Besides, all the spiritual or immaterial things of which we have any notion are immortal. God and the spirits of heaven are immortal. The attributes and powers of spirits and the Deity are of the same nature as are the powers and attributes of the soul of man, so far as he possesses them; and whatever is excellent and lovely in the divine and spiritual nature (and of which man is deficient), the soul not utterly depraved is constantly aspiring after and seeking, which it can only find and enjoy when freed from the incumbrances of the body. Thus, by the light of nature, man was able to prove the *capacity* of the soul for immortality, and was able to poise the probabilities in favor of the doctrine. But a demonstrable proof of its certainty could never have been reached by the human intellect with the light of nature alone. It required a divine revelation and the demonstrations of infinite power and goodness, a power sufficient to raise the dead, a goodness and love for man sufficient to provide a ransom and an atonement for depraved humanity. And it is just here that the revelations of the gospel of Jesus of Nazareth come in, bringing man the tidings from the Father of Spirits, and assuring him of the irrevocable appointment that the soul, like the Deity of which it is the spark, shall go



not out and grow not dim. This light has been set upon the altar of Masonry; and the Christian's faith, the Christian's hope and the Christian's charity are symbolized in masonic instruction as the only proper agency fitting for and elevating man to the companionship of angels.

Here, then, we rest. Faith, the Christian's faith, is our chief cornerstone, and love, the mainspring of philanthropy and Christian benevolence, is the ground work of our masonic temple. But while we believe that without this faith we can do nothing, we cannot discard reason and imagination—reason for the superstructure, and imagination to beautify and adorn the work. These are the elements which Masonry seeks to develop in the minds of men. They are the pillars of our philosophy. Faith trusting the good, reason teaching the true, and imagination revealing the beautiful. They are the correlatives of the grand pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty that support the great arch which spans the bounds of masonic knowledge and influence. Faith without reason is but a blind superstition; reason without faith is but another name for scepticism. The one servilely consents to be led in the dark, and is subject to imposition and wrong at the hands of men; the other rejects all the conditions of moral truth. But faith must be consistent with both nature and revelation; hence the necessity of a full development and culture of the faculties of reason and imagination; for the blind and lawless faith of the Hindoo, the Musselman or ignorant confessor, is worse even than unbelief.

It is not a part of the present purpose to discuss the religious aspect of Masonry as an appointed agency to change and regenerate the heart of the natural man. This is the work of divine grace and a matter of individual experience not to be taught by philosophy nor in schools. This Masonry leaves to each individual to settle for himself. Yet while it discards all doctrinal issues, the one broad catholic doctrine of moral purity it everywhere inculcates in its teachings as essential to gaining admission to the city of God on high.

"O 'tis a glorious city! passing ken  
Of eye or stretch of thought! Earth's cities glow  
With no such lustre, nor such riches know.  
Holiness is its name. Each citizen  
Is pure and holy. There, with sainted men,  
Purged from the native dross of earth below,  
And spirits whose natures no pollution know,  
God dwells; and He who once for man was slain,  
The Lamb all spotless. Who a post would hold  
Therein, by him must thitherward be trod  
The path of holiness. That chosen fold  
Defilement enters not. *And lo! in broad  
Letters of light its charter is enrolled,  
None but the pure in heart shall see their God.*"

Thus, by the aid of this new light of the Christian's faith, Masonry has been enabled to lift itself above the clouds of mystery which anciently surrounded and enveloped its teachings. Yet the precepts and moral virtues it enforces are none the less valuable to man and to society; nay, they

are by far the more important, inasmuch as they carry with them the weight of divine authority. At present, its teachings reflect but the shadows as formerly; but we are now made to see these shadows in such attitudes and forms as give us an unquestionable certainty of the substance, and we have also an assurance of the ultimate dispersion of these mysteries which here surround us. At the portals of the Grand  $\square$  above we shall cast aside as useless, the uncertain lights of knowledge and reason, and standing within the veil which shrouds the mystery of our beings, end and aim, the whole structure of life will tower before us, and with a full view of base, column, architrave, dome and pinnacle, mingling in harmony, a single glance will enable us to comprehend the whole fabric of that temple not made with hands.

After which the officers of the M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  were duly installed by Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler. A procession was reformed, and marched to the hall, when Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand  $\square$  are due and are hereby tendered to Bro. O. B. Hewitt, for his excellent and able address, and that he is hereby requested to furnish the Grand Secretary with a copy of the same for publication with the proceedings of this Grand  $\square$ .

Past Grand Master Jordan submitted the following question, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary:

What vote is necessary to restore a brother who has been indefinitely suspended?

Bro. Seymore offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be instructed to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand  $\square$ , and report at the next session such amendments or alterations, if any, that may be required to meet the necessities of the craft in this jurisdiction.

Bro. Gardner offered the following resolution, which, on motion, was made the special order of the day to-morrow at nine o'clock A. M.:

*Resolved*, That the standing resolutions of this Grand  $\square$  relating to the Orphans' School Fund be and the same are hereby repealed, and that the money heretofore collected by virtue thereof be returned to the  $\square$  respectively from which it was collected.

The M.: W.: Grand Master announced the following as the committee of one from each subordinate  $\square$  on the Orphans' School Fund:

## COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' FUND.

John Q. Goss, Nebraska □, No. 1; N. S. Harding, Western Star □, No. 2; M. Dunham, Capitol □, No. 3; O. B. Hewitt, Nemaha Valley □, No. 4; Wm. Adair, Omadi □, No. 5; H. D. Hathaway, Plattsmouth □, No. 6; J. A. McMurphy, Decatur □, No. 7; H. O. Hanna, Falls City □, No. 9; E. H. Clark, Solomon □, No. 10; C. F. Catlin, Covert □, No. 11; S. D. Fitchie, Nebraska City □, No. 12; Jacob Shaff, Orient □, No. 13; D. C. Cole, Peru □, No. 14; S. W. Hayes, Fremont □, No. 15; W. R. Cain, Eureka □, No. 16; S. L. F. Ward, Tecumseh □, No. 17; C. S. Wortman, Ashland □, No. 18; Max Rich, Lincoln □, No. 19; David Ross, Rock Bluffs □, No. 20; Nathan Carter, Cumming City □, No. 21; R. W. Sheldon, Lafayette □; Chester F. Nye, Pawnee □; H. B. Case, St. John's □.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced as Trustees of the Orphans' School Fund, Past Grand Masters R. W. Furnas, D. H. Wheeler and Past Deputy Grand Master Geo. B. Graff.

Bro. Dunham offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure from each of the Past Grand Masters of the Grand □ of Nebraska a photograph, of uniform size, framed, and to be kept among the archives of this Grand □.

Leave of absence was granted to Bros. Davis, Wortman, Beetison, Richards and Rich.

Bro. Catlin offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Worshipful Masters of subordinate □ who have heretofore failed to furnish the Grand Secretary with the history of their □ from their organization to date of charter, in accordance with Standing Resolution No. 5, be and they are hereby required to furnish such report to the Grand Secretary in time for publication in the printed proceedings of this session of the Grand □.

Past Grand Master Furnas, from the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska:*

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the question propounded by Past Grand Master Jordan, viz: "what vote is necessary to restore a brother indefinitely suspended," having had the matter under consideration, report that it depends entirely upon the local or subordinate law of the □ indefinitely suspending. The Grand □ laws are silent upon

the subject. Usage has established a law, that in the absence of law to the contrary, the same vote restores that suspends. Therefore if a majority, or two-thirds, or three-fourths vote is required to suspend, the same vote is required to restore.

R. W. FURNAS,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
W. E. HILL,

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That to secure uniformity of work in this Grand  $\square$  jurisdiction the Grand Master be requested to appoint a committee of five brothers known for their zeal and proficiency in Masonry, whose duty it shall be to meet at a time and place to be designated by the chairman, at as early a day as convenient after this session of the Grand  $\square$ , for the purpose of comparing, adjusting, and arriving at a uniform work; and that they remain in session from day to day until their work is completed, and report the result of their labors to the next session of this Grand  $\square$ , and exemplify the work before the Grand  $\square$ .

Past Grand Masters D. H. Wheeler, R. W. Furnas, R. C. Jordan, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master W. E. Hill and Bro. Catlin, were appointed said committee.

The M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  was called to refreshment until tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

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#### FOURTH DAY—MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, October 29, 1869.

The M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$ , was called to labor at 8 o'clock A. M., the M.: W.: Grand Master in the East. Officers as before.

Bro. Hewitt offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a dispensation be granted to the petitioners at Hillsdale, in Nemaha County, for a new  $\square$  at that place, as recommended by Nemaha Valley  $\square$ .

On request, and by motion, Bro. Catlin was empowered, as proxy, to cast the votes of Past Deputy Grand Master Clark,

and of Solomon □, hereinbefore authorized to be cast by Past Grand Master R. C. Jordan.

Bro. Graff, from the Trustees of the Orphans' Fund, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*Trustees Orphans' Fund*

*In account with the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska.*

*Dr.*

1868. To amount received of Grand Secretary Wise.....	\$ 682 00
“ “ “ interest on same one year, to September 1, 1869.....	68 20
1869. “ “ received of Grand Secretary Wise.....	461 60
“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Furnas.....	36 00
	\$1247 80

There is in the hands of former Grand Treasurer T. W. Bedford, and which has never been in hands of the Trustees, viz :

Donation of Bro. J. N. Wise, 1867.....	\$10 00
“ “ O. H. Irish, “ .....	15 50
“ “ J. H. N. Patrick, 1867.....	19 00
“ “ C. S. Chase.....	10 50
	\$55 00

There have been donated, at the present session of this Grand □, certificates of mileage and per diem from the following brethren, and the amounts as specified, viz :

Bro. H. P. Denel.....	\$ 14 00
“ O. H. Irish.....	7 00
“ D. H. Wheeler.....	13 00
“ R. W. Furnas.....	17 50
“ G. B. Graff.....	15 00
“ W. E. Hill.....	6 00
“ J. W. Chaduek.....	13 00
“ Jno. Shannon.....	9 00
“ C. F. Whitmore.....	4 00
“ R. M. Hill.....	6 00
“ J. Dan. Lauer.....	6 00
“ M. Dunham.....	4 00
	\$114 50

The amount \$750, principal, and interest of Fund for 1869, is loaned at twelve per cent. The amount received this session, \$497.60, will be immediately put out at interest at same rates.

The Trustees, as individuals, will donate, when the policy is permanently fixed as a measure of this Grand □, and a plan for the application of the means raised adopted, unconditionally, real estate in the cities of Omaha, Plattsmouth and Brownsville, to the value of \$500 in each.

The Trustees feel that while there is some opposition to this plan of exemplifying characteristics peculiar to the masonic fraternity—as there necessarily will be in all things—yet the movement has a fast hold upon the devoted friends of Masonry in this jurisdiction, and that, if it can be let alone and fostered for a few years until its practicability and utility can

be fully demonstrated, it will prove a proud and lasting monument to Masonry in Nebraska, and will speak louder for it than tongues of most gifted orators.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS, }  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Trustees.*  
GEO. B. GRAFF, }

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to issue certificates to the several Past Grand Officers and representatives to this Grand □ for the several amounts due them for mileage and per diem for the sessions of 1868 and 1869, said certificates to be paid as soon as the funds of this Grand □ will permit.

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, Tecumseh □, No. 17, has met with a disaster by fire, in which all the records, furniture and effects were destroyed, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the amount of dues owing to this Grand □, and the fee required for charter, be and the same are hereby donated to said Tecumseh □.

Past Grand Master Wheeler, from Committee on Subordinate Returns, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska:*

Your committee to whom was referred the returns of subordinate □, have carefully examined the same, from which is made up the following table:

STATISTICAL CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

No	LODGE.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	Master Masons.	Fellow Crafts. Entered Apprentices.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised. Admitted.	Dimitted.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	Reinstated.	Am't of Or- phans' Fund.	Am't Grand dues.	Total.
1	Nebraska	Bellevue	Sarpy	34	1	8	3	1 1 1	...	...	1	...	2	...	19 80	14 40	34 20
2	Western Star	Nebraska City	Otoe	97	5	...	...	4 4 10	2	...	...	...	1	...	57 00	33 90	90 90
3	Capitol	Omaha	Douglas	134	4	10	8	5 7 7	3	...	...	1	8	...	77 40	50 70	128 10
4	Nemaha Valley	Brownville	Nemaha	69	1	4	3	1 1 1	...	...	...	...	6	...	41 40	25 20	66 60
5	Omadi	Dakota	Dakota	47	1	1	2	1 1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 20	16 80	45 00
6	Plattsmouth	Plattsmouth	Cass	56	5	13	...	4	...	5	...	...	...	...	33 60	16 80	50 40
7	Decatur	Decatur	Burt	27	1	1	...	2 2 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 20	12 30	29 50
8	*Columbus	Columbus	Platte	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Falls City	Falls City	Richardson	48	1	12	4	1 1 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 20	20 10	48 30
10	Solomon	Fort Calhoun	Washington	38	1	1	3	4 3 1	1	...	1	1	...	1	19 80	14 40	34 20
11	Covert	Omaha	Douglas	88	11	11	9	8 14 8	4	1	...	1	2	...	49 20	38 10	87 30
12	Nebraska City	Nebraska City	Otoe	54	1	4	3	4 4 3	4	1	...	...	5	...	28 20	18 60	46 80
13	Orient	Rule	Richardson	18	4	10	2	1 3	...	5	...	1	...	...	7 80	6 90	14 70
14	Peru	Peru	Nemaha	32	1	4	2	2 2 3	...	...	...	1	...	...	18 60	12 30	30 90
15	Fremont	Fremont	Dodge	44	4	6	8	6 7	...	1	...	1	...	...	26 40	25 20	50 60
16	Eureka	Arago	Richardson	14	3	...	3	...	2 1	...	...	1	...	...	7 80	8 40	16 20
17	†Tecumseh	Tecumseh	Johnson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Ashland	Ashland	Saunders	9	4	4	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 40	11 70	17 10
19	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lancaster	23	2	5	11	6 4 4	...	...	...	4	...	...	20 00	15 00	35 00
20	Rock Bluffs	Rock Bluff	Cass	14	3	...	...	2	2 1	...	...	...	...	...	8 40	4 20	12 60
21	Washington	Blair	Washington	11	...	...	1	1 1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 00	4 50	10 50
22	Macy	Plattsmouth	Cass	8	...	...	7	5 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 50	10 50
23	Pawnee	Pawnee City	Pawnee	10	...	...	7	3 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 50	10 50
24	St. John	Omaha	Douglas	7	...	...	20	13 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 00	30 00
25	Lafayette	Lafayette	Nemaha	9	...	...	3	3 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 00	4 50	13 50
				893	53	101	105	78 73 50 27	1	3	3 31	1	...	...	\$508 40	\$405 00	\$913 40

\*Charter forfeited. †Records and effects destroyed by fire.

Oct. 1869.]

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

The committee find that the amount of Orphans' Fund due from Falls City □, No. 9, for the year ending May 31, 1868, has not been paid over to the Grand Secretary. Your committee therefore recommend that the Grand Treasurer be and is hereby instructed to collect said dues.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. WHEELER, }  
M. DUNHAM, } *Committee.*  
GEO. B. GRAFF, }

The Grand Secretary read the following communication, which was referred to the Committee on Charity:

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, October 26, 1869.

*To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand □ of Nebraska:*

Believing fully that the Grand □ desires to extend the privileges of education to all the children of deceased Masons within this Grand □ jurisdiction, I send this communication, Worshipful Sir, to inform the Grand □ that I have established a graded high school in the city of Omaha, and that I will receive the sons of impecunious and deceased Masons at half price. I herewith enclose a catalogue of the school.

Very respectfully your obt. servt. and Bro.,

J. N. RIPPEY.

The time having arrived for considering the special order of the day, viz: the consideration of the resolution offered by Bro. Gardner, repealing the standing resolutions of this Grand □ relating to the Orphans' School Fund, Bro. Gardner asked and obtained consent to withdraw the original resolution and offered the following instead thereof:

*Resolved*, That the standing resolutions of this Grand □ in reference to the Orphans' School Fund, be and the same are hereby amended as follows:

- 1st. That resolution No. 5 be and is hereby repealed.
- 2d. That this Grand □ declares the object and intent of said resolutions remaining in force to be, to raise a fund expressly for the purpose of educating the indigent orphan children of deceased Masons.
- 3d. That said fund so raised shall be forever kept at interest, and no other investments of the same shall be made.
- 4th. That when said fund shall amount to the sum of \$——, the interest thereof shall be annually applied, if needed, in payment of schooling, clothing and furnishing necessaries for the proper education of said indigent children; and if the same is not needed, from time to time, for the education of said orphan children, then the same shall be placed at interest until it may be needed.



5th. That this Grand  $\square$ , at its next annual communication, shall provide a mode or plan for the proper disbursement of said fund amongst the indigent children in this jurisdiction.

6th. That said resolutions, together with these amendments, shall be submitted to the subordinate  $\square$  in this jurisdiction for their action, and if ratified by a majority thereof, then they shall be declared in force. But if the same shall be rejected by a majority of said subordinate  $\square$ , then the whole subject matter shall be declared repealed.

Bro. Hewitt moved to amend the 6th amendment by striking out the last sentence.

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered as an amendment to the amendment the following as a substitute for the 6th amendment:

That these amendments shall be submitted to the subordinate  $\square$  for their action, and if ratified by a majority thereof, they shall be declared in force.

After a protracted and general discussion, participated in by most of the officers and representatives, a vote was taken on Past Grand Master Wheeler's amendment. The yeas and nays were demanded and had, and resulted in: yeas, 37; nays, 29; so the motion to amend by substitution prevailed, and the resolution as introduced by Bro. Gardner and amended as above was passed.

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby requested to forward a request to the several subordinate  $\square$  in this jurisdiction to submit, through their legal representatives, at the next session of this Grand  $\square$ , a plan or plans for the future use and disposition of the Orphans' School Fund.

Grand Secretary Furnas presented the following account, which was referred to the Committee on Accounts:

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary*,

*In account with Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska.*

*Dr.*

To amount Orphans' Fund from Falls City $\square$ .....	\$28 20
.. .. " " " " Orient $\square$ .....	7 80
	<hr/>
	\$36 00
Cr. by receipt of Grand Treasurer.....	\$36 00

Bro. Catlin, from the Committee on Charity, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :

Your Committee on Charity, to whom was referred the communication of Bro. J. N. Rippey, offer the following resolution in relation thereto :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand  $\square$  are hereby tendered Bro. J. N. Rippey, of Omaha, for his very kind and liberal offer to receive the sons of impecunious and deceased Master Masons for education in the graded high school, at half price, and that the liberal proposition is hereby accepted by this Grand  $\square$ .

H. O. HANNA, }  
C. F. CATLIN, } *Committee.*

The Grand Treasurer presented the following as his report as to the financial condition of the affairs of the Grand  $\square$ , which was referred to the Committee on Accounts :

GEO. B. GRAFF, *Grand Treasurer*,

		<i>In account with Grand <math>\square</math> of Nebraska.</i>		<i>Dr.</i>
June 24, 1868.	To amount received from Grand Secretary Wise.....			\$ 782 50
Dec. 10, "	" borrowed of Western Star $\square$ .....			850 00
Oct. 28, 1869.	" received from Grand Secretary Wise.....			546 09
" "	" " " " " Furnas.....			36 00
				\$2214 50
				<i>Cr.</i>
June 29, 1868.	By cash paid draft, J. N. Wise.....			\$ 506 71
1869.	" " " " " ".....			275 79
Oct. 18, "	" " " " Luse & Griggs.....			92 00
Dec. 16, 1868.	" " " " " ".....			500 00
1869.	" " exchange .....			2 50
Oct. 28, "	" " " " D. H. Wheeler.....			8 00
" "	" " " " J. N. Wise.....			79 00
" "	" " " " Morton & Co.....			2 50
" "	" " " " Western Star $\square$ .....			500 00
" "	" " " " Grand Secretary Furnas.....			25 00
Amount on hand.....				223 00
				\$2214 50

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF, *Grand Treasurer*.

The Grand Secretary presented the bill of Morton & Co., \$2.50, for printing certificates of indebtedness, which was ordered paid.

On motion of Bro. Allen, the written testimony in the Hickman case, now in possession of this Grand  $\square$ , was returned to Capitol  $\square$ .

Bro. Whitmore, from Committee on Pay Roll, submitted the following, which was referred to Committee on Accounts :

To the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :

Your committee would respectfully report the following named officers and members of the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska entitled to the sums set opposite their names respectively, and recommend the payment of the same.

C. F. WHITMORE, }  
J. N. WISE, } Committee.

PAY ROLL OF THE OFFICERS OF THE M. W. THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA FOR THE TWELFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA, OCTOBER 26, A. L. 5869, A. D. 1869.

NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.	Miles.	Mileage.	Per Diem.	Total.	NAME OF □.	No. of □.	RESIDENCE.	REMARKS.
Harry P. Deuel, Deputy Grand Master.....	50	\$ 5 00	\$ 6 00	\$11 00	Covert .....	11	Omaha .....	
Wm. Adair, Senior Grand Warden.....					Omadi .....	5	Dakota City.....	Paid as representative.....
H. O. Hanna, Junior Grand Warden.....	60	6 00	6 00	12 00	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	
Geo. B. Graff, Grand Treasurer.....					Omadi .....	5	Omaha.....	Paid as Deputy Grand Master.....
J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary.....					Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	Paid as representative.....
Geo. C. Betts, Grand Chaplain.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Plattsmouth.....	6	Omaha .....	
O. B. Hewitt, Grand Orator.....			6 00	6 00	Nemaha Valley..	4	Brownville .....	Paid as representative.....
Wm. E. Hill, Grand Lecturer.....			6 00	6 00	Western Star....	2	Nebraska City....	
J. W. Chadduck, Grand Marshal.....			6 00	6 00	Nebraska City....	12	Nebraska City....	
J. Q. Goss, Senior Grand Deacon.....			6 00	11 00	Nebraska .....	1	Bellevue .....	Paid as representative.....
M. Dunham, Junior Grand Deacon.....	50	5 00	6 00		Capitol .....	3	Omaha .....	
MEMBERS.								
R. C. Jordan, Past Grand Master.....					Capitol .....	3	Omaha .....	Paid as representative.....
D. H. Wheeler, Past Grand Master.....	30	3 00	6 00	9 00	Plattsmouths....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
R. W. Furnas, Past Grand Master.....					Nemaha Valley..	4	Brownville .....	Paid as representative.....
Henry Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master.....			6 00	6 00	Western Star....	2	Nebraska City....	
Geo. B. Graff, Past Deputy Grand Master.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Omadi .....	5	Omaha .....	
E. H. Clark, Past Deputy Grand Master.....					Solomon .....	10	Fort Calhoun.....	Paid as representative.....
John Q. Goss, Worshipful Master.....	40	4 00	6 00	10 00	Nebraska.....	1	Bellevue .....	
W. T. Small, proxy for Senior Warden.....	40	4 00	6 00	10 00	Nebraska.....	1	Bellevue .....	
John Reed, Worshipful Master.....			6 00	6 00	Western Star....	2	Nebraska City....	
N. S. Harding, Senior Warden.....			6 00	6 00	Western Star....	2	Nebraska City....	
C. W. Seymore, proxy for Junior Warden.....			6 00	6 00	Western Star....	2	Nebraska City....	
R. C. Jordan, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Capitol .....	3	Omaha .....	
E. A. Allen, proxy for Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Capitol .....	3	Omaha .....	
A. Atkinson, Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Capitol .....	3	Omaha .....	
O. B. Hewitt, Worshipful Master.....	25	2 50	6 00	8 50	Nemaha Valley..	4	Brownville .....	
R. W. Furnas, proxy for Senior Warden.....	25	2 50	6 00	8 50	Nemaha Valley..	4	Brownville .....	
A. P. Coggsell, proxy for Junior Warden.....	25	2 50	6 00	8 50	Nemaha Valley..	4	Brownville .....	
Wm. Adair, Worshipful Master.....	145	14 50	3 00	17 50	Omadi .....	5	Dakota City.....	
John Shannon, Worshipful Master.....	30	3 00	6 00	9 00	Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
J. N. Wise, proxy for Junior Warden.....	30	3 00	6 00	9 00	Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
John R. Reed, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Decatur .....	7	Decatur .....	
Wm. Anthwait, proxy for Junior Warden.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Decatur .....	7	Decatur .....	
J. F. Gardner, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	60	6 00	6 00	12 00	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	

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E. H. Clark, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	65	6 50	4 50	11 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....
L. Miller, proxy for Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....
Samuel Burns, proxy for Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....
C. T. Whitmore, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Covert.....	11	Omaha.....
C. F. Catlin, proxy for Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Covert.....	11	Omaha.....
C. S. Demary, proxy for Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Covert.....	11	Omaha.....
R. H. Dickey, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	.....	.....	6 00	6 00	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....
R. M. Hill, Senior Warden.....	.....	.....	6 00	6 00	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....
J. Dan. Lauer, proxy for Junior Warden.....	.....	.....	6 00	6 00	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....
D. R. Holt, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Orient.....	13	Rulo.....
D. C. Cole, Worshipful Master.....	17	1 70	6 00	7 70	Peru.....	14	Peru.....
Jacob Ettinger, proxy for Junior Warden.....	17	1 70	6 00	7 70	Peru.....	14	Peru.....
W. M. Bagley, proxy for Senior Warden.....	17	1 70	6 00	7 70	Peru.....	14	Peru.....
S. W. Hayes, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	90	9 00	6 00	15 00	Fremont.....	15	Fremont.....
W. R. Cain, Worshipful Master.....	40	4 00	6 00	10 00	Eureka.....	16	Arago.....
A. W. Richards, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Ashland.....	18	Ashland.....
G. S. Wortman, Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Ashland.....	18	Ashland.....
Israel Batterson, Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	6 00	11 00	Ashland.....	18	Ashland.....
H. T. Davis, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Lincoln.....	19	Lincoln.....
M. Rich, Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Lincoln.....	19	Lincoln.....
Jas. A. Walker, proxy for Worshipful Master.....	20	2 00	6 00	8 00	Rising Star.....	20	Rock Bluff.....
Daniel Ross, proxy for Junior Warden.....	20	2 00	6 00	8 50	Rising Star.....	20	Rock Bluff.....
Nathan Carter, Worshipful Master.....	75	7 50	6 00	13 00	Cumming City.....	21	Cumming City.....
J. H. Hungate, Senior Warden.....	75	7 50	4 50	12 00	Cumming City.....	21	Cumming City.....
E. G. O. Groat, proxy for Junior Warden.....	75	7 50	4 50	12 00	Cumming City.....	21	Cumming City.....
G. H. Hale, Grand Tyler.....	.....	.....	6 00	6 00	.....	.....	.....
			508	10			

Oct. 1869.]

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

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Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following amendment to the By-Laws of the Grand  $\square$ , which was duly seconded, and goes over, under the rules :

Amend Sec. 19, so it shall read as follows :

"Every subordinate  $\square$  shall pay annually to the Grand  $\square$ , at the stated communication thereof, the following Grand  $\square$  dues, viz: For each initiation, the sum of two dollars (\$2); and for each member, the sum of one dollar (\$1). But no Grand  $\square$  dues shall be required for any member for whom an initiation fee is paid during the same year."

The M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  was then called to refreshment until 1½ o'clock P. M.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

THURSDAY, October 28, 1869.

The M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  was called to labor at 1½ o'clock P. M., M.: W.: Grand Master in the East. Officers as before.

Bro. John Reed, from Committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :*

Your Committee on Accounts to whom was referred the financial report of Grand Secretary Wise, find the same correct, and recommend that orders be drawn in his favor for \$533.00, amount due him as salary as Grand Secretary, and for \$79, amount overpaid by him in accounts as rendered.

JOHN REED, *For Committee.*

Bro. Catlin offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved,* That the additions and amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand  $\square$ , that have been referred by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to the special committee on Uniformity of Work, be transferred to the standing committee of five, appointed for that purpose, to report at the next regular session of this Grand  $\square$ .

Bro. John Reed, from the Committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Orphans' School Fund, have examined the same and find it correct. They find that there is yet in the hands of a former Grand Treasurer, the sum of \$55, which has never come into the hands of the Trustees, and recommend

that an order be drawn for the amount in favor of the Orphans' School Fund.

JOHN REED, *For Committee.*

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be, and is hereby instructed to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of \$925.00, amount due Western Star □, borrowed money.

Bro. John Reed, from Committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your Committee on Accounts to whom was referred the pay roll, find the same correct, and recommend that payment be made thereby.

JOHN REED, *For Committee.*

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be, and is hereby instructed to require the several subordinate □ in this jurisdiction to make due returns to him up to the first day of January, 1870, and remit the amount of dues due from each subordinate □ for the year, from January 1st 1869, to December 31st, 1869. And further, that said subordinate □ be required to make returns and remittances, from the 1st of January 1870, to the 31st day of May, 1870, to the next Grand □, in June, 1870.

Bro. Graff, from Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M.: W.: the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your committee to whom was referred the application of Macoy □, U. D., for a charter, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find them correct, and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the By-Laws of said □ be and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

*Resolved*, That a charter be granted Bros. J. N. Wise, H. E. Palmer, William D. Gage, Herman Newman, Saml. M. Chapman, J. D. Tutt, William Wintersteen, Edwin Davis, J. Wesley Barnes, E. F. Mills, V. V. Leonard, and C. E. Forgy, constituting them a □ of A.: F.: and A.: M.:, under the name and style of Macoy □, No. 22, to be located in Plattsmouth, in Cass County, Nebraska, and that the representatives thereof present, be entitled to seats in this Grand □.

GEO. B. GRAFF,  
S. W. HAYES,  
W. E. HILL,  
A. P. COGGSWELL, } *Committee.*

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25), be and is hereby appropriated to defray the incidental expenses of the Grand Secretary's office.

Bro. Hayes, from the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations to whom was referred certain amendments to the By-Laws of Covert □, No. 11, would respectfully report that they have examined the same and find them in accordance with masonic law and usage, and recommend that the same be approved by this Grand □.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. B. GRAFF,	} <i>Committee.</i>
W. E. HILL,	
S. W. HAYES,	
A. P. COGGSWELL,	

Bro. Catlin offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table :

*Resolved*, That the ruling and interpretation of Section 8, of resolution and amendments, as held by this Grand □, and the same is hereby declared to be, that any Master that is a member in good and regular standing of any subordinate □ within this jurisdiction, shall have the right to object to the admission of an applicant for membership, or for the several degrees conferred in any Master Mason's □.

Bro. John Reed, from the Committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

Your Committee on Accounts to whom was referred the account of the Grand Treasurer, have examined the same and find it correct.

JOHN REED, *For Committee.*

On application, leave of absence was granted Bros. Coggs-well, Cain and Gardner, for the remainder of the session.

Bro. Hanna offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That it is the sense and utterance of this Grand □ that the vices of intemperance and gambling are unmasonic, in the highest sense, and derogatory of the best interests of the fraternity ; hence, it is hereby made the *imperative* duty of the Masters and Wardens of the subordinate



□, to prefer charges against any brother who persistently indulges in either of said vices, and try him in the regular form for such offense.

Bro. Adair offered the following amendatory resolution :

*Resolved*, That resolution No. 8, standing resolutions of this Grand □, and amendments passed at the session of 1868, be amended as follows : Insert in the second line, after the word "membership," the words, "in his own □."

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following as a substitute, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand □ that none but members of subordinate □ in this jurisdiction shall be permitted to vote on the admission of members, or petitions, or for advancement. When objections are made by members in good standing of other □, to admission or advancement, masonic courtesy demands a consideration and examination by the Worshipful Master of the □ in which the applicant is seeking admission.

Bro. Allen offered the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand □, which was duly seconded, and is referred to subordinate □□ for their action :

Amend Art. 12, Constitution of this Grand □, by inserting after the word "□" at the end of the third line, the words, "at a stated meeting thereof, which petition shall have first been presented at one regular meeting, and lay over until the next, before action is taken. *Provided*, also, that no petitioner for a new □, who may be a member of the □ from which the recommendation is asked, shall have a right to vote thereon."

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to have printed, five hundred copies of the proceedings of this session of the Grand □, and send three copies to each subordinate □ in this jurisdiction ; one copy to each present and past Grand officer of this Grand □ ; two to each Grand □ with which this Grand □ is in correspondence ; one copy to each of the Grand representatives of this Grand □ near other Grand □, and one to each of the Grand representatives of other Grand □ near this Grand □.

Leave of absence was granted Bro. Hayes.

The M. : W. : Grand □ was then called to refreshment until 7½ o'clock this evening.

## EVENING SESSION.

OCTOBER 29, 1869.

The M.: W.: Grand ☐ was called to labor at 7½ o'clock, M.: W.: Grand Master in the East. Officers as before.

Past Grand Master Wheeler, from Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

*To the M.: W.: the Grand ☐ of Nebraska:*

The Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred that portion of the M.: W.: Grand Master's address in relation to the question propounded by Plattsmouth ☐, No. 6, as to the status of members of ☐ under dispensation, and his decision in relation thereto, have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that the Grand Master's decision is correct, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the decision of the Grand Master in the case above referred to, be and the same is hereby approved.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. FURNAS,	} Committee.
D. H. WHEELER,	
W. E. HILL,	

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this Grand ☐ are due, and are hereby tendered to the Council Bluffs & St. Joseph Railroad for their generous liberality in passing free the representatives home from this session of the Grand ☐, over their road.

*Resolved,* That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby requested to transmit a certified copy of the foregoing resolution to A. L. Hopkins, Superintendent, at St. Joseph, Mo., under the seal of this Grand ☐; and that he furnish a copy of this resolution to the papers in this city, for publication.

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this Grand ☐ are hereby tendered to the brethren of Western Star ☐, No. 2, and Nebraska City ☐, No. 12, for the courtesy and hospitality extended to the members of this Grand ☐ during this session; and the thanks of this Grand ☐ are particularly extended to Western Star ☐, No. 2, for the use of their hall, furniture and jewels, during this session.

Bro. Allen offered the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand ☐, which was duly seconded, and is hereby referred to subordinate ☐ for their action:

Repeal Art. 11, and substitute the following:

"During the recess of the Grand  $\square$ , the M.: W.: Grand Master alone shall have power to grant dispensations for new  $\square$ , and under his private seal."

On motion of Bro. Dunham, the Grand Secretary was ordered to draw an order in favor of Bro. Granville Hail, in the sum of \$6, for per diem as Grand Tyler of this Grand  $\square$ .

Past Grand Master Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand  $\square$ , that notwithstanding Article XI. of the Constitution, the Deputy Grand Master is not authorized to grant dispensations while the Grand Master is within the jurisdiction, except by the request of the Grand Master or under his direction.

Grand Treasurer Graff presented the following official bond which was approved by the Grand  $\square$ .

HALL OF THE GRAND  $\square$  OF NEBRASKA, }  
NEBRASKA CITY, October 29, 1869. }

Know all men by these presents: That we, George B. Graff as principal, and R. W. Furnas and John Reed as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of Two Thousand Dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and assigns, each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, George B. Graff has been elected Treasurer of the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska; now if the said George B. Graff shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as Treasurer, as required by said Grand  $\square$ , and shall pay over all moneys in his possession as Treasurer, to his successor in office, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Signed and sealed at Nebraska City, Neb., Oct. 29, 1869.

GEO. B. GRAFF,  
R. W. FURNAS,  
JOHN REED.

Robert W. Furnas, Daniel H. Wheeler and George B. Graff, Trustees of the Orphans' School Fund, each presented their official bond, as follows, which were approved by the Grand  $\square$ :

HALL OF THE GRAND  $\square$  OF NEBRASKA, A. F. AND A. M., }  
NEBRASKA CITY, Nebraska, Oct. 29th, 1869. }

Know all men by these presents: That we, Robert W. Furnas as principal, and William Adair and Henry Brown as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand  $\square$  of Nebraska of Ancient Free and Accepted Ma-

sons, in the penal sum of Three Thousand Dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, and each of them, firmly by these presents.

Now the condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas Robert W. Furnas has been appointed Trustee of the Orphans' Educational Fund of the Grand □ of Nebraska; now if the said Robert W. Furnas shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as required by the rules and regulations of this Grand □, and shall truly account for and pay over all moneys in his possession as such Trustee, to his successor in office, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect as well in law as in equity.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of October, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

R. W. FURNAS,  
WM. ADAIR,  
HENRY BROWN.

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HALL OF THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA, A. F. AND A. M., }  
NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Oct. 29th, 1869. }

Know all men by these presents: That we, Daniel H. Wheeler as principal, and W. E. Hill and Henry Brown as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand □ of Nebraska of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of Three Thousand Dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, and each of them, firmly by these presents.

Now the condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas Daniel H. Wheeler has been appointed Trustee of the Orphans' Educational Fund of the Grand □ of Nebraska; now if the said Daniel H. Wheeler shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as required by the rules and regulations of this Grand □, and shall truly account for and pay over all moneys in his possession as such Trustee, to his successor in office, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect, as well in law as in equity.

Signed and sealed this 29th day of Oct., A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

DANIEL H. WHEELER,  
W. E. HILL,  
HENRY BROWN.

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HALL OF GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA, }  
NEBRASKA CITY, Oct. 29, 1869. }

Know all men by these presents: That we, Geo. B. Graff as principal, and M. Dunham, C. F. Whitmore, Wm. Adair and L. Miller, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand □ of Nebraska of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of Three Thousand Dollars,

lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and assigns, each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas Geo. B. Graff has been appointed Trustee of the Orphans' School Fund of the Grand □ of Nebraska; now if the said Geo. B. Graff shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as such Trustee, as required by said Grand □, and shall pay over all moneys in his possession as Trustee, to his successor in office, then this obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Signed at Nebraska City, Neb., Oct. 29, 1869.

GEO. B. GRAFF,  
M. DUNHAM,  
C. F. WHITMORE,  
WM. ADAIR,  
L. MILLER.

Bro. Dunham offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, The masonic fraternity resident in Omaha desire to erect a masonic temple for the accommodation of the Grand □ and subordinate □, Chapter and Commandery of Omaha; be it therefore

*Resolved*, That the M.: W.: Grand Master be and is hereby authorized to appoint seven members of the order who shall act as the first Board of Trustees to aid in the accomplishment of the above object, *provided*, that the Grand □ shall have the use thereof when it shall desire, free of charge.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of this session of the Grand □ was dispensed with.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence not being prepared to make a complete report at the present time, the Grand Secretary was instructed to receive it from the hands of the committee and have the same printed with the proceedings.

There being no further business, the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska was closed in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, peace and harmony prevailing.

HARRY P. DEUEL, *Grand Master*.

ROBT. W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary*.



# RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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## NEBRASKA □, NO. 1, BELLEVUE, SARPY COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Tuesday on or preceding ☉.

### OFFICERS.

John Q. Goss, W. M.	Horace Rogers, Treas.	Wm. Hogeboom, S. D.
N. R. Wilcox, S. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, Sec.	Geo. A. Oliver, J. D.
E. L. Martin, J. W.		J. W. Maxwell, Tyler.

### MASTER MASONS.

Ayer, Osborn	Davis, Wm. D.	Miller, J. H.
Ardery, Wm. B.	Driskell, L. A.	Martin, Wm. F.
Bachelder, S. B.	Fish, Charles	Martin, Jas. M.
Clarke, Henry T.	Huff, John A.	Nicholson, Green B.
Case, L. H.	Johnson, George	Ringo, G. W.
Chase, John N.	Leach, David	Stevenson, G.
Clifton, Charles	Miller, Hosea	Thomas, Aaron
Campbell, James E.	McLean, W. C.	Whitted, J. M.
Crawford, G. N.		Slothower, Jacob

### FELLOW CRAFT.

Warner, Joel

### ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Armstrong, David	Burt, W. H.	Overton, R. B.
Arnett, J. M.	Fisher, Orisen	Roberts, Joseph
Clifton, George	Huff, Ed. T.	Saling, Rudesly
	Jennings, Geo	

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## WESTERN STAR □, NO. 2, NEBRASKA CITY, OTOE COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Friday on or preceding ☉.

### OFFICERS.

Henry Brown, W. M.	J. J. Hochstetler, Treas.	John Reed, S. D.
N. B. Larsh, S. W.	H. F. White, Sec.	G. R. McCallum, J. D.
N. S. Harding, J. W.		W. E. Hill, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Alexander, G. S.	Harding, A. J.	Pile, D. S.
Bennet, J. B.	Heffley, Peter	Pound, D. A.
Baker, H. B.	Hicklin, W. M.	Pinney, N. R.
Boydston, W. L.	Hopps, R. A.	Pinney, M. E.
Beardsley, Andrew	Imhoff, J. J.	Rolfe, D. P.
Bennet, Elisha	Irish, O. H.	Reed, E. S.
Bailey, D. P.	Jones, W. W. W.	Ruckert, Bruno
Barnum, E. W.	Kinney, John F.	Roberts, John
Brown, E. A.	Korf, C. H.	Royalty, J. R.
Cornell, H. N.	Lorton, Robert	Sibley, S. P.
Croxton, J. H.	Loomas, Israel	Sroat, Geo. W.
Chadsey, Frank	Lamaster, J. E.	Siegle, Henry
Davenport, L. C.	Langley, W. G.	Seymour, C. W.
Doolittle, John	Morse, P. Y.	Sheldon, Edward,
Davenport, B. M.	Maxon, J. H.	Stevenson, G. L.
Duncan, Sylvanus	McAuley, Robert	Spurlock, Stephen
Elwell, P. H.	Moore, J. W.	Smith, A. M.
Fort, J. L.	McCall, W. A.	Smith, W. W.
Farris, S. J.	Nuckolls, Steph. F.	Thompson, T. E.
Falkner, Robert	Newsom, B. J.	Tuxbury, Albert
Gibbs, I. L.	Neus, Frederick	Thacker, W. S.
Goodlett, J. A.	Owens, W. W.	Thorn, Jas.
Gillett, G. G.	Openheimer, Moses	Thorpe, Ed. F.
Gillett, L. P.	Overton, Nelson	Whitinger, Daniel
Giltner, H. M.	Place, John S.	Waters, W. H. H.
Goff, D. J.	Presson, S. S.	Wardell, W. W.
Gray, J. W.	Place, Chas. A.	Wetzel, John
Hail, G. H.	Patch, J. V. D.	Way, J. H.
Horton, H. B.	Pendleton, S. F.	Whittredge, M. H.
Henderson, Samuel,		White, G. F.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Bonney, S. S.	Saunders, Joseph	Slaughter, B. D.
Morrison, S. H.		Thorp, A. G.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Arrison, A. A.	Hibner, I. D.	Morton, J. S.
Bachelor, J. W.	Johnson, August	Patterson, J. O.
Fulton, Wm.		Weir, W. D.

## DIMITTED.

Davis, H. T.	White, H. F.
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## CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMHA CITY, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings : First Monday evening in each month.

## OFFICERS.

J. N. Rippey, W. M.	Byron Reed, Treas.	Jno. Cameron, J. D.
Martin Dunham, S. W.	John M. Howard, Sec.	Thos. Swobe, S. S.
J. Budd, J. W.	J. C. Cowin, S. D.	C. T. Whitmore, Tyler.



## MASTER MASONS.

Armstrong, George	Goodrich, St. John	Murphy, Frank
Ames, Gustavus	Gwinn, Jno. W.	McCoy, Alonzo
Andresen, L. M.	Goodman, C. F.	McClellan, William
Anderson, L. M.	Hamilton, Chas. W.	Manning, J. P.
Allen, E. A.	Harmon, A. J.	Mercer, S. D.
Atkinson, A.	Hitchcock, P. W.	Mathis, E. R.
Boyd, James E.	Hellman, M.	McDonald, D. H.
Bremer, Charles	Huckins, Alonzo	Overton, Americus
Brown, Walter	Hughus, W. H. S.	Porter, Jno. R.
Brown, Will	Hickman, Henry	Parcel, Charles
Barlow, James	Hascall, Isaac S.	Pyper, J. M.
Bowen, William R.	Holdridge, David	Pollock, Thos.
Boyer, T. M.	Hinman, W. M.	Paulsen, J. F.
Beall, R. T.	Hopkins, A. P.	Phillips, Sidney
Bowen, John S.	Henry, John	Page, C. W.
Barker, Joseph	Hitchcock, Artemus	Rogers, Samuel E.
Boyd, William	Ish, James K.	Roeder, Augustus
Bassett, George C.	Isaacs, N. P.	Ruth, Wm.
Bell, James	Jordon, R. C.	Ruth, L. J.
Bennett, Geo. B.	Jones, A. D.	Robertson, Wm. H.
Cahn, Aaron	Jensen, H. P.	Rogers, E. H.
Clark, E. H.	Jones, Benj. D.	Richards, David F.
Curren, S. M.	Jackson, Wm. H.	Roberts, Geo. M.
Court, Fred'k	Kuhns, H. W.	Rousseau, J. A.
Chandler, E. B.	Kernott, W. J.	Redfield, J. B.
Crary, B. D.	King, Jacob	Rosseau, George
Chase, C. S.	Kendall, Daniel	Sears, E. G.
Cleburne, William	Kimball, Robt. P.	Smith, E. V.
Douthett, F.	Logan, John	Simpson, J. N.
Dudley, E. G.	Liddell, John	Simpson, J. F.
Donovan, Ed.	Lowe, Enos	Schuyler, S. H.
Donegan, Augustus	Lithgon, Hecter	Taylor, James F.
Davis, Edwin	Leary, C. A.	Thayer, J. M.
Forbes, Geo. W.	Longley, F. H.	Visscher, H. H.
Frazier, S. H.	Miller, Lorin	Van Camp, Ira
Finke, L. A.	Megeath, Jas. G.	Windheim, Phillip
Frank, I. M.	Munger, Henry	Wilder, Wm. F.
Freeman, F. K.	Maguire, Chas.	Wilcox, Jno. A.
Griffin, Joel T.	Megeath, T. A.	Wilcox, J. C.
Grebe, Henry,	McCracken, James	Welch, Rees
Godell, F. C.		Yost, Casper E.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Meyer, J. C.	Miller, A. J.	Miller, Wm.
	Maxwell, Jas. R.	

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Alford, Jno. H.	Ellingwood, Thos. B.	Parsons, J. B.
Blakesley, Albert	Ingalls, O. P.	Smith, Charles F.
Cremer, H. W.	Kimball, Geo. H.	Webber, Henry
Dufrene, A. R.	McClellan, A. W.	Zimmerman, Henry
	Naile, Geo. W.	

## DLIMITED.

Child, E. P.	Oaks, Sumner	Reed, E. H.
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## NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Saturdays of each month.

## OFFICERS.

T. W. Bedford, W. M.	Jonas Hacker, Treas.	R. T. Rainey, S. D.
J. W. Bennett, S. W.	J. H. Morrison, Sec.	J. K. Blair, J. D.
J. S. Church, J. W.		Fred'k Parker, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Alderman, Hiram	Furnas, R. W.	McKabe, J. B.
Atkinson, Henry M.	Furgason, Franklin	McFall, A. J.
Bratton, Geo. W.	Henderson, George M.	Noel, Jesse
Berry, A. J.	Hugho, S. S.	Nelson, R. W.
Bliss, J. W.	Hacker, James M.	Plasters, Henry,
Bunzell, Wm.	Hewett, O. B.	Robinson, Alex.
Bremer, W. M.	Hall, Charlton	Rogers, J. H.
Black, Isaac	Hannaford, R. S.	Roy, Joseph
Colhapp John L.	Irwin, Francis	Seigle, David
Crow, George	Jones, W. J.	Skeen, J. G.
Conner, Aaron	Lyanna, E.	Stanton, J. L.
Conner, Moses M.	Lett, H. C.	Stokes, James M.
Cogswell, A. P.	Marohn, Jacob	Skeen, T. B.
Culwell, Henry	Morgan, A. W.	Tear, Robert
Cox, W. H.	McIninch, B. F.	Tuttle, S. P.
Davis, Geo. R.	Marlatt, J.	Tynen, Andrew
Duser, J. P.	Masterson, Robert,	Williams, M. F.
Deary, J. W.	Marsh, A. D.	Wells, J. B.
Drury, Jonas	Moore John S.	Wheeler, C. W.
Deninna, F. M.	McIninch, W. H	Walter, Lewis
	Mathews, H. L.	

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Thomas, E. W.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Emmons, James	Fraker, Peter	Strain, John
	Tourtlott, David	

## OMADI □, NO. 5, DAKOTA CITY, DAKOTA COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Saturday on or before ☉.

## OFFICERS.

Wm. Adair, W. M.	Jno. McQuilkin, Treas.	Curtis Bliven, S. D.
B. F. Chambers, S. W.	Jas. Stott, Sec.	Leander Garner, J. D.
Wm. Bouton, J. W.		Saml. Whitehorn, Tyler,

## MASTER MASONS.

Aughey, Saml.	Eckhart, C. F.	Ogden, J. G.
Armor, Wm.	Eckhart, J. T.	Patrick, J. N. H.
Armor, Dennis	Fisher, J. O.	Pinkerton, M.
Baird, Harlin	Graff, G. B.	Phillips, J. M.

Baker, K. H.	Graff, J. H.	Porter, N. S.
Bates, Barnabas	Gamble, Saml.	Rathbun, Asa
Baltzley, O. W.	Griffey, T. L.	Rode, J. G.
Bayha, J. T.	Griggs, H. O.	Shull, Saml.
Buckwalter, H. H.	Lamson, Amos	Shull, H. F.
Cheney, Wm.	McBeath, W. C.	Stout, W. H. B.
Clark, Jas.	Murphy, E. B.	Taylor, Wm.
Campbell, Jno.	Nixon, Wm.	Woods, Geo. T.
Coombs, E. G.	Oesterling, J.	Wilkinson, G. W.

## FELLOW CRAFT.

Willis, B.

## ENTERED APPRENTICE.

James, W. H.

## PLATTSMOUTH □, NO. 6, PLATTSMOUTH, CASS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Mondays in each month.

## OFFICERS.

R. R. Livingston, W. M.	W. H. Anderson, Treas.	M. B. Murphy, S. S.
Jacob Vallery, Jr., S. W.	Geo. C. Betts, Sec.	James Minshall, J. S.
John W. Shannon, J. W.	H. D. Hathaway, S. D.	C. E. Forgy, Tyler.
	A. B. Smith, J. D.	

## MASTER MASONS.

Allison, John	Gage, Wm. D.	Schlater, Joseph
Barker, Elijah	Harper, Joseph	Sage, Elias
Black, George H.	Kirkpatrick, Ed. A.	Sage, Eugene H.
Brush, Marcus	Klepsner, Andrew J.	Shea, Henry
Bassett, Wm. H.	McCluskey, M. H.	Tutt, Andrew
Billings, S. S.	Marshall, John W.	Thomas, Wm. L.
Boeck, George	Minshall, James D.	Upton, J. S.
Bear, John C.	Marquette, Turner M.	Williams, Enos
Cummins, John C.	Mullin, Davis W.	Warbritton, Wm. B.
Colvin, George W.	Morgan, R. D.	Wolcott, Charles H.
Chapman, John W.	Miller, Caleb A.	Wise, J. Newton
Courtright, Abram	Orr, Hugh N.	Wheeler, Daniel H.
Courtright, George W.	Porter, Wm. B.	White, Francis S.
Duke, Elbert T.	Roberts, Rev. Jas. J.	White, Walter J.
Doom, Robert G.	Simpson, John D.	Wintersteen, Wm.
Fellows, Milo		Wiles, Isaac

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Amison, Henry	Marble, Andrew	Wetenkamp, Wm.
Brush, Marcus	Maxwell, Samuel	Wiggenhorn, E. A.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Countryman, R. E.	Hoover, J. T. A.	Shamp, E. T.
Davis, Wm. P.	Moe, Myron	Taylor, Andrew B.
Howland, Henry	Mayfield, Ambrose C.	Vallery, John R.
Holbrook, L. L.	Spurlock, Burwell	Wickwire, Louis
	Shafer, Wm. Henry	

## DIMITTED.

Alley, Shannon S.  
Barnes, John W.

Carter, O. M.

Helman, John A.  
Roberts, John J.

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 DECATUR □, NO. 7, DECATUR, BURT COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Thursday on or preceding each ☉.

## OFFICERS.

Frank Welch, W. M.  
James Ashley, S. W.  
Jno. A. McMurphy, J. W.

Robert Ashley, Treas.  
John B. Ira, Sec.

E. D. Canfield, S. D.  
Frank A. Root, J. D.  
M. Evans, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Abbot, A. C.  
Buck, C. W.  
Conkling, J. R.  
Cline, H. P.  
Chase, H.  
Hobbs, Lorenzo

Harrington, W.  
Ira, G. W.  
Leaming, S. T.  
Lee, M. C.  
Mansfield, M. S.  
Nash, E. R.  
Onthwaite, Wm.

Porter, E. J.  
Porter, C. F.  
Ramseyer, J. S.  
Rockwell, A.  
Reed, J. R.  
Wignall, Robt.

## FELLOW CRAFT.

Smith, J. W.

## ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Trublood, B. A.

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 FALLS CITY □, NO. 9, FALLS CITY, RICHARDSON COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Saturday on or after ☉.

## OFFICERS.

H. O. Hanna, W. M.  
W. H. Mann, S. W.  
E. C. Cooley, J. W.

D. R. Holt, Treas.  
L. Van Deusen, Sec.

Nelson Snyder, S. D.  
W. M. Maddox, J. D.  
Joseph Brown, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Abbott, George  
Adams, S. C.  
Barrows, David  
Brooke, John R.  
Cain, J. R.  
Cameron, James  
Dowty, John R.  
Doughty, C. A.  
Dorrington, John W.  
Dunning, O. W.  
Faulkner, George  
Gardner, J. J.  
Gird, Geo.

Hanna, John  
Hall, John A.  
Hart, J. J.  
Hoyle, J. T.  
Holt, G. C.  
Holt, John  
Johnson, R. C.  
King, John P.  
Lesley, Solomon  
Marvin, J. J.  
Miller, Anderson  
Norris, C. H.  
Nance, James M.  
Nelson, W. A.

Page, B. F.  
Ramsey, J. D.  
Reavis, Isham  
Reavis, Daniel  
Rhine, Martin  
Scott, C. B.  
Stout, W. T.  
Shepherd, Jas. T.  
Tate, James C.  
Tyndale, Harrold  
Wilson, E. M.  
Wilson, J. M.  
Whitmier, John

## FELLOW CRAFT.

Dickenson, Albert

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Albright, W. A.	Dorrington, David	Payton, John
Bowker, J. D.	Gist, S. P.	Sloan, Austin H.
Brown, Thomas H.	Lehman, John	Stumbo, F. M.
Bullard, Henry	Mormemb, John	Wickham, N. R.

## SOLOMON □, NO. 10, FORT CALHOUN, WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Tuesdays in each month.

## OFFICERS.

Elam Clark, W. M.	T. B. Bailey, Treas.	Newton Clark, S. D.
Price Arnold, S. W.	J. B. Kuony, Sec.	Allen Craig, J. D.
A. W. Beale, J. W.		Wash. Ronyun, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Andrew, J. P.	Foley, James	Riddler, James
Arnold, Rice	Grinnell, Ed.	Rowley, A.
Avery, Sylvanus	Green, W. F.	Ratjen, N. H.
Beale, W. B.	Hewes John H.	Tew, John W.
Brooks, Thos. E.	Lusk, C.	Vaughn, W.
Clark, E. H.	Lewis, J. R.	Van Horn, James
Crounse, L.	Levy, W. P.	Wilson, M. V.
Davis, J. T.	Murphy Jesse	Wilson, G. W.
Dunn, W. H.	McPall, Oliver	Wilson, Thos. R.
Frazier, Thos.	Ong, Isaac	White, A. G.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Burdick, Charles	Stewart, James S.
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## ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Whorton, L. B.

## DIMITTED.

Cummings, W. H.

## COVERT □, NO. 11, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Second and fourth Wednesday from Oct. 1st to June 30th, and second Wednesday from June 30th to Oct. 1st, of each month.

## OFFICERS.

H. P. Deuel, W. M.	L. May, Treas.	A. Nelson, J. D.
C. F. Whitmore, S. W.	E. K. Valentine, Sec.	Wiley B. Dixson, S. S.
C. W. Lyman, J. W.	S. T. Josselyn, S. D.	C. S. Demary, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Allen, Perry W.	Gallett, N. G.	Patrick, A. S.
Angel, Henry C.	Garlach, William	Paul, Samuel
Angel, Wm. W.	Galbreath, R. M.	Peck, Geo. W.
Balcombe, St. A. D.	Gibson, James S.	Pinney, C. H.
Baker, J. S.	Groesbeck, M. H.	Pollack, Alex.
Barlow, Milton, T.	Hall, Harry C.	Ralph, Francis
Blackwell, George A.	Haskell, Ira T.	Rosewater, E.
Boyd, Joseph	Hayes, Noble R.	Ross, Julius
Brooks, J. F.	Hayes, Chas. S.	Sawyer, J. F.
Burt, C. W.	Hellman, Isaac	Seward, Horatio L.
Burns, Samuel	Homan, G. W. Jr.,	Sisson, Benj. T.
Burrell, Andrew F.	Kipp, R. H.	Shoaf, John
Catlin, Chas. F.	Kipp, Wm.	Shoen, Wm. B.
Chapman, John B.	Lacey, Jesse H.	Smith, George R.
Clarke, Wm. T.	Lamb, Jason L.	Smith, John A.
Cooper, James P.	Leslie, N. V.	Stevens, H. D.
Cooper, Daniel	McAllister, Ralph A.	Sutphen, D. C.
Cole, M. G.	Minskie, Adolphe	Tenant, A. W.
Corey, A. P.	Moore, John P.	Tiffany, Wm. A.
Cummings, M.	Munson, L. E.	Topham, David B.
Davis, Seward B.	Murphy, A. G.	Twaddell, A. J.
Eisele, John E.	Murphy, T. A.	Vaughn, Wm. H.
Engleman, C. G.	Oaks, Geo. D.	Wallace, Geo. G.
Findley, William	O'Neil, J.	Wagner, E. W.
Foster, N. P.		Wilbur, M. C.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Albertson, H. C.	Leighton, A. C.	Pederson, Geo. H.
Bonner, Geo. C.	McDonough, F. M.	Sandford, E. B.
Eddy, J. M.	Paris, H. B.	Simpson, A. E.
Hitchcock, D. W.		Simpson, Andrew J.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Coffman, J. F.	Hough, Jas. A.	Rockenfield, I. N.
Cogger, B. F.	Knapp, J. F.	Smith, James
Gunter, C. S.	Pickard, L. W.	Sterne, Moses
Hollins, Wm, G.		Wright, Geo. W.

## DIMITTED.

Culbertson, L.	Glober, James	Sherman, C. D.
	Watson, Grove	

## NEBKASKA CITY □, NO. 12, NEBRASKA CITY, OTOE COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First Tuesday night of each month.

## OFFICERS.

J. W. Chadduck, W. M.	Geo. E. Bragg, Treas.	E. D. Ralph, S. S.
E. J. Lenseney, S. W.	Jas. W. Eaton, Sec.	P. Bird Price, J. S.
R. M. Hill, J. W.	S. L. Gant, S. D.	P. Y. Morse, Tyler.
	F. S. Robertson, J. D.	

## MASTER MASONS.

Abney, Jackson	Fitchie, Samuel D.	Morrison, Wm. B.
Burks, James M.	Golden, Jno. W.	Phifer, Wm.
Brinker, George M.	Grundstine, Max	Patteson, C. P.
Brinker, George I.	Hynds, James K.	Ries, M.
Balentine, Wm. C.	Knott, Benj. W.	Roswell, N. C.
Boyer, George	Kesterson, James B.	Rhodes, A. S.
Catron, Jas. H.	Lauer, J. Dan.	Rothrick, W. S.
Crenshaw, T. C.	Lloyd, L. M.	Simpson, N. L.
Dickey, R. H.	Majors, Alexander	Simpson, R. D.
Davis, Hiram	McClaskey, Joseph	Sheppard, Sidney
Davis, Uriah	Morton, Wm. D.	Sabine, E. P.
Dillon, Wm. E.	Mills, D. R.	Tate, Samuel
Ewing, Wm. L.	Mothershead, Benj. S.	Warden, James G.
Enyart, Logan	McBryde, Wm. F.	Warden, Thos. F.
Foglesong, Geo. D.	Munroe, Horace	White, William S.

## FELLOW CRAFT.

Brammell, W. B.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Denney, John Y.	Heath, John	Lobb, J. A.
	Trimble, J. M.	

## DIMITTED.

Frogg, A. R.	Hudson, John T.	Moore, F. S.
	Saxton, D. B.	

## ORIENT ☐, NO. 13, RULO, RICHARDSON COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Monday evenings on or before ☉.

## OFFICERS.

Jacob Shaff, W. M.	B. Hani, Treas.	*G. D. Harris, S. D.
*W. R. Cain, S. W.	*J. R. Cain, Sec.	Z. J. Parsons, J. D.
Hugh Boyd, J. W.		Joshua Murray, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Blair, J. C.	Hollebaugh, J. V.	Vanvolkenburg, D.
Gagnon, Charles	Matthews, August	Vandal, Moses
Hergesheimer, C. A.	Sherer, E. C.	Harpster, John

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Cunningham, B. F.	McClintock, J. N.	Swartz, Jacob
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## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Betts, Rev. Thos.	Hosford, Jas.	Nubia, Samuel
Doust, Trefle	Kitch, Felix	Ogen, Isaac
Gravline, Francis	Morrison, John	Roberts, C. M.

## DIMITTED.

Cain, W. R.	Hall, E. F.	Hall, L. G.
Cain, J. R.		Harris, G. D.

\*Dimitted.

## PERU □, NO. 14, PERU, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Second and fourth Saturdays in each month.

## OFFICERS.

M. S. Peery, W. M.	T. S. Horn, Treas.	H. Edmiston, J. D.
D. C. Cole, J. W.	J. H. F. Scott, Sec.	D. C. Sanders, S. S.
A. H. Gillett, J. W.	John H. Miller, S. D.	E. H. Buck, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Bagley, William	Majors, S. P.	Richardson, A. J.
Burns, J. J.	Majors, T. J.	Root, O. P.
Burns, Isaac	McReynolds, D.	Richardson, J. W.
Ettlinger, J.	Mears, H. M.	Sayer, Robert
Edmiston, S.	Neal, J. F.	Swan, J. W.
Greggs, E. M.	Neal, J. E.	Swan, W. G.
Kent, W.	Reed, W. S.	Tate, G. W.
Lash, E.		Zaring, J.

## FELLOW CRAFT.

J. B. Epler.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Ashley, Geo.	Lyons, Stephen	Tate, Wm.
	Phippeny, C. E.	

## FREMONT □, NO. 15, FREMONT, DODGE COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Tuesdays of each month.

## OFFICERS.

S. W. Hayes, W. M.	J. C. Connel, Treas.	E. H. Rogers, S. S.
J. H. Crabbs, S. W.	B. G. Turner, Sec.	Gideon West, J. S.
J. A. Morris, J. W.	W. E. Lee, S. D.	O. F. Crocker, Tyler.
	Wm. G. Bowman, J. D.	

## MASTER MASONS.

Bowman, Wm. L.	Fish, Henry	Mathison, Jens
Bowman, J. L.	Forbes, C. E.	Rearden, Frank
Byron, W. Scott	Gray, E. F.	Rogers, E. H.
Cahn, Segismond	Green, J. A.	Sawdy, Wm. E.
Curtis, C. S.	Haney, D. M.	Stormes, M.
Costello, Wm.	Hancock, Frank	Smith, Eben
Dickenson, W. R.	Hormel, J. C.	Smith, L. B.
Dake, O. C.	Howard, A. J.	Selson, R. P.
Denslow, Jerry	Kittle, Robert	Springer, D. W.
Davis, I. M.	Lambertson, Joseph	Sampson, David L.
Dugan, S. S.	Lefferts, Fred.	Wilkinson, Thos.
Embree, J. A.	Larinsen, Wm.	Weston, John C.
	Marshall, Allen	

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Hancock, J. M.	Sharpless, Oscar	Wilson, Thos.
	Wilcox, W. S.	



## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Coy, D. M.  
Kneal, H. E.Kusess, August  
Stone, M. W.  
Torry, Thos. J.Uhling, Oswald  
Weston, Geo. B.

## DIMITTED.

Lorimer, Wm.

EUREKA  $\square$ , NO. 16, ARAGO, RICHARDSON COUNTY.Stated Meetings: Friday on or preceding each  $\odot$ .

## OFFICERS.

A. Williams, W. M.  
W. R. Cain, S. W.  
R. Peery, J. W.Wm. S. Hall, Treas.  
F. M. Williams, Sec.J. T. Kinzer, S. D.  
E. F. Hall, J. D.  
F. W. Burchardt, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Ashby, Thomas  
Dixon, N. J.

Hall, L. G.

Longdeau, M.  
Smith, P. T.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Daily, W. M.

Evins, Geo.

Zimmermann, S.

## DIMITTED.

Thompson, Ed. P.

TECUMSEH  $\square$ , NO. 17, TECUMSEH, JOHNSON COUNTY.

The destruction of the records by fire, renders the proper returns impossible at this time.

ALEXANDER BIVENS, Sec.

ASHLAND  $\square$ , NO. 18, ASHLAND, SAUNDERS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Fridays in each month.

## OFFICERS.

A. B. Fuller, W. M.  
C. S. Wortman, S. W.  
Israel Beetison, J. W.Denis Dean, Treas.  
J. H. Snell, Sec.J. J. Roberts, S. D.  
J. P. Palmerston, J. D.  
E. B. Woodbery, Tyler.

## MASTER MASON.

Hain, William

## FELLOW CRAFT.

James, William

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Bond, J. M.

Long, Joseph  
Putney, L. N.

Vollentine, T. W.

## LINCOLN □, NO. 19. LINCOLN, LANCASTER COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First Tuesday in each calendar month.

## OFFICERS.

H. T. Davis, W. M.

Max. Rich, S. W.

Thomas Roberts, J. W.

Cyrus Carter, Treas.

H. W. Merrille, Sec.

Chas. C. Cook, S. D.

G. W. French, J. D.

A. L. Palmer, S. S.

John D. Bain, J. S.

G. W. Akin, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Cadman, John

Dunham, W. W.

Field, W. R.

Gere, C. H.

Hooker, C. D.

Harris, Walter J.

Jennings, H. S.

Jones, Wm. C.

Linderman, S. B.

Montieth, Robert

Potter, L. H.

Tullis, Ezra

White, A. K.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Brock, Nelson C.

Pflug, Jacob

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Davidson, J. E.

Dutton, Samuel D.

Godfrey, H. M.

Hawks, R. S.

Robinson, Seth

## RISING STAR □, NO. 20, ROCK BLUFF, CASS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: First and third Wednesdays of each month.

## OFFICERS.

Wm. S. Latta, Wm.

David Ross, S. W.

Joseph A. Peery, J. W.

Wm. H. Smith, Treas.

James A. Walker, Sec.

John A. Latta, S. D.

H. M. Craig, J. D.

Robert H. Fitch, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Clopper, Henry

Granthem, Wm. P.

Hutchison, John

McAdow, John S.

Patterson, James M.

Taggart, Samuel

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Henderson, Murray      Rhoden, Wm.      Young, F. M.

## DIMITTED.

Swarts, A. J.

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## CUMMING CITY □, NO. 21, BLAIR, WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

## OFFICERS.

Nathan Carter, W. M.      J. H. Thompson, Treas.      M. Cameron, S. D.  
 J. H. Hungate, S. W.      W. H. Cummings, Sec.      A. T. Johns, J. D.  
 L. R. Fletcher, J. W.           Wm. E. Hill, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Gould, Norton N.      Kay, J. N.      Newkirk, Benjamin

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## MACOY □, NO. 22, PLATTSMOUTH, CASS COUNTY.

## OFFICERS.

J. N. Wise, W. M.      S. M. Chapman, Treas.      Andrew Tutt, S. D.  
 Wm. D. Gage, S. W.      Wm. Wintersteen, Sec.      C. R. Forgy, J. D.  
 J. D. Tutt, J. W.           J. Wesley Barnes, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Clark, John R.      Seybolt, George L.      Windham, R. Baxter

## FELLOW CRAFT.

Gilmore, Joseph C.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Huberty, Henry      Parmele, Calvin H.

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## PAWNEE □, NO. 23, PAWNEE CITY, PAWNEE COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: On Tuesday preceding each ☉.

## OFFICERS.

Chester F. Nye, W. M.      Geo. W. Collins, J. W.      Geo. M. Humphrey, S. D.  
 Aug. Rice, S. W.      J. S. Davenport, Treas.      J. W. Manning, J. D.  
                                  R. A. Kennedy, Sec.

## MASTER MASONS.

Edwards, Joseph L.      Lyde, Wm. M.      Tilnet, H. M.  
 Flannigan, John      Orr, John      Vickery, Geo. L.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Lipe, Joseph

Moore, Jacob W.  
Rigby, Simon

Stebbins, Levi A.

## ST. JOHNS □, NO. 24, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated Meetings: Every Saturday evening.

## OFFICERS.

H. B. Case, W. M.  
S. B. Davis, S. W.  
John Cameron, J. W.J. N. Rippey, Treas.  
J. B. Redfield, Sec.D. F. Powell, S. D.  
H. Wells Thaine, J. D.  
E. Davis, Tyler.

## MASTER MASONS.

Burke, John M.  
Caine, Wm.  
Harmon, L. A.  
Kelley, AlfredKauffman, A. J.  
Latey, H. L.  
Richelieu, EdwardRodan, Philip  
Smith, Thos. G.  
Stratman, E.  
Wyman, A. W.

## FELLOW CRAFTS.

Cameron, D. A.

Lightcap, Saml. B.

## ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Bultmann, Jules  
Cramer, Geo. H.Dutcher, Rodney  
Goodman, Henry A.  
Gunther, J. P.Wood, O. S.  
Yates, W. M.

## LAFAYETTE □, NO. 25, LAFAYETTE PRECINCT, NEMAHA CO.

Stated Meetings: Saturday on or preceding ☉.

## OFFICERS.

R. W. Sheldon, W. M.  
M. B. Rayman, S. W.  
J. W. Conger, J. W.J. P. Conger, Treas.  
M. V. Spencer, Sec.Jesse Merrell, S. D.  
W. E. Sevwright, J. D.  
Wm. Saums, Tyler.

## MASTER MASON.

Robb, G. Washington

## FELLOW CRAFTS

Morton, Wilburn

Robins, James

## LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE M. W. THE GRAND  OF NEBRASKA,  
OCTOBER, 1869.

No.	LODGE.	TOWN.	COUNTY.	MASTER.	SECRETARY.
1	Nebraska .....	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	J. Q. Goss.....	S. D. Bangs.....
2	Western Star.....	Nebraska City..	Otoe .....	Henry Brown.....	H. F. White.....
3	Capital.....	Omaha .....	Douglas.....	J. N. Rippey.....	J. M. Howard.....
4	Nemaha Valley .....	Brownville .....	Nemaha .....	T. W. Bedford.....	J. H. Morrison...
5	Omaha .....	Dakota.....	Dakota.....	Wm. Adair.....	James Stott.....
6	Plattsmouth .....	Plattsmouth .....	Cass .....	R. R. Livingston..	Geo. C. Betts.....
7	Decatur .....	Decatur .....	Burt .....	Frank Welch.....	John B. Ira.....
9	Falls City.....	Falls City.....	Richardson ..	H. O. Hanna.....	L. Van Deusen...
10	Solomon .....	Fort Calhoun..	Washington ..	Elam Clark.....	J. B. Kuony.....
11	Covert .....	Omaha .....	Douglas.....	H. P. Deuel.....	E. K. Valentine...
12	Nebraska City..	Nebraska City..	Otoe.....	J. W. Chaddock..	Jas. W. Eaton.....
13	Orient.....	Rulo.....	Richardson ..	Jacob Shaff.....	J. R. Cain.....
14	Peru .....	Peru .....	Nemaha .....	M. S. Peery.....	J. H. F. Scott.....
15	Fremont .....	Fremont.....	Dodge .....	Samuel W. Hayes	Ben. G. Turner...
16	Eureka .....	Arago .....	Richardson ..	A. Williams.....	F. M. Williams..
17	Tecumseh .....	Tecumseh .....	Johnson.....	S. L. F. Ward.....	Alex. Bivens.....
18	Ashland.....	Ashland.....	Saunders .....	A. B. Fuller.....	J. H. Snell.....
19	Lincoln .....	Lincoln .....	Lancaster.....	H. T. Davis.....	H. W. Morrill....
20	Rising Star.....	Rock Bluff.....	Cass .....	Wm. S. Latta.....	Jas. A. Walker...
21	Washington.....	Blair .....	Washington ..	Nathan Carter...	W. H. Cummings
22	Macoy .....	Plattsmouth ..	Cass .....	J. N. Wise.....	W. Wintersteen..
23	Pawnee .....	Pawnee City...	Pawnee.....	Chester F. Nye...	R. A. Kennedy...
24	St. John's.....	Omaha .....	Douglas.....	H. B. Case.....	J. B. Redfield....
25	Lafayette .....	Lafayette Prec.	Nemaha .....	R. W. Sheldon....	M. V. Spencer....

## STATEMENT OF THE WORK

OF THE SEVERAL  SUBORDINATE TO THE GRAND  OF NEBRASKA, SHOWING THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP IN THE STATE, OCTOBER, 1869.

No.	LODGE.	LOCATION.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Dimitted.	Died.	Master Masons.	Am't Grand dues.	Am't of Or- phans' Fund.
1	Nebraska.....	Bellevue.....	13	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	34	14 40	19 80
2	Western Star.....	Nebraska City.....	...	4	4	10	...	...	...	2	...	97	33 90	57 00
3	Capital.....	Omaha.....	8	5	7	7	...	...	...	3	1	134	50 70	77 40
4	Nemaha Valley.....	Brownville.....	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	69	25 20	41 40
5	Omaha.....	Dakota.....	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	47	16 80	28 20
6	Plattsmouth.....	Plattsmouth.....	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	56	16 80	33 60
7	Decatur.....	Decatur.....	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	27	12 30	16 20
8	*Columbus.....	Columbus.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Falls City.....	Falls City.....	4	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	48	20 10	28 20
10	Solomon.....	Fort Calhoun.....	3	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	38	14 40	19 80
11	Covert.....	Omaha.....	9	8	14	8	...	1	...	4	...	88	38 10	49 20
12	Nebraska City.....	Nebraska City.....	3	4	4	3	...	...	...	4	...	54	18 60	28 20
13	Orient.....	Rule.....	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	5	1	18	6 90	7 80
14	Peru.....	Peru.....	2	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	32	12 30	18 60
15	Fremont.....	Fremont.....	8	6	7	...	...	...	1	1	...	44	25 20	26 40
16	Eureka.....	Arago.....	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	14	8 40	7 80
17	†Tecumseh.....	Tecumseh.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Ashland.....	Ashland.....	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	11 70	5 40
19	Lincoln.....	Lincoln.....	11	6	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	23	15 00	20 00
20	Rock Bluffs.....	Rock Bluff.....	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	14	4 20	8 40
21	Washington.....	Blair.....	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	4 50	6 00
22	Macy.....	Plattsmouth.....	7	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	10 50	.....
23	Pawnee.....	Pawnee City.....	7	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10 50	.....
24	St. John's.....	Omaha.....	20	13	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	30 00	.....
25	Lafayette.....	Lafayette.....	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4 50	9 00
			105	78	73	50	1	1	3	27	3	893	\$405 00	\$508 04

\*Charter forfeited.

†Records and effects destroyed by fire.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS OF THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT TIME.

Oct 1869.]

YEAR.	GRAND MASTER.	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.	GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.	GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.	GRAND TREASURER.	GRAND SECRETARY.
1857...	Robert C. Jordan.....	Leavitt L. Bowen.....	David Lindley.....	*L. B. Kinney.....	William Anderson.....	George Armstrong..
1858...	Robert C. Jordan.....	Leavitt L. Bowen.....	David Lindley.....	M. G. Wilkinson.....	John H. Maxon .....	R. W. Furnas.....
1859...	Robert C. Jordan.....	Henry Brown.....	*L. B. Kinney.....	S. Redfield.....	John H. Maxon .....	R. W. Furnas.....
1860...	George Armstrong.....	*L. B. Kinney.....	S. Redfield.....	D. H. Wheeler.....	John H. Maxon .....	R. W. Furnas.....
1861...	George Armstrong.....	*L. B. Kinney.....	D. H. Wheeler.....	H. C. Blackman.....	S. H. Jones.....	R. W. Furnas.....
1862...	George Armstrong.....	L. P. Gillette.....	Henry Brown.....	G. W. Wilkinson.....	J. W. Marshall.....	R. C. Jordan.....
1863...	D. H. Wheeler.....	O. H. Irish.....	George B. Graff.....	C. W. Hamilton.....	S. E. Smith.....	S. D. Bangs.....
1864...	D. H. Wheeler.....	R. W. Furnas.....	George B. Graff.....	J. A. Goodlett.....	Wm. E. Harvey.....	S. D. Bangs.....
1865...	R. W. Furnas.....	George B. Graff.....	J. A. Goodlett.....	G. W. Bratton.....	Wm. E. Harvey.....	J. N. Wise.....
1866...	R. W. Furnas.....	George B. Graff.....	Wm. E. Hill.....	Frank Welch.....	T. W. Bedford.....	J. N. Wise.....
1867...	O. H. Irish.....	E. H. Clark.....	Wm. E. Hill.....	Frank Welch.....	T. W. Bedford.....	J. N. Wise.....
1868...	O. H. Irish.....	H. P. Deuel.....	Wm. Adair.....	H. O. Hanna.....	George B. Graff.....	J. N. Wise.....
1869...	H. P. Deuel.....	Wm. E. Hill.....	A. P. Cogswell.....	H. O. Hanna.....	George B. Graff.....	R. W. Furnas.....

\*Expelled.

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

## SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

No.	LODGE.	LOCATION.	NAMES.	DATES.
11	Covert .....	Omaha.....	William E. Harvey...	August 15, 1868.....

## EXPELLED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

1	Nebraska.....	Bellevue.....	L. B. Kinney .....	June 2, 1868.....
10	Solomon.....	Ft. Calhoun. ....	*C. E. Tennent .....	October 6 .....
15	Fremont.....	Fremont.....	Jas. T. Sampson .....	October 16 .....

\* Non-affiliated.

## RE-INSTATED.

10	Solomon.....	Ft. Calhoun.....	James Van Horn.....	June 16 .....
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## AT REST.

No.	LODGE.	LOCATION.	NAMES.	DATES.
3	Capital.....	Omaha .....	J. M. Howard.....	October 24, 1868.....
10	Solomon.....	Ft. Calhoun .....	W. H. Dunn .....	August 7 .....
13	Orient .....	Rulo .....	Dr. A. Godfrey, F. C. ....	.....



## LIST OF GRAND LODGES

IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GRAND  OF NEBRASKA, ALSO THE NAMES  
AND ADDRESS OF GRAND SECRETARIES.

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	ADDRESS.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.....
Arkansas.....	William D. Blocher.....	Little Rock.....
California.....	Alex. G. Abell.....	San Francisco.....
Canada.....	Thomas B. Harris.....	Hamilton.....
Connecticut.....	Joseph K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.....
Colorado.....	Ed. C. Parmelee.....	Central City.....
Cuba.....		Havana.....
Delaware.....	John P. Allmond.....	Wilmington.....
Dist. Columbia.....	Noble D. Larner.....	Washington.....
England.....	John Hervey.....	London.....
Florida.....	Dewitt C. Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.....
France.....	F. Thevenot.....	Paris.....
Georgia.....	I. E. Blackshear.....	Macon.....
Germany.....	F. W. L. Nikisch.....	Berlin.....
Illinois.....	Orlin H. Miner.....	Springfield.....
Indiana.....	J. M. Bramwell.....	Indianapolis.....
Idaho.....	P. E. Edmondson.....	Idaho City.....
Italy.....	F. Le Boul.....	Florence.....
Kansas.....	E. T. Carr.....	Leavenworth.....
Kentucky.....	J. M. S. McCorkle.....	Louisville.....
Louisiana.....	J. C. Batchelor.....	New Orleans.....
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.....
Maryland.....	Jacob H. Medairy.....	Baltimore.....
Massachusetts.....	Solon Thornton.....	Boston.....
Michigan.....	James Fenton.....	Detroit.....
Minnesota.....	W. S. Combs.....	St. Paul.....
Mississippi.....	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.....
Missouri.....	G. F. Gouly.....	St. Louis.....
Montana.....	Sol. Star.....	Helena.....
Nebraska.....	R. W. Furnas.....	Brownville.....
Nevada.....	W. A. M. Van Bokkelen.....	Virginia City.....
New Hampshire.....	Horace Chase.....	Hopkinton.....
New Jersey.....	Joseph H. Hough.....	Trenton.....
New York.....	James M. Austin.....	New York.....
New Brunswick.....	Wm F. Bunting.....	St. Johns.....
North Carolina.....	D. W. Bain.....	Raleigh.....
Nova Scotia.....	Charles J. Macdonald.....	Halifax.....
Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.....
Oregon.....	J. E. Hurford.....	Portland.....
Pennsylvania.....	John Thompson.....	Philadelphia.....
Rhode Island.....	Charles D. Greene.....	Providence.....
Scotland.....	Wm. A. Lawrie.....	Edinburg.....
South Carolina.....	Robert S. Bruns.....	Charleston.....
Tennessee.....	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.....
Texas.....	Geo. H. Bringhurst.....	Houston.....
Three Globe.....	Ludwig L. Hilgenhoff.....	Berlin.....
Vermont.....	Henry Clark.....	Poultney.....
Virginia.....	John Dove.....	Richmond.....
West Virginia.....	Thomas H. Logan.....	Wheeling.....
Washington Territory.....	Thomas M. Reed.....	Olympia.....
Wisconsin.....	Wm. T. Palmer.....	Milwaukee.....

## CALENDAR OF FULL MOONS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE DAYS ON WHICH THE FULL MOON OCCURS IN EACH YEAR, BEGINNING WITH THE YEAR 1869, AND ENDING WITH THE YEAR 1883.

YEAR.	JANUARY.	FEBRUARY.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEMBER.	DECEMBER.
1869	We. 27	Fr. 26	Sa. 27	S 25	Tu. 25	We. 23	Fr. 23	Sa. 21	Mo. 20	We. 20	Fr. 19	Sa. 18
1870	Mo. 17	Tu. 15	Th. 17	Fr. 15	Sa. 14	Mo. 13	Tu. 12	Th. 11	Fr. 9	S 9	Mo. 7	Th. 7
1871	Fr. 6	S 5	Mo. 6	We. 5	Th. 4	Sa. 3	S Mo. 2 31	We. 30	Th. 28	Sa. 28	S 26	Tu. 26
1872	Th. 24	Sa. 23	S 24	Tu. 23	We. 22	Fr. 21	Sa. 20	S 18	Tu. 16	We. 16	Tu. 15	S 14
1873	Mo. 13	Tu. 11	Fr. 14	Sa. 12	Mo. 12	Tu. 10	We. 9	Fr. 8	Sa. 6	S 5	Tu. 4	We. 3
1874	Fr. 2	S 1	Tu. 3	We. 1	Fr. S 1 31	Mo. 29	Tu. 28	Th. 27	Fr. 25	S 25	Mo. 23	Tu. 22
1875	Th. 21	Sa. 20	S 21	Tu. 20	Th. 20	Fr. 18	S 18	Mo. 16	We. 15	Th. 14	Sa. 13	S 12
1876	Tu. 10	We. 8	Th. 9	Sa. 8	Mo. 8	Tu. 6	Th. 6	Fr. 4	Sa. 3	Tu. 3	We. 1	Fr. Sa. 1 30
1877	Mo. 29	Tu. 27	Th. 29	Fr. 27	S 27	Mo. 25	We. 25	Th. 23	Sa. 22	Mo. 22	Tu. 20	Th. 20
1878	Fr. 18	S 17	Mo. 18	We. 17	Th. 16	Fr. 14	S 14	Mo. 12	Th. 12	Fr. 11	Sa. 9	Mo. 9
1879	We. 8	Th. 6	Sa. 8	S 6	Mo. 5	We. 4	Th. 3	Sa. S 2 31	Tu. 30	We. 29	Fr. 28	Sa. 28
1880	Tu. 26	We. 24	Th. 25	Sa. 24	Mo. 24	Tu. 22	We. 21	Fr. 20	Sa. 18	S 17	Tu. 16	Th. 16
1881	Sa. 15	Mo. 14	Tu. 15	Th. 14	Fr. 13	S 12	Mo. 11	Tu. 9	Th. 8	Fr. 7	S 6	Mo. 5
1882	We. 4	Fr. 3	S 5	Mo. 3	We. 3	Th. 1	Sa. S 1 30	Mo. 28	Tu. 26	Th. 26	Sa. 25	S 24
1883	Tu. 23	Th. 22	Fr. 23	S 22	Tu. 22	We. 20	Fr. 20	Sa. 18	S 16	Tu. 16	We. 14	Fr. 14

London City

1850

Year	Population	Area
1801	1,013,000	1,013
1811	1,220,000	1,220
1821	1,420,000	1,420
1831	1,620,000	1,620
1841	1,820,000	1,820
1851	2,020,000	2,020
1861	2,220,000	2,220
1871	2,420,000	2,420
1881	2,620,000	2,620
1891	2,820,000	2,820
1901	3,020,000	3,020
1911	3,220,000	3,220
1921	3,420,000	3,420
1931	3,620,000	3,620
1941	3,820,000	3,820
1951	4,020,000	4,020
1961	4,220,000	4,220
1971	4,420,000	4,420
1981	4,620,000	4,620
1991	4,820,000	4,820
2001	5,020,000	5,020

# APPENDIX.



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON  
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

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*To the M. W. the Grand □ of Nebraska :*

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report that they have not had before them the proceedings of all other Grand □ jurisdictions, and also that they have not had time to devote more attention to those which have come into their possession. The committee has had before it the following proceedings, viz :

Colorado, 1868 ;	Nevada, 1868 ;
Iowa, 1868-9 ;	New Brunswick, 1868 ;
Kentucky, 1868 ;	Oregon, 1868-9 ;
Kansas, 1868 ;	Pennsylvania, 1868 ;
Maryland, 1868 ;	Rhode Island ;
Mississippi, 1869 ;	South Carolina ;
Missouri, 1868 ;	Tennessee, 1868 ;
Maine, 1868-9 ;	Texas, 1868 ;
Minnesota, 1869 ;	Vermont, 1867 ;
Michigan, 1869 ;	Virginia, 1868 ;
Massachusetts, 1869 ;	Washington, 1868 ;
New Hampshire, 1867 ;	West Virginia, 1868 ;

Wisconsin, 1869.

From which they have made up and submit the following report :

COLORADO—1868.

M. W. Henry M. Teller, Grand Master ; R. W. Ed. C. Parmlee, Grand Secretary.

This M. W. Grand □ met in annual communication at Central City, October 6th, with representatives from eight □.

An oration was delivered by the R. W. and Rev. B. T. Vincent, Grand Orator, from which we copy the following closing remarks, which we think are very wholesome :

Let our faithfulness, therefore, be apparent in this, that we make our order attractive to good men, and while the bad may seek to secure its livery in which to serve their vile purposes, let us repel them by manly rejections.

Finally, let us consecrate a proper modicum of our powers to a dignified use and perpetuity of our beloved instrumentality, as modestly, silently, yet unchangeably, it goes on to accomplish its own work. Then, when the great day that shall reveal all secrets comes, it will show a pure record.

The *Plumb* will prove the rectitude of its purpose; the *Level* will indicate that not by clothes or purse or caste, but *character*, all are one; and as the great hand applies a *Square* more true than ours, may the accomplishment in us all prepare for a safe submission to that perfect test in which the Master Builder shall say, "Square work and true work, just such as is needed for the Great Temple on High."

Then follows the Grand Master's address. It is short, and entirely local in interest.

The Grand Lecturer reports the craft as prosperous, with brotherly love prevailing.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Bro. Frank Hall, for the committee. He criticises the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand  $\square$ , Nebraska receiving a very friendly notice. The report covers sixty-five pages, and exhibits a very considerable amount of labor and ability. It is courteous and fraternal in its tone, and a credit to its author.

M. W. Henry M. Teller was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Ed. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary.

#### IOWA—1868.

M. W. Reuben Mickel, Grand Master; R. W. Theodore S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this M. W. Grand  $\square$  was held at Des Moines, Tuesday, June 2d. One hundred and fifteen chartered  $\square$ , and sixteen under dispensation, were represented.

The annual address of the Grand Master is lengthy, and contains many things of interest to the craft. Twenty-five decisions of the Grand Master are reported. Dispensations were granted to twenty-one  $\square$  during the year.

From the returns we find that during the year in this jurisdiction there were 1,483 initiations, 490 admissions, 25 re-instated, 627 dimitted, 77 deaths, 95 suspensions, 19 expulsions. Total number of present members, 9,863.

Bro. A. B. Kendig delivered a very eloquent address.

M. W. Bro. Reuben Mickel, was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Theodore S. Parvin re-elected Grand Secretary.

No report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

#### IOWA—1869.

M. W. Reuben Mickel, Grand Master; R. W. Theodore S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

Annual communication for 1869 of this M. W. Grand  $\square$  was held at Davenport, Tuesday, June 1st. The proceedings for this year are embodied in a report of 248 pages.

The Grand Master's address and the proceedings show the craft to be highly prosperous in our sister State. Twenty-three dispensations for  $\square$  were granted during the year, and the Grand Master says several applications were refused. We agree with him that in many instances discord among members of  $\square$  already organized, is the secret spring, or ground

work, for asking dispensation for a new one, and in most of such cases applications should be refused.

The Grand Master calls attention to many matters, most of which are local in their character, and bearing directly upon the craft in his jurisdiction. The first case of a clandestine  $\square$  in that jurisdiction, was brought to his notice and prompt measures taken to *quench* it.

Bro. Mickel is *au fait* at decisions; nineteen are reported and many of minor importance made and not reported. He very wisely suggests that if officers and brethren would study masonic law a little more, there would be no necessity for so many decisions by the Grand Master.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence occupies forty pages, reviewing the reports of thirty-seven Grand  $\square$ , our own not among the number.

A beautiful oration was delivered by Bro. John A. Kasson, which we have read with pleasure. Among the many good things said is the following:

What were and are the evils Masonry seeks to alleviate or avoid? Envyings, jealousies, evil-speaking, lying, slandering, malice, dissensions, hatred, strife, wrongs, hostility, war, and the distresses of which they are the cause; as well as the suffering from misfortune. It allows no personal enmities in any ranks of its order. If a brother stumbles or falls, it seeks his restoration more than his punishment, unless his offending is habitual and incorrigible. It recognizes among brethren no distinction of race, nationality, language, complexion, education, external form of religion, titles, or degrees of wealth. Within its  $\square$  princes must labor with peasants, and the plow-man may command the king. If a brother in sickness or other distress in a strange land, or wrecked in ocean-breakers, or captive of a barbarous tribe, or confronting the uplifted sword of a national enemy on the battle-field, make known his appeal to the fraternity of another, relief must be afforded, rescue attempted, deliverance given, the sword be stayed. If the distress comes from persecution, hunger, thirst, or oppression, and in circumstances of less extreme danger, succor must meet the appeal. These things *must* be done. Brethren, they **MUST BE DONE**. Woe to the mouth that curses in answer to a prayer for benefaction; woe to the ear that is wilfully stopped against the voice of suffering; woe to the tongue that slanders—to the hand that strikes—a suffering brother; and woe to the lips that betray him!

M.: W.: John Scott was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Theodore S. Parvin re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### KENTUCKY—1868.

M.: W.: Elisha S. Fitch, Grand Master; R.: W.: John M. S. McCorkle, Grand Secretary.

This Grand  $\square$  met in the city of Louisville, October 19th, with representatives from three hundred and two chartered  $\square$ , and from fifteen under dispensation, present.

The Grand Master's address is lengthy, from which we clip the following in relation to what some call "emergency Masons:":

Applications almost innumerable have been made to me for dispensations to confer degrees out of time—to establish a sort of "*Lightning Express*"

over the old masonic track. Believing that the Grand  $\square$ , by its decision some years ago, very wisely abridged the authority of the Grand Master in this particular, I have uniformly and persistently refused all these applications. With but one or two exceptions, all such applications have been made in behalf of candidates who were *military officers* of the government whose precarious stay in the community was urged as a sufficient reason for the relaxation of the old established rule. Allow me to say, that if I had not felt restricted in my action by the resolution of the Grand  $\square$  upon this subject, I should, nevertheless, have hesitated *in such cases* to have expedited the manufacture of Masons under the high pressure system. The very uncertainty of the sojourn of such candidates, at any one point, would, it occurs to me, render their acquisition as members of the  $\square$  of but little consequence, and that the unusual speed required in the case must be justified, if at all, entirely upon the ground of personal convenience and advantage. May it not, therefore, be better that such candidates, if elected, should incur the inconvenience of taking dimits, and receiving the degrees in different  $\square$ s, than for the institution to incur the possible risk of establishing a *privileged caste*, which would be so much at variance with her own fundamental teachings? We think the old professor was right when he told the impatient scion of an imperial stock that there "was no *Royal road to science*;" and in view of objections quite as insurmountable, we would respectfully insist that there should be no *military road to masonic preferment*. We have, in some instances, been honored with quite a voluminous correspondence on this subject—the writers insisting that the Grand  $\square$  had no power over the exercise of this "prerogative" of the Grand Master, and that her resolution on the subject might therefore be disregarded with impunity—at the same time urging, with importunate earnestness, the special claims of the applicant. Under these circumstances, we fear that our decisions may have appeared somewhat arbitrary and imperious, but, with our convictions on the subject, we could not have decided otherwise, without doing violence to our sense of duty. Regarding the Grand Master simply as the creature of the Grand  $\square$ , deriving all his authority from that body, and subject to its laws, we did not believe that we were invested with any "prerogative" which might annul her edicts or contravene her avowed policy. The truth is, we have but little patience or sympathy with that *elastic, intangible, nondescript something, ycleped "prerogative,"* and instinctively suspect the soundness of any masonic legislation that is based *exclusively* upon it. This "*sacred and indefeasible prerogative*" of the Grand Master is, in our judgment, "next of kin" to the "divine right of kings" and the "infallibility of the pope." Belonging to the same category, and liable to the same abuse, we have about as much faith in the one as the other, especially since the "prerogative" has usurped a power unknown even to the Grand  $\square$  itself, of *making Freemasons at sight!*

It is our firm conviction, that in all cases candidates had better be *retarded* than accelerated in their masonic advancement; and that in no instance should proficiency in the preceding degrees be dispensed with. It is no idle fear, brethren, that we are making *members of the order* for more rapidly than we are making *Masons!*

He also alludes very forcibly, and, "to our way of thinking," very appropriately, to the too common practice of Masons making themselves known by the amount of jewelry, masonically shaped, which bedecks their persons. If Masons would spend a little more time and money in studying the tenets of our institution, such "trappings" would not be required.

A page *in memoriam* is inscribed to the memory of Bro. Rev. Wm. H. Forsyth, Past Grand Chaplain of that Grand  $\square$ .



The able report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of R. W. Grand Secretary J. M. S. McCorkle. It reviews the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand ☐ of our own country, that of Nebraska for 1867 being among the number, and of three foreign Grand ☐.

Speaking of the address of Grand Master Furnas in relation to his conviction that "it is wrong to permit ☐ to declare applications for initiation and degrees cases of emergency," &c., the committee say: "And yet, in the very face of the conviction that it is all wrong, added to his long experience, the Grand Master has not had courage enough to refuse the applications, but recommends the Grand ☐ 'to prohibit such violation by positive enactment.'" It doubts the right of a Grand ☐ to "put its hands into the pockets of non-affiliated Masons for any purpose, without their consent;" referring to the action of this Grand ☐ in 1867, levying a tax of two dollars on non-affiliates in this jurisdiction for educational purposes.

M. W. Elisha S. Fitch was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. John M. S. McCorkle re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### KANSAS.

M. W. M. S. Adams, Grand Master; R. W. E. T. Carr, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this M. W. Grand body was held at the city of Lawrence, October 20th. Forty-eight ☐ were represented.

The Grand Master congratulates the craft upon the peace and prosperity that prevails throughout the jurisdiction. We are pleased to observe that our brethren of Kansas have adopted the custodian system, and which the Grand Master reports as operating very beneficially, in bringing about the long-sought-for *uniformity of work*. We sincerely hope that but a short time will elapse before our own Grand ☐ will introduce the same, or a similar system, as we believe it to be the best and surest method to bring about a uniformity of work.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is short, only covering twenty-seven pages. The committee acknowledge the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-five Grand ☐, including Nebraska. But their review only embraces twenty-seven—not including our own. Their apology for their brief report is a want of time, and the failure, at a late hour, of one of the members to perform his share of the labors. We regret that we have not a fuller report from our neighbor jurisdiction.

M. W. John H. Brown was elected Grand Master, and R. W. E. T. Carr re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### MARYLAND—1868.

M. W. John Coates, Grand Master; R. W. Jacob H. Medairy, Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand ☐ met at Baltimore, November 16, and the proceedings show that but little business was transacted; in fact the Grand Stewards' ☐ of that jurisdiction leaves but little business to be transacted by the Grand ☐.

The address of the Grand Master is very short. The Grand  $\square$  refused to adopt the following :

*Resolved*, That no application for initiation, from any one who has been rejected, shall be received by any  $\square$  without first obtaining consent of the  $\square$  which rejected him.

Our Grand  $\square$  adopted a By-Law of similar import some years since.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of our worthy Bro. Wm. J. Wroth, and is quite lengthy. It reviews the proceedings of forty-one Grand  $\square$ , that of Nebraska receiving favorable mention.

M.: W.: John Coates was re-elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Jacob H. Medairy re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### MISSISSIPPI—1869.

M.: W.: Thomas S. Gathright, Grand Master; R.: W.: D. P. Porter, Grand Secretary.

The fifty-first annual communication of this Grand  $\square$  was held in the city of Jackson, January 18. One hundred and eighty-two subordinate  $\square$  were represented.

The Grand Master opens his address in a desponding tone, but becomes more cheerful and buoyant as he progresses. We give the opening paragraph :

*Brethren of the Grand  $\square$  :*

It is a distinguished mark of the Divine favor that permits us to come together at this time. Into the twelve months that have passed away since we last met in Grand Annual Communication, there has crowded as much of bitter disappointment and sorrow, suspense and anxiety, as has filled the measure of any other period of equal extent in the annals of this Grand  $\square$ . Our people have been chastened; and but for the promise made specially to them, the lengthened shadows of coming events, now falling around them, would inspire anything but hope. Our brethren constitute the great body of the intelligent citizenship in the commonwealth, and when we say our people are chastised, we may listen for the cry of Masons in distress. The war draped all our door-posts with mourning, and planted weeds upon our hearth-stones. The losses in property, resulting from the war, impoverished our land. With an energy isolated and peculiar to our race, our brethren, oppressed by past results, but hopeful for the future, began to struggle for a competency. During the last year, many of them reached the crisis of their pecuniary obligations, to find the proceeds of a year's labor inadequate to give relief.

Progressing, he speaks of our institution thus :

It is an evidence of the solid foundation and proper organization of our masonic institution, to see it flourish in seasons like the present, and the conviction is forced upon us, that conformity to the traditions and symbolic teachings of Masonry will secure to us, as individuals, as to itself as an order, a genuine, unostentatious and lasting success. Let us, brethren, draw near to our altars, and find a sanctuary while dangers impend. Let us declare our continued trust in God, and announce to all the world our gratitude to Him for so clear a manifestation of His supreme administration as our journey through the past year and our present convention

afford. Then let us apply ourselves to a review of the workings of our order since last we met, and to the consideration of such needful legislation as the interests of the craft may seem to demand.

The Grand Master decides, and we think rightly, that it was error to rule that an applicant for initiation is rejected by the unfavorable report of a committee of investigation. The ballot must in all cases be spread. The address throughout breathes the true spirit of Masonry.

Among the resolutions adopted we find the following:

*Resolved*, That any subordinate □ which shall not properly punish the offenses of profanity, intemperance and gambling—crimes against the fundamental principles of Masonry—shall forfeit its charter.

During the year there were, in subordinate □, 714 initiations; 420 admissions; 488 reinstatements; 765 dimissions; 18 suspensions; 18 expulsions; and 150 deaths. Estimated strength of the order in that jurisdiction, 12,308.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-one jurisdictions, ours not included. The report is well written, and is from the pen of the chairman, Charles T. Murphy.

M. W. Thomas S. Gathright was re-elected Grand Master, and J. L. Power elected Grand Secretary.

#### MISSOURI—1868.

M. W. Wm. E. Dunscomb, Grand Master; R. W. Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary.

This M. W. Grand □ met at St. Louis, October 12. The Grand Master, in his address, says that "masonic good will and zeal prevail, and the number of both □ and members is rapidly increasing in that jurisdiction." He, among other things, decides that "it is improper and inexpedient for a □ to try a member for a crime while the same is undergoing investigation in the courts of the country," and in one instance "issued an order to the Master of a □ to postpone the trial of a member until after the termination of the case in court." We can see no good reasons for such a course. The decision of the case in the court can have no bearing on the action of the □, nor can we conceive that the action of a □ could have any effect upon a jury of conscientious men, sworn to try the cause there in accordance with the law and evidence.

The following resolution was adopted by the Grand □:

*Resolved*, That an expelled Mason, restored to masonic life and standing by proper authority, may petition for membership any □ under whose jurisdiction he may reside, without regard to where he held membership before expulsion.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven jurisdictions, Nebraska for 1867 included. It speaks of us as follows:

This Grand □ has also entered into the experiment of building a Masonic Orphan College. We admire the zeal of so young a Grand □; but by the

time they are bankrupt and then failed to educate anybody, or accomplish anything but to fatten a certain few, they will learn wisdom by the same experience as our own Grand  $\square$ .

RECAPITULATION.—Initiations, 1,825; admissions, 1,218; dimitted, 912; deaths, 172; suspensions, 140; expulsions, 34; reinstated, 54; rejections, 854. Our brethren of that jurisdiction are certainly not afraid to cast a colored ball.

M.: W.: John D. Vincil was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Geo. Frank Gouley re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### MAINE—1868.

M.: W.: Timothy J. Murray, Grand Master; R.: W.: Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

This M.: W.: Grand body convened at Portland, May 5. There were representatives from one hundred and thirty-one  $\square$ , together with a large list of Grand officers and Past Grand officers.

The address of the Grand Master is quite lengthy. He says more attention is being paid to the study of the laws and regulations of the Grand  $\square$ , and more attention is being paid to the real character of applicants; which we are rejoiced to hear from at least one jurisdiction. He says the  $\square$  are evincing more pride in relation to the character of their places of meeting; old halls are being cleaned and refitted, and new ones erected. He alludes, at considerable length, to the anti-masonic war cries in the west, and admonishes the brethren to be more circumspect in the practice of masonic virtues, to be cautious in their daily walk, and to labor for the honor and integrity of our institution in the future, as has not always been done in the past. This advice is timely and good.

The Treasurer's report shows \$15,600 invested for the purposes of charity.

On the second day of the session, the Grand  $\square$  laid the corner-stone of the new custom house, Past Grand Master Josiah H. Drummond, officiating. The same day, the corner-stone of the post office building was laid, M.: W.: Grand Master Murray, officiating.

The report on Foreign Correspondence covers seventy-two pages, and is an able and critical review of the transactions of forty-one Grand bodies, not including our own.

As there has been a great deal said in masonic reviews about negro  $\square$  and negro Masons, and as the craft, to a great extent, are in the dark on this dark subject, we reproduce Bro. Drummond's remarks in full, in order that the brethren may all read and know just what the status and condition of negro Masonry is in the United States:

NEGRO  $\square$  AND NEGRO MASONS.—We had supposed that the craft were quite familiar with the fact that there is a national organization of colored men in the nature of a national Grand  $\square$ , with Grand  $\square$  and subordinates in many of the states.

But we find that there is a lack of information upon this subject. For this reason, and because these organizations are rapidly increasing, and because their relations, actual and possible, to Masonry have been warmly discussed, we propose to give the results of our investigations.

The military  $\square$  in the English army, in the war of the revolution, between 1775 and 1782, initiated many men of color into the mysteries of Masonry. There were quite a number in Boston, but the  $\square$  there declined to recognize them or admit others.

In 1782, Prince Hall and others went to England, and were there made Masons, and in 1784 a warrant was granted to them for a  $\square$  in Boston, with the further authority to establish new  $\square$ . This  $\square$  was enrolled as No. 459 in the Grand Registry of England.

But the granting of this charter was an invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand  $\square$  of Massachusetts. It was, therefore, recalled; but a copy of it was kept by the  $\square$ , and, though it was no longer any authority for them, they continued to work as a  $\square$ , many of those made in the military  $\square$  having joined them.

After a time this  $\square$  in Boston resolved itself into a Grand  $\square$ , and issued dispensations and charters. Three  $\square$  having been thus chartered in Pennsylvania, a Grand  $\square$  was organized for that state, and afterwards a general Grand  $\square$ .

But they were not exempt from internal dissensions, and another Grand  $\square$  was established in Philadelphia in 1832. Other  $\square$  adhered to the Prince Hall (Boston) Grand  $\square$ .

In 1847, delegates from these three bodies met in convention and formed a national Grand  $\square$ , which has since met regularly triennially (the last time in 1865).

Their proceedings for 1856, 1862 and 1865 have been published. In 1865 they had Grand  $\square$  in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and California. Since then Grand  $\square$  have also been organized in Virginia, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky and perhaps other states. In each of these states there are not less than three  $\square$ , and in some about twenty. The whole number of members returned in 1865 was 2,356. Several of the Grand  $\square$  have also published their proceedings. The membership of Ohio Grand  $\square$  increased from about 250 in 1865 to 556 in 1867.

But they also have their troubles. A Grand  $\square$  was formed in Louisiana called Eureka Grand  $\square$ . The latter is not recognized by the others; what the questions at issue are we do not know. We also learn that the clandestine Supreme Council in Louisiana issues charters to  $\square$ , which receive colored men as initiates.

Quite a lively contest is going on between the Grand  $\square$  and the National Grand  $\square$  or the National Grand Master. The latter claims authority, &c., which the former claim. This conflict of authority has caused a sharp discussion, in which acts of the National Grand Master are strongly denounced. There is no doubt that they are forming  $\square$  in nearly all of the states, and that the membership is rapidly increasing.

Having given this history, so that the craft, having proper information, would know how to act, is all that would have been necessary to say, had not the ill-advised action of North Carolina, which we have formerly noticed, aroused a feverish anxiety in Southern Grand  $\square$ , which has led to the passage of foolish resolutions, and the saying of silly things by brethren whose ordinary good sense seemed, for the time, to have left them. In this category we must also place those of our Iowa brethren who have proposed to consider the propriety of action looking to the recognition of these  $\square$ .

It is the boast of the common law, that whatever new cases, or new questions, arise, they may be settled by an application of its principles.

So it is with masonic law: the landmarks, and principles as old as the landmarks, are sufficient for the decision of all these questions. These  $\square$  are irregular, and all their Masons clandestine.

Every Master of a  $\square$  has been taught "that *no countenance* be given to any irregular  $\square$ , or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, *being contrary to the ancient charges of the order.*"

This settles the *status* of all these bodies and their members; they can receive "*no countenance*" whatever, not because of their race or color, but because they are, at best, but clandestine Masons.

Another question, however, has been agitated. Will regular  $\square$  receive negroes? And if so, must other  $\square$  recognize them?

Let us go back to the landmarks again. A candidate must be *free born*, and elected by the unanimous vote of the  $\square$ ; and no visitor can be admitted to a  $\square$  against the objection of a single one of its members; and no new  $\square$  can be formed without permission of the Grand  $\square$ .

These would seem to be all that is required for this generation, at any rate; the law is simple, but comprehensive.

But some are not content with this; forgetting "that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry" in one respect more than in another, they have fallen into a similar error—in the opposite extreme—to the one committed, or contemplated rather, by the Grand Master of Iowa last year.

Prominent among them, we are surprised to find Bro. Gouley, of Missouri, who is usually so careful to support the landmarks, and so strongly opposed to modern innovations. The Grand  $\square$  of Delaware passed a resolution that, if it means anything, is an innovation in the body of Masonry. As such, the veteran Bro. Fuller, of Tennessee, felt compelled to enter his protest against it; but Bro. Gouley approves it, without due consideration, we trust.

Whoever sits in the Grand Orient of France must ordinarily sit with a negro brother; and it is useless to undertake to say, that the law of Masonry excludes a man physically, mentally and morally qualified, because of his race or color.  $\square$  may not choose to receive a man of another race; that is their prerogative; but to allow political questions to cause innovations in Masonry will quickly destroy it. And we frankly but fraternally suggest to our Southern brethren, that their course in endeavoring to change the old rule opens the door to changes in the other direction. Let us, therefore, *adhere to the landmarks*, and sail our good old ship with even keel, avoiding Scylla on the one hand and Charybdis on the other.

It is not necessary for us to give our views on the subject of recognition of negro Masons, as we put ourselves on the record last year.

M. W. Timothy J. Murray was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

#### MAINE—1868—SUPPLEMENTAL

Bro. Drummond and Bro. Mackey have entered into a lengthy and very interesting discussion upon the subject of the right of a brother to object to the conferring of degrees upon a candidate, by giving notice to the Worshipful Master that he is opposed to the candidates receiving the degrees, but that he cannot be present when the application will be acted upon, &c. As this question has been raised in our Grand  $\square$ , we copy the arguments on both sides, starting out with Bro. Mackey's:

"Bro. Preble, the Grand Master of Maine, has made a number of judicial decisions which evidently show his intimate acquaintance with the princi-

ples of Masonic law, although, in one or two instances, I feel constrained to express my dissent from the conclusions to which he has arrived. To these exceptionable cases it may not be altogether inexpedient to advert.

"He has decided that 'a member in good standing can legally prevent a candidate from being accepted in his  $\square$ , by giving notice to the Worshipful Master that he shall not be able to attend the communication when such candidate (naming him) will probably be balloted for, and that, if present, he should object to him in the manner recognized among Masons.' In such a case, the Grand Master of Maine thinks that it would be the duty of the Master of the  $\square$  to have the candidate entered on the minutes as rejected.

"There is no principle of modern Freemasonry that has been more clearly enunciated, or more universally adhered to, than that of the unanimity of the ballot. So generally and so persistently has it been observed in all  $\square$ s of this country, that it has almost assumed, among the Masons of America, the dimensions and authority of a landmark.

"The foundation of this law is found in those general regulations which were adopted by the Grand  $\square$  of England in the year 1721, and which are said by the compiler of the first 'Book of Constitutions' to have been compared with 'the ancient records and immemorial usages of the fraternity,' and which seem, therefore, not to have been the adoption of new laws, but the confirmation and re-assertion of old ones. The sixth of these regulations declares that 'no man can be entered a brother in any particular  $\square$ , or admitted to be a member thereof, without the unanimous consent of all the members of that  $\square$  *then present* when the candidate is proposed and their consent is formally asked by the Master.'

"That regulation became, from that time forward, the imperative law of Masonry, until a body of equal authority as that which adopted it (namely, a Grand  $\square$  sitting, as the Grand  $\square$  of England then was, for the whole Masonic world) should think proper to abrogate it. In a very few years, however, the law in England was arbitrarily set aside by the decrees of Grand Masters; for it is stated by Anderson, in the second edition of the 'Book of Constitutions,' which he published in 1738, that 'it was found inconvenient to insist upon unanimity in several cases, and therefore the Grand Masters have allowed the  $\square$  to admit a member if not above three ballots are against him.' But it seems that even then there were Masons who preferred to adhere to the law; for, he adds, 'that some  $\square$  desire no such allowance.'

"Now, it is evident from all Masonic records that Grand Masters, notwithstanding the great inherent powers which they have always possessed, under what may be called the common law of Masonry, were never, by either custom or definitive statute, invested with the authority of making or repealing laws—a power which was always exercised first by the General Assembly of Masons, which was held annually, or by Grand  $\square$ s, which, after the year 1717, were the legal successors of these General Assemblies. The act, therefore, of those Grand Masters of England who, between the years 1721 and 1738, set aside the regulation of 1721 requiring an unanimous ballot, was arbitrary and illegal, notwithstanding it has since been followed by the Grand  $\square$  of England. The ancient law of Masonry is now what it was then, and what we suppose it always was, that the ballot should be unanimous. But the phraseology of the law is very explicit, and cannot be misunderstood. If it had simply said that the 'unanimous consent of all the members of the  $\square$ ' should be required, and there stopped, then it is evident that absent members would have had the right of expressing an opinion, and if any member had communicated his dissent by letter to the Worshipful Master, the communication of that dissent would have had the effect of a black ball, and the candidate would have been rejected. But the law is not thus indefinite. It expressly confines the expression of opinion to the members present; for it declares that no one

can be made a Mason 'without the unanimous consent of all the members of the  $\square$  then present when the candidate is proposed, and when their consent is formally asked by the Master.' The Master asks the consent of the  $\square$  by what is now, in American  $\square$ s, technically called 'spreading the ballot.' At that time the objecting member must be present, or he loses, by the regulation of 1721, the right of objection. The Grand Master of Maine, therefore, in giving to an absent member the right of interfering with the ballot, has as much violated the law of 1721 as the former English Grand Masters did by allowing three black balls instead of one. Both decisions are arbitrary and illegal. It is true that, while the English Grand Masters abrogated the law for the purpose, or at least with the effect, of weakening the approaches of Masonry and making it easier for unworthy persons to get within its portals, the Grand Master of Maine has been governed by a nobler impulse, and has sought to protect the purity of our order by an additional safeguard. But the principle is the same. The interpretation of an old law so as to modify it, and to make a new one differing from it, is an unauthorized assumption of the law-making power which Grand  $\square$ s have always reserved to themselves as their peculiar prerogative. While no purity of intention can justify such an assumption, it becomes the duty of every Mason to protest against its exercise as likely, if unchecked, to lead to incalculable evils."

Appreciating fully the authority which the opinion of our distinguished brother carries with it, and therefore distrustful of any opposite opinion, nevertheless, after careful consideration of his views, the writer believes that the decision is correct.

We submit that the sixth regulation is a *limitation*, negative in its character, and not an affirmative grant of power. Being a limitation, it does not follow that there may not be *other* limitations. Bro. Mackey construes the regulation as if it read "a man shall be entered a brother in any particular  $\square$ , or admitted to be a member thereof if he receive the unanimous consent of all the members of that  $\square$  then present when the candidate is proposed, and their consent is formally asked by the Master."

This language precludes any dissent expressed at any other time, or in any other manner. But such is not the regulation. It is the converse of the proposition stated in the regulation. But when a proposition is in the nature of a limitation, it does not follow that the converse of that proposition is true. A law prescribing one limitation upon our conduct does not by implication declare that there are and can be no other limitations binding upon us.

Our view is that while the regulation is a limitation upon the admission of members and must be strictly adhered to, *it is not the only limitation.*

This view is strengthened by another result of Dr. Mackey's construction of the regulation. If his construction is correct, it precludes a rejection after a favorable ballot either by a member "then present" or not "then present." But the almost (if not quite) universal law is that the objection of any member of a  $\square$  at any time after acceptance and before initiation, is a rejection equivalent to a rejection by ballot. This has been settled by the Grand  $\square$  of Maine (after full investigation) 1861, 1862; Arkansas, 1867; Iowa, 1866; Louisiana, 1860; Vermont, 1861; and many others. Indeed we do not remember that it has been questioned recently, though it has been referred to very often within the past few years.

Again, this sixth regulation grew out of a custom which had long obtained before *chartered* or *warranted*  $\square$ s were known, and therefore, before there was any such thing as membership of a  $\square$ . In those earlier days, the Master summoned a number of brethren together, opened a  $\square$ , performed such work as he designed, closed the  $\square$ , and that was the end of it. Of course, when all the brethren "then present" gave their assent, there was no one else entitled or interested to object. But when warranted  $\square$ s were



created, with permanent membership, new relations arose, and with them new laws regulating those relations. *All* the members of a  $\square$  are interested in the admission of new members, and their rights are entitled to protection. But while no one of the old limitations can be dispensed with, there is nothing to prevent the enacting of such other limitations as the new order of things may require. The right of objection under the circumstances stated in this decision, grows out of the relations which are created by establishing regularly chartered  $\square$ . It does not conflict with the regulation, and is, therefore, valid.

#### MAINE—1869.

M.: W.: Timothy J. Murray, Grand Master; R.: W.: Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

The Grand  $\square$  assembled in annual communication at Portland, May 4, with a representation from one hundred and thirty-two  $\square$ . The Grand  $\square$  of Canada, New York, Oregon, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Washington, New Jersey, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were also represented by their respective Grand Representatives.

The Grand Master's address is principally local in interest. He says: "Peace and harmony, as a general rule, prevail throughout our jurisdiction, and all the duties of Masonry are more fully performed than ever before; and for much of this good work are we indebted to the faithful labors of our zealous and efficient District Deputy Grand Masters." It is cheering to us to hear these good reports from the north-east.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. J. H. Drummond, chairman of the committee. This report is able and comprehensive, as is usual with Bro. Drummond's papers. It is a genuine treat to peruse it, so replete is it with sound criticism upon the various questions presented in the perusal and examination of the proceedings of forty to fifty Grand  $\square$ . We regret that we have not the space to devote to more extended extracts from this report. The following in reference to the late efforts to get up an anti-Masonry crusade, is all we can present:

**ANTI-MASONRY.**—The attempted war upon Masonry seems to have reached its climax, and to be upon the ebb. It was started by certain persons who, so far as we can learn, were desirous of acquiring notoriety, and, having failed to do so in every manner in which they had attempted it, finally were foolish enough to believe that they could build up for themselves a reputation upon the ruins of Masonry! The success they have met with may be inferred from the statistics we have given. The fact is, the warfare has not been as strong as we desired. A healthy opposition would be beneficial to us. It would tend to make us more cautious in the admission of new members, more prompt to reclaim or discipline those who go out of the straight path, and better examples to the craft. But it is so feeble that it may have the opposite effect.

There are in this country more than a million members of secret societies of one kind or another; a majority of the whole community are numbered in the ranks of these members or those intimately connected with them; and, so far as our observation goes, the opponents of "secret societies" are generally men who are so afraid of doing anything in secret, that they parade their alms-giving, &c., before the world, as if (in the language of a

quaint old divine) they "would not trust God with a single penny except before witnesses, lest haply He should deny the receipt!"

M.: W.: John H. Lynde was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Ira Berry re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### MINNESOTA—1869.

M.: W.: C. W. Nash, Grand Master; R.: W.: W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary.

This Grand □ held its annual session at St. Paul, January 12th. Sixty-one □ were represented.

Among the first business of the session was the dedication of a new hall of St. Paul □, No. 3, and Ancient Landmark □, No. 5, by the M.: W.: Grand Master, assisted by the Grand □. After the dedication, a most beautiful address, or oration, was delivered by W.: Bro. S. Y. McMasters, D. D. LL. D.

The Grand □ was called to labor again at 7 o'clock in the evening, when the M.: W.: Grand Master delivered his address. He congratulated the brethren upon the continued prosperity of the order in his jurisdiction, and the rapid extension both of its influence and members. It is more prosperous and healthful than ever before. He says "*Masons are made too fast.*" So they are. Seven dispensations were granted for new □ during the year. The address of Grand Master Nash is an excellent production, full of practical Masonry. We extract the following pertinent questions, and trust they may be read and pondered well, for they are questions that we, as Masons, ought to ask ourselves every day:

Brethren, do we thoroughly and properly appreciate our position? Do we discharge our duties as we ought? Do we exert ourselves to realize the pure and benign beauties of Masonry, and preserve its teachings and virtues in our hearts? Do we live, by precept and example, up to the principles taught by the order? Do we live in peace and love as brethren? Do we look with charity and brotherly tenderness upon the faults of mankind at large, and with great liberality upon those of our brethren? Do we vigilantly watch over and protect a brother from all impending danger, and exert all our efforts to prevent him from evil-doing? Do we fully realize that Masonry teaches equality, and that it is the only true basis of the masonic compact? Do we protect and cherish a brother's reputation as our own, and keep ourselves pure and unspotted from the world? Do we

"Wipe the fear from sorrow's eye,  
And sigh with those whom grief has taught to sigh?  
Often cross the widow's door,  
And soothe her grief by adding to her store?  
Cheer the orphan on his lonely road,  
And win the guilty wanderer back to virtue's blest abode?"

If we do these things, we practically illustrate the true spirit and tendency of Freemasonry.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of that bright star, Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Past Grand Master. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand □. In his criticism on the report of *our* "Committee on Uniformity of Work" at the session of 1867, he says:

The proceedings contained the report of a Committee on Uniformity of Work, appointed in 1866. It appears that,

"Six years ago, the Grand □ of Nebraska adopted the 'Webb Work,' more properly styled the 'Ancient York Work,' as the genuine Work of Ancient Craft Masonry."

Rather refreshing that, styling the Barney, Wilson, Mnemonic, printed work, the "Webb Work!" But more refreshing is the styling of it the "Ancient York Work."

Will the committee please inform us how many Degrees were recognized in York?

Have they forgot the changes made in the first and second degrees by the Grand □ of England? Are they aware that Webb made still more changes?

But another proposition. They say:

"When he received his masonic catechism from his English teacher, Preston."

Webb never saw Preston; and the demonstration has been published time and again, and again, that their systems were entirely different. Webb never claimed that the systems were the same. To serve certain purposes the claim was first set up about a dozen years since, and refuted as soon as made. The Grand □ of Nebraska, or any other Grand □, has the right to adopt any Work that suits them, but we beg that the truth of history be retained.

From which it appears our good Bro. Pierson takes exceptions to the statements of our committee.

This same subject of *Work*, it seems, has been discussed in Bro. Pierson's own jurisdiction, Minnesota, and in order to arrive at the authentic "Webb Work and Lectures," the subject was referred to the "Board of District Deputies" of Minnesota. The Board met and "*were very much aided in their investigations by Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Past Grand Master, who kindly tendered them the use of all the evidence in his possession.*" \* \* \*

In their report to the Grand □, the Board of Deputies use the following language:

The Work which the Board have agreed upon is substantially what is known as the "Webb Work," as taught by Past Grand Lecturer Samuel Wilson, of Vermont, and as received by him from Barney.

And being fully satisfied that Wilson is "the true link from Webb and Barney down," they deem it proper for the information of the Grand □ to submit some of the evidence which has lead them to such a conclusion.

The Grand Master of Vermont, M. W. Philip C. Tucker, in his address in January, 1859, "traces the genealogy" of the Preston-Webb Work in the following language:

We omit the *tracings* of Bro. Tucker, as they are too long to re-produce here. We simply give the conclusions of the Board of Deputies, as follows:

From the evidence quoted, and other evidence, the Board are satisfied that the history of our rituals may be clearly defined into three periods, viz;

- 1st. Their preparation by William Preston.
- 2d. Their reception by Thomas Smith Webb.
- 3d. Their communication to John Barney, who communicated them to Grand Lecturer Wilson, of Vermont, who is still alive.

The conclusions of the Board of Deputies, then, which are fully concurred in by the Grand Master, are these:

1st. That the Work as agreed upon, is that which Barney received from Webb, in 1815; Webb from Preston about 1795; Preston from his predecessors about 1775.

2d. That no other Work practiced in this country has a genealogy that will bear a moment's consideration, or claim the attention of a reflecting Mason.

3d. That nothing which has been elicited in discussions of the subject since agreed upon, has shaken the confidence of the Board in their belief that the "Ancient Work" is that which they are now prepared to exemplify before this Grand  $\square$ .

How is this? The Board of Deputies had Bro. Pierson's assistance, and yet their conclusions agree with the conclusions of our own committee.

M.: W.: C. W. Nash was re-elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Wm. S. Combs Grand Secretary.

#### MICHIGAN—1869.

M.: W.: S. C. Coffinbury, Grand Master; R.: W.: James Fenton, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this Grand  $\square$  was held in the city of Detroit, January 13th. Two hundred and twenty  $\square$  were represented.

The address of the Grand Master is a fine document, covering twenty-five pages. We copy the following from his address, and endorse his decision in the premises. He says:

The following correspondence suggested and required the decisions which follow. The correspondence is addressed to Blissfield  $\square$ , No. 114, and by that  $\square$  submitted to me for my direction in the premises:

*"To the Blissfield  $\square$  of F.: and A.: M.:"*

"Permit me to express to you my thanks for having conferred the three first degrees of Masonry upon me without charge. Now, from your fraternity, I ask you to give me as generously full release. To this request I have been urged by a sense of duty which has long been growing. It is not possible for me to indorse the institution or to feel bound by its obligations. Delay on your part to act in my case will effect no change in my wishes or convictions; therefore let me hear of your disposal of my case as soon as possible.

"Yours, &c.,

"D. H. E.

"September 29th, 1868."

Another letter from the same brother, addressed to the Secretary of the same  $\square$ , dated October 13th, 1868, is as follows:

"Please to find enclosed my withdrawal from the fraternity of F. & A. M., with my pledge of honor not to avail myself of its rites and benefits for ever. May I ask you to send me as soon as possible the official evidence that my withdrawal is complete.

"Yours, &c.,

"D. H. E."

This note enclosed the following writing, bearing the same date:

"I, D. H. E., of my own free will and accord, do hereby withdraw myself

from the fraternity of F. & A. Masons, and pledge my honor that I will never make myself known as a Mason by sign, token, or word, or receive any of the rites or benefits of Masonry hereafter.

“(Signed),

“D. H. E.”

These documents were forwarded to me by the Secretary of Blissfield □ with a note as follows:

“I am requested by our □ to ask you if this □ can legally accept the withdrawal from all the rites and benefits of Masonry of one of its members.”

To these inquiries, I replied as follows:

“Such a withdrawal as our brother proposes is incompatible with the spirit of Masonry, and inconsistent with its duties. He can not, by his withdrawal, impair our obligations to him, nor absolve us from our obligations and duties to his family.”

A very considerable portion of his address is taken up in discussing the project of erecting a Grand Masonic Temple. He advocates the erection of a building at a cost of five hundred thousand dollars, and suggests a plan for the accomplishment of that object. The committee, however, to whom was referred the subject, reported, that in their judgment, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars would be required to purchase a site, and erect a Temple suited to the dignity and honor of the order. They do not approve of any plan that will encumber the Temple with a debt, and we think they are right.

A committee of six was appointed to report a plan for the establishment of a Court of Appeals, and an amendment was proposed to the constitution of the Grand □, providing for the establishment of such a court, to which any brother, feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of the Grand □, may appeal in writing.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of the R. W. Grand Secretary, James Fenton, and embraces a *resume* of the proceedings and transactions of thirty-eight Grand Bodies, including Nebraska. This report is an interesting one, but our space forbids the extraction of many good things, which we would otherwise like to make.

M. W. A. T. Metcalf was elected Grand Master, and R. W. James Fenton re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### MASSACHUSETTS, 1868.

M. W. Charles C. Dame, Grand Master; R. W. Solon Thornton, Grand Secretary.

This M. W. Grand □ convened in quarterly session in the city of Boston, March 11th. A large list of Grand officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, and permanent members, appears. Several petitions for charters were presented, and referred to committee. Upon a call of the roll of □, eighty-eight were represented. There was but a small amount of business done at this quarterly session.

Similar quarterly communications were held June 10th and September 9th.

The annual communication was held in Masonic Temple, in Boston, December 9th. The list of Grand officers, District Deputies, and permanent members, was large. One hundred and thirty ☐ were represented, including *Ancient Landmark*, at *Shanghai*, and *Bethesda*, at *Valparaiso, S. A*

The Grand Master's address is a thorough, systematic document, in which he recites his official transactions minutely and distinctly. He deprecates the too frequent change of the Grand officers upon the ground that *experience* is a great desideratum, in the election of the governing powers of the fraternity. He says: "*There have been initiated during the past year, in the several ☐ under our jurisdiction, two thousand one hundred and seventy-four. The whole number of members on the first day of September last, was eighteen thousand three hundred and sixty-seven. Number of chartered ☐, 172; under dispensation, 4.*

The amount of funds received from subordinate ☐ during the year was \$27,000; and also for commutation tax, about \$13,000. The Grand ☐ debt is \$375,000. Current expenses of Grand ☐, \$6,000.

M.: W.: William Sewall Gardner was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Solon Thornton re-elected Grand Secretary.

A stated communication was held on the 29th December, for the purpose of installing the Grand officers-elect. There was quite a large attendance of Grand officers and members.

The address of the Grand Master on this occasion is an excellent paper. He dwells at considerable length upon the embarrassment of the Grand ☐, which has resulted from the building of their fine Temple in Boston, and urges the strictest economy in the administration of the affairs of the Grand ☐, and urges the brethren to lend their helping hand to preserve the integrity and fair fame of this, the mother Grand ☐ in the United States. We doubt not, the brethren will respond to his appeal with that alacrity and generous-heartedness which is so eminently characteristic of the true Mason.

The reports of the sixteen District Deputy Grand Masters are truly gratifying. The ☐ are represented as *active, cautious, zealous*, and well and ably officered.

We hail the tidings from this old jurisdiction with joy.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE—1867.

M.: W.: John H. Rowell, Grand Master; R.: W.: Horace Chase, Grand Secretary.

The semi-annual communication of this Grand body was held at Manchester, December 27, 1867. Scarcely any business was transacted. The annual communication was held at Concord, June 10.

The address of the Grand Master is mostly devoted to local work; and a great portion of the "proceedings" is filled with the reports of District Deputies.

The following resolution was offered, but decided in the negative by the vote of the Grand ☐:

*Resolved*, That the wearing of masonic emblems of any kind on days other than public masonic days, and the printing or engraving of masonic emblems upon cards, show-bills and advertisements, is in derogation of the principles of the order, and is hereby discountenanced and disapproved by the Grand □.

We hope to see the day when every jurisdiction will decide such resolutions affirmatively.

Memorial pages tell us that R.: W.: Past Senior Grand Warden Virgil Chase, R.: W.: Past Deputy Grand Master Gorham W. Hoitt, R.: W.: Past District Deputy Grand Master Imri Woods and M.: W.: Past Grand Master Weare Tappan, have been called to join the "celestial □ above, where the Grand Architect of the universe presides."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence occupies the space of one hundred and seventy-five pages. The proceedings of thirty-seven Grand □ are reviewed at length, and from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand □ of New York, they take a review of the proceedings of the various European Grand □. Nebraska finds no place in the review.

M.: W.: Alexander M. Winn was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Horace Chase re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### NEVADA—1868.

M.: W.: John C. Currie, Grand Master; R.: W.: Wm. A. M. Van Bokkelen, Grand Secretary.

This M.: W.: Grand □ convened in annual communication at Virginia City, 15th September. Eight □ under charter were represented, and delegates were present from two under dispensation. Several Past Masters were also present as members of the Grand □.

The Grand Master congratulates the craft upon the *excellent quality* of the material worked into their masonic edifice. The brethren have made a judicious use of the black ball, and unworthy blocks have been, with a firm hand, thrown over among the rubbish.

The Grand □ had adopted a regulation abolishing affiliation fees, and to show the practical working of this regulation, we append the Grand Master's remarks:

The experiment adopted at our last annual communication, of abolishing the fee for affiliation, has worked beneficially, and beyond our most sanguine expectations. During the previous three years of our existence, the number of affiliations was two hundred and forty-six; and for the present year, one hundred and forty-four, showing a very large increase over any preceding year, and that, too, when it was generally thought the crop of non-affiliates was well-nigh exhausted. I feel that I cannot too earnestly recommend to the several subordinate □ the necessity of seeking out and inviting all to a participation in our □ privileges, even though a resort to our somewhat stringent resolution may be found necessary to accomplish the object. There should not be found any drones in the ever busy hive of Masonry, but all should willingly and energetically join in its responsibilities as well as its privileges. I again beg to particularly call the attention of the □ to this very important matter.

The Grand  $\square$  also adopted a system of life-membership, by the payment of a specific amount, and that brethren availing themselves of this regulation will be relieved of the payment of dues thereafter. Upon this question the Grand Master uses the following language :

Our system of life-membership has so far worked well. While it relieves brethren of many small payments, and of all anxiety that they may be in arrears, the interest upon the fund thus created more than pays the current dues of the members who have taken advantage of its adoption, and will always, under proper management, yield a margin for all future contingencies.

We are not prepared, at present, to admit the advantage of such a system. Time will soon tell how it works in our western sister jurisdiction, when we will be better enabled to judge of its merits.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence present a review of the proceedings of thirty-two Grand  $\square$ , including a very kindly and fraternal notice of our own.

We find the following in a report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted by the Grand  $\square$  :

*Question*—Can a  $\square$  under dispensation try a brother for unmasonic conduct?

*Answer*—Yes.

We most emphatically dissent from the views of our sister on this question. A  $\square$  under dispensation is merely a committee appointed by the Grand Master; or, in other words, his proxy, and hence subject to be discharged at any time, or their powers revoked by their principal—the Grand Master. They, as a body under dispensation, possess no powers not expressly given them by their *principal*. Their powers are summed up in three words—to *make Masons*. We will not extend remarks on this topic, as we have heretofore presented our views more fully.

M.: W.: George W. Hopkins was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: A. M. Van Bokkelen re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK—1868.

M.: W.: B. Lester Peters, Grand Master; V.: W.: Wm. F. Bunting, Grand Secretary.

The first annual communication of this M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  was held at the city of St. John, September 23. Twenty-three  $\square$  were represented.

The Grand Master's address is local in interest, principally devoted to the subject of the erection of a Grand Masonic Temple.

It is with pleasure that we have been permitted to witness the successful organization of this new Grand  $\square$  in the north-east, and we are pleased to note that nearly all of the  $\square$  in the province have given in their adhesion to the Grand  $\square$  and taken charters therefrom. There is nothing in the proceedings before us which would specially interest the brethren of this jurisdiction.

M.: W.: B. Lester Peters was re-elected Grand Master, and V.: W.: Wm. F. Bunting, Grand Secretary.



## NEW YORK—1868-9

This Grand □ met in annual communication at their □ rooms in Cooper Institute, New York, on the 2d of June, 1868; M.: W.: Stephen H. Johnson, Grand Master, presiding. Five hundred and ninety-one □ were represented, out of six hundred and sixty-one, showing seventy unrepresented.

At the Grand □ room in Apollo Hall, and on the 2d of June, 1869, this Grand body met again; M.: W.: Grand Master James Gibson, presiding. Six hundred and nine □ were represented, out of six hundred and eighty-eight, showing seventy-nine □ absent, and an increase in the masonic year of twenty-seven new □.

The addresses of the M.: W.: Grand Masters are replete with masonic instruction. From M.: W.: Grand Master Johnson we make the following extracts:

There is one question which appears to me to involve a principle not heretofore passed upon, which I should be glad to have definitely settled by the expression of the Grand □, and which I therefore submit:

A number of brethren desired to establish a new □ in one of our interior counties; they applied to the nearest □ for consent and for the usual certificate. The □ thus applied to, at a communication summoned for the purpose, granted the required consent. At a subsequent communication, however, a motion was made and adopted to reconsider and withdraw the consent previously given; and when application was made to me for the dispensation, a protest was also presented by several members of this □ against granting it. Much feeling ensued, which induced me to make a personal visit to the locality and acquaint myself with all the facts in the case, so far as it was in my power to do so. After a full hearing of all the parties, and an inspection of the books of the □, I granted the dispensation. I thus decided for myself, and I now present for your consideration the question involved, viz:

“Can a □, after having (at a communication summoned for the purpose) given its consent to the foundation of a new □, revoke that consent at a subsequent communication?”

I withhold my own opinion, in order that there may be no bias, and respectfully ask an expression of the opinion of this Grand □.

The following is the report of the committee on the above:

M.: W.: John W. Simons, from the Committee on Jurisprudence and Condition of Masonry, submitted a report, which was amended by the Grand □, and then adopted, as follows:

“The Committee on Jurisprudence and Condition of Masonry respectfully report on the subjects thus far referred to them:

“1. As to the questions contained in the address of the Grand Master: ‘Can a □, after having (at a communication summoned for the purpose) given its consent to the foundation of a new □, revoke that consent at a subsequent communication?’

“Your committee are not aware of any law governing this question, except such as might be deduced from the usual practice in analogous cases. Thus a □ having adopted a By-Law in the usual way, could not by a mere vote, without the legal notice, revoke that law; or a □ having on application granted a dimit, could not, by merely rescinding the resolution, reinstate the brother; or the Grand □ having adopted an amendment to its Constitution, could not, by a subsequent resolution, rescind that amendment, but only in the legal way pointed out in the instrument itself.

“So it appears to us, that the □, by formal vote, having given up its lawful

jurisdiction over a certain territory, and allowed that jurisdiction to vest in the proposed new □, is not at liberty to revoke that consent at pleasure; or, perhaps, to speak more precisely, the □, by rescinding its first vote, cannot recall a jurisdiction over which it no longer has control. We therefore answer the question propounded by the Grand Master in the negative.

We agree with the committee, and feel bound to say, that every action of a nature requiring either a vote or a ballot should be carefully and well considered before action is had. Carelessness in voting, or due inquiry, is unpardonable; and by adopting the rule of holding to the work, the impression that if an error is committed it will not matter, for it can be rectified, will be done away with, and sound doctrine maintained.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is, as usual, a most able and creditable document, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-six Grand □ in the United States and eighteen Grand □ in foreign countries. The Grand □ of Hamburg receives the customary rebuke for its obstinacy in fostering two subordinate □ in the jurisdiction of New York, and *Doctor Barthelmess*, of Brooklyn, who represented the refractory □ in the Grand □ meeting at Hamburg, receives what we should consider a caustic warming from the pen of the able New York reviewer.

Six memorial pages are set apart in memory of six deceased Grand officers. May their virtues be inherited.

M. W. Grand Master Gibson's address is a noble production, breathing watchful care and zealous interest in the fraternity. Too lengthy for reproduction here, and liable to be marred by extracts, we recommend our brethren to obtain and read it if they would purge and purify their Masonry. One subject, however, we cannot help calling attention to, and that is the invasion of the Louisiana jurisdiction by France. We append, from the address of M. W. Grand Master Gibson, the following extract, which will enable all to understand this unfortunate complication:

In February last I received official notice from the M. W. Grand Master of Masons in the State of Louisiana, of the unlawful and clandestine establishment within that jurisdiction of □ professing to act under the authority of a so-called Grand Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, claiming authority to and actually making Masons, and conferring the first three degrees of Masonry; and further stating that said pretended Grand Council, and the □ thus established, had been recognized as lawfully established by the Grand Orient of France, and furnishing a copy of the decree of that Grand body to that effect.

On examining the case in the most searching manner, and ascertaining the facts to be as alleged, on the 27th of February, 1869, I addressed an official communication to Marshal Mellinet, Grand Master of that Grand Orient, couched in kind and fraternal but firm and decisive language, protesting against the establishment of these bodies as unlawful and for purposes foreign to Masonry, and their recognition by the Grand Orient as unfraternal, and certain to lead to the disruption of all friendly relations between that Grand body and this, and also all the other Grand □ in the United States. That our Grand □ would never consent that any organization whatever, whether □, Council or otherwise, shall be organized within the jurisdiction of an existing Grand □, except by its authority, for the purpose of conferring those degrees, or any of them; and that on this question there was perfect and absolute unity in opinion, sentiment and

action. The Grand-Master was, for this and other reasons, requested to withdraw the decree of recognition, and inform me of his decision prior to the opening of this annual communication.

As this letter is fully printed in the report of the Committee of Foreign Correspondence, soon to be presented to this Grand body, I refer the brethren thereto for more full information of the contents.

As ample time has elapsed for the Grand Orient of France to have, at least, courteously acknowledged the communication, and informed me of the decision thereon, or requested delay, we must assume that it is not intended to notice it, or comply with the request.

I would therefore recommend that this Grand body take such action in the matter as shall demonstrate to that Grand Orient that, though we love peace, and would preserve harmony with them if we could, yet that harmony, valuable as it is in itself, costs too much when it can be secured or preserved only by sacrificing the priceless honor and self-respect of this Grand body, or the permanence and stability of the craft, or a fundamental principle of the fraternity.

As all these must be sacrificed by a submission to this act of recognition, I counsel this Grand body to take such an attitude of dignified and determined resistance, as will cause the withdrawal of the recognition.

We scarcely know how to express ourselves in relation to this matter. Justice is represented as blind, but so is love, and we incline to the belief that France does not understand the relation of the negro  $\square$  of this country to the various Grand  $\square$  therein. Probably actuated by a feeling which found expression among the Liberals of France when the Emancipation Proclamation of the late President Lincoln was issued, that Grand Orient concluded that they would take the initiatory in the matter of American negroes and Masonry. But the fundamental principle that every  $\square$  shall be the judge of its own material, can never be overcome by France or any other Orient, and it is so distinctly clear that the recognition of  $\square$  in Louisiana, not recognized by that jurisdiction, is a flagrant invasion of masonic soil, that we trust and hope, for the sake of good feeling, that our brethren in France will speedily renounce the  $\square$  causing this difficulty, and maintain its masonic relations with all the regular masonic bodies in the United States.

From the decisions of M. W. Grand Master Gibson, we take the following:

"There is no such thing as the carrying of material for inspection from one symbolic  $\square$  to another.

"Being once presented to a  $\square$  for inspection, it can not be taken to another for that purpose, without the rejecting  $\square$  shall consent.

"The subsequent removal of the candidate to the jurisdiction of another  $\square$ , makes no difference with his masonic condition. He can carry himself where he pleases, but can not change his status, masonically, without the consent of the  $\square$  that originally rejected his application."

We cheerfully accord our assent to the above. We believe that a rejection is a transaction between the fraternity and the profane, and the rejected material cannot be peddled round from one place to another; and we hold farther, that if, through want of proper inquiring, it is discovered, *after a rejection*, that the applicant resided, at the time of application, without the jurisdiction of the rejecting  $\square$ , he is nevertheless the property of the rejecting  $\square$ , and cannot be initiated without its consent. No special

pleading would make him a clandestine Mason, had he been received and advanced to the third degree. Nor could such pleading *after rejection*, throw open the doors of a neighboring  $\square$  to him without the consent of the rejecting  $\square$ .

There is much more that we would desire to introduce from the New York decisions, but time and space admonish us to move forward.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence review the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand  $\square$  in the United States, and fifteen Foreign Grand bodies. The Grand  $\square$  of Hamburg receives a repetition of former cauteries, but its case is chronic, and there appears little hope of healing the ulcer that defaces its otherwise fair escutcheon. The gift of continuance seems to be fully as well developed in the Grand  $\square$  of New York as in that of Hamburg, but we hope to see the latter bow to justice and right, and yield the bone of contention over to New York, and thus once more establish true masonic relations. Certainly it will not be the fault of the able Committee on Foreign Correspondence of our respected sister, New York, if Hamburg persists in the error of her ways.

From the able review of the Grand Orient of France, we append the following in full, as it will throw "light" upon the important question involved:

Thus far we have followed the proceedings of our French brethren with a certain degree of pleasure, for, notwithstanding their methods of transacting business lack that simplicity and directness characteristic of the American system, we perceive a desire to cultivate the true spirit of the Institution and to overcome the many difficulties in their way; but we come now to a proceeding utterly without justification, and which we are obliged to condemn, because it violates one of the most firmly established and dearly cherished principles of masonic government,—the right of exclusive Grand  $\square$  jurisdiction over the establishment and working of  $\square$  of Symbolic or Ancient Craft Masonry.

This right is not only claimed, exercised, and respected by the Grand  $\square$  of this country, and indeed of the world generally, but is most jealously guarded from invasion; and not only will each Grand  $\square$  stand a sleepless sentinel over its own territory, but it will unite in protecting the admitted rights of its neighbors from any and all attacks. The first and most offensive of such invasions of long and rightfully established jurisdiction occurs in the case of this Grand  $\square$ , the legitimate territory of which has been and still is violated by the Grand  $\square$  of Hamburg, in planting two subordinates, owing it exclusive fealty and allegiance, and yet located on New York soil. Another and not less discreditable attempt is now in the course of exemplification at the expense of our peer, the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana, where a spurious and clandestine body, styling itself a Supreme Council, but having no semblance of authority, has assumed to establish several subordinate  $\square$ , which proceeding on its part has been recognized by the Grand Orient as lawful and regular, and relations of amity have been entered into between the said Grand Orient and the so-called Supreme Council.

The basis upon which the French Grand Master has erected his building will be more readily understood by an inspection of the following report and decree, translated from the official Bulletin of the Grand Orient.

*Extract from the Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France for October, 1868, being a decree of Grand Master Mellinet, based on a Report submitted to him, and Ordering the Recognition of the Spurious Supreme Council for the Independent State of Louisiana at New Orleans.*

## DECREE.—(TRANSLATION.)

"We, the Grand Master of Masons in France, in view of the report which follows the propositions addressed to us by the Supreme Council for the State of Louisiana, sitting at New Orleans, looking to the establishment of official and friendly relations between that masonic power and the Grand Orient of France :

"Desirous of affording the said Supreme Council evidence of our friendly sympathy, and of encouraging it, to the extent of our power, in the benevolent path upon which it has entered in opening its doors to all men deemed worthy of initiation without regard to nationality, race, or color ;

"Considering, that among the masonic powers of the globe the Grand Orient of France was among the first to become an apostle of this great act of justice, and that it has always been ready to give the weight of its influence to all masonic powers willing to follow its steps and adopt its sentiments ;

"Considering Art. 24 of the Constitution, have decreed, and by these presents, do decree :

"ART. 1. Official and friendly relations are, from this date, established between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the State of Louisiana, sitting at New Orleans. The friendly ties which now unite these bodies will ultimately be further strengthened by the appointment of representatives.

"ART. 2. Our Illustrious Deputy, Bro. Alfred Blanche, is charged with the promulgation of this decree.

"Given at the Grand Orient of France, this 5th day of November, 1868.

"MELLINET, *Grand Master.*

"ALFRED BLANCHE, *Deputy.*"

## "REPORT.

"To the Grand Master, on the application of the Supreme Council of New Orleans, looking to the establishment of official relations with the Grand Orient of France :

"M. W. *Grand Master*:—You have confided to me the mission of presenting a report on the application of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the sovereign and independent State of Louisiana, having its East at New Orleans. In the discharge of this duty I have been obliged to consult the precedents in similar cases, and consider the surrounding circumstances. I herewith present the result of my examination and the proposition I have to present.

"In the United States of America, Masonry has received its greatest development ; there, also, by incessant immigration from all quarters, the population has received an enormous increase. Masonry arrived there with civilization from Europe, but, as must necessarily happen in a country so rich in resources of every kind and endowed with appropriate activity and genius, our Institution has been modified by time, and received an original imprint diversified by local manners and events.

"The York and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rites were established there toward the close of the eighteenth century. This last being organized by virtue of a Constitution of 1786, attributed to Frederick II. of Prussia. A Grand  $\square$  of this rite was established in Charleston in 1783, and under Art. 5 of Frederick's Constitution, which provides that there shall be two Supreme Councils in North America, met as a Supreme Council founded in the same city in 1801, and in 1813 founded a Supreme Council at New York, which was subsequently removed to Boston.

"As the States of the Union multiplied and the population augmented, the number of  $\square$  and Masons also increased. It would be tedious and of no practical use to recite the various efforts made to establish rivals to the two Supreme Councils ; it will be sufficient to say that the most serious efforts

were founded on the assertion that the pretended Constitutions of Frederick were apocryphal—that at best they were merely provisional, and that the needs of Masonry required an independent authority for each independent State.

“On the 27th of October, 1839, a Supreme Council was established at New Orleans, by the Marquis of Santiago, who, while making an innovation, nevertheless pretended to act by virtue of the Constitutions of 1786. The Supreme Council of France refused to recognize this masonic power, but the Grand Orient consented to a treaty of alliance and friendship, in virtue of which the Supreme Council of New Orleans figured for a season in the masonic register of the Grand Orient.

“Nevertheless, by the side of this Supreme Council, and in the same city of New Orleans, existed a Grand  $\square$  emanating from the Supreme Council at Charleston, and claiming jurisdiction over all the Masons in Louisiana. It follows, of course, that this Grand  $\square$  held the Supreme Council of which we have spoken, as irregular. This state of affairs was terminated by a treaty adopted in February, 1855, the result of which was that the New Orleans Supreme Council declared itself dissolved. Its powers were surrendered to the body at Charleston, which recognized its bodies and initiates. A copy of this agreement was sent to our Grand Orient, and by it accepted.

“But in 1858 a new Supreme Council was established for the independent State of Louisiana, having for its chief one Foulhouse. This power, naturally rejected by the one at Charleston, addressed itself to the Grand Orient of France, which responded by a decree of the Prince Lucien Murat, Grand Master, bearing date June 1, 1858, and naming a representative near the Supreme Council at Charleston, ‘having jurisdiction in the Southern States of America.’ This decree was preceded by a report from the pen of Bro. Rexes; in it this passage occurs: ‘We know that the Constitutions of 1786, sufficient at the commencement of this century in their application to the United States, would now, perhaps, need remodeling and amendments, in view of the great increase of population and the augmented number of States. We know, too, that at the recent session of the Charleston Supreme Council, held at New Orleans, the necessity of such amendment was admitted.’ Nevertheless, Bro. Rexes thought that until the Northern and Southern Supreme Councils had themselves acted on this need, the attempts of schismatics were to be condemned. A letter from the Grand Master, addressed to Foulhouse on this occasion, reproached him with having, by his own authority, constituted himself the centre of a new masonic power. This letter was accompanied by a copy of the decree of June 1st, and followed by a decision of the Grand College of Rites, dated February 4, 1858, striking from its roll the name of Foulhouse for refusing to execute the decree, and for replying to it by a libelous publication, ‘an act always despicable in the eyes of honest men, and especially odious on the part of a Mason.’ The condemnation was complete. Nevertheless, the Supreme Council continued to exist, and now asks to open a regular correspondence with the Grand Orient, and appears to entertain a strong desire therefor.

“In our judgment, the Grand Orient of France can not decide this question of regularity or irregularity, which is purely relative between the two American powers. If the Grand Orient believes that the masonic title of the proponents, their method of wearing it, and their application of the principles of the order give them a right to a favorable response, no one need find therein the solution of a question not submitted by the parties in interest. With this reservation, we have no hesitation in saying that circumstances explain the existence of this new power, if it is not only an accomplished, but an accepted fact; if, moreover, it gives to masonic principles an efficacy they would not have without it, friendly relations are permitted, and almost commanded.

"Now, since Bro. Rexes's report, events of magnitude have occurred which would doubtless have a marked effect on the mind of that brother, if he were now called to pronounce on the relations to be established between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Council and the independent State of Louisiana.

"In the first place, the Supreme Council was recognized in 1857 by the Grand Orient of Italy, which appointed a representative; in 1859 the Grand Orient of Belgium followed. Then, when in the early part of 1867 the Commandership of this Supreme Council became vacant, and Bro. Chassaing was invested with it, his first thought, followed by execution, was to use Masonry to introduce into the customs of the United States (on a point against which hitherto they had persistently rebelled, even in the Northern States) the civil and political equality recently proclaimed between the whites and men of color. He called a meeting of his  $\square$ , and had a resolution passed to henceforth open their doors to colored men. This demonstration occurred in the hall of Liberty  $\square$ , No. 9, in New Orleans, and caused an outside echo honorable to Masonry. The Supreme Council completed its work by giving a charter to colored men to open a  $\square$  under the name of Fraternity, in New Orleans, and recently Bro. Leblanc de Marconnay gave notice, in an article inserted in the Bulletin of the Grand Orient for April, 1868, that three other  $\square$  of similar composition had been formed in the same city.

"In acting thus, this portion of the Louisiana Masons followed the example and practiced the precepts of French Masonry. In fact, the Grand Orient, in February, 1836, granted a warrant to colored men to erect a  $\square$  at Point-a-Pitre (Guadaloupe). The 13th of August, 1866, the Council of the Order unanimously ordered the consideration of the proposition of Bro. Fauvety, requesting the Grand Master to give notice to the Grand Orient of Rio Janeiro, 'that the Grand Orient of France would be under the painful necessity of ceasing to recognize the Brazilian Masons, and discontinuing all correspondence with the Supreme power representing them, if Brazilian Masonry did not, at an early period, protest against slavery, and undertake measures for its extinction.'

"Finally, another satisfaction has been given to masonic propriety, and should be mentioned in this report: By a decision on the 6th of June, 1867, the Louisiana Supreme Council condemned all the pamphlets of Foulhouse and his adherents.

"In consequence of the foregoing, we have the honor, M. W. Grand Master, to propose a favorable response to the application addressed to the Grand Orient of France by the Supreme Council of Louisiana.

"May this act, in which there is nothing hostile to the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana, nor to the Supreme Council at Charleston, be appreciated and imitated by our American brethren. The great mission of Masonry is to establish peace among men of all opinions, all religions, nationalities, and races. This mission imposes on us the duty of showing that differences of forms and rites can not produce discord among us.

"Accept, Most Worshipful, the assurance of my respectful devotion.

"A. HERMITTE, 33°.

"Member of the Council.

"Approved: MELLINET, Grand Master.

"Paris, October 17, 1868."

The writer of the foregoing report very coolly observes, that the Grand Orient of France can not decide the question of regularity or irregularity, which, it will be observed, is not submitted by the parties in interest. Yet, according to his own showing, the Grand Orient has long since decided it, and declared the very body with which it now enters into correspondence, irregular; since which time the relative situation of affairs has not changed. The lawful and duly established Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana existed

then, as it had existed long before, has existed since, and exists now, and there never has been a moment from the date of its establishment till now, nor will there be one as long as it continues to exist, when it has not been and will not be the sole and only legitimate authority for the government of symbolic Masonry in the State of Louisiana. The question of regularity is not, therefore, debatable, and is not, nor can it be, submitted for decision to any one.

Another point in connection with this matter should not be overlooked. The Grand  $\square$  of this country, while exercising supreme jurisdiction in all matters relative to  $\square$  and  $\square$  Masonry, do not occupy themselves with anything else; they neither officially recognize nor hold official communications with Grand Chapters, Commanderies, Councils, or Consistories. So long as their own rights are recognized and respected, the bodies of the other grades may do what they please, without let or hindrance from any Grand  $\square$ . So long, therefore, as this New Orleans body let symbolic Masonry alone, and busied itself only with the grades beyond that of Master Mason, the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana ignored its existence; but the moment it undertook to establish  $\square$  of symbolic Masonry, it trespassed upon the long-established and recognized rights of the Grand  $\square$ , and the Grand Orient, in recognizing and applauding this invasion, becomes a party to it, and sets itself up in opposition to a right of American Grand  $\square$ , with which they will not quietly permit any interference.

The propriety or impropriety of the social and political equality of colored men has nothing whatever to do with the question; it is purely one of jurisdiction, and on that basis alone will have to be adjusted. We hazard nothing in saying that the action of the so-called Supreme Council in selecting colored men on whom to bestow warrants was a mere trick, intended to throw dust into the eyes of European masonic powers by leading them to suppose that the American Grand  $\square$  were engaged in a crusade against the men of whom this self-created Council assumes to be the champion. It is sufficient answer to this to say, that the Grand  $\square$  of the United States hold that every subordinate  $\square$  has an indefeasible right to decide for itself who shall be admitted to its privileges, and that the Grand  $\square$  can not legislate a man into the humblest  $\square$  in its jurisdiction. The ancient charges and regulations to which we hold ourselves bound, as masonic authority, the spirit, and in many cases the forms of which are inextricably interwoven in our constitutions and systems of jurisprudence, do not recognize any distinction of race or color as qualifications for masonic affiliation. Hence the decision of the mooted question of admitting negroes to fellowship lies not with the Grand  $\square$ , but with the individuals composing the subordinates.

This question is, however, not now at issue. The offence of the *soi-disant* Supreme Council, and that of the Grand Orient in recognizing and applauding its act, would have been precisely the same had the warrants been granted to white men of the highest possible rank and station, and it consists solely, as we have already said, in violating the established and recognized jurisdiction of a just and duly constituted Grand  $\square$  of symbolic Masons.

Against this act the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana has protested, by a suspension of all relations with the Grand Orient of France, and against it all the other American Grand  $\square$  will protest, for the simple reason that if the jurisdiction of Louisiana may be invaded with impunity, so may that of any other, and our system of masonic government is at an end. Their united action in sustaining New York, as against the invasion of Hamburg, is sufficient indication of what may be expected in the present emergency, and the Grand  $\square$  of New York will be expected to lead the van in sustaining the Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana in the maintenance of its just rights.



That, however, even in so grave a matter, the Grand □ may not be accused of acting with precipitancy, the following letter from our Grand Master to the Grand Master of French Masons is, by permission, inserted in this place:

“OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK, }  
NEW YORK, February 27, 1869. } ”

“*M. W. Sir:*—Official notice has been communicated to the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, from the Grand Master of Masons in the State of Louisiana, of your decree of the 5th day of November, 1868, in effect recognizing the validity of the ‘Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the State of Louisiana sitting at the East of New Orleans.’

“The objects and reasons of this recognition, as stated in the report of a member of your Council, and approved under your hand, appear to have been: ‘To make Masonry serve the purpose of introducing into the customs of the people, so refractory on that point, in the United States, even in the North, that civil and political equality recently proclaimed between the white and colored races.’

“The report then states certain proceedings had by □ acting under that Council to effectuate these objects, and proceeds: ‘In thus acting, this portion of the masonic order in Louisiana followed the examples and practiced the principles of French Masonry.’ This allegation is then sought to be established by the proceedings of the Louisiana Council, and the report in ‘consequence of the above consideration,’ recommends the favorable consideration of the proposal for recognition.

“The Grand Master of Masons in New York understands from the above recital, that the Grand Orient of France desires to make use of Masonry to introduce into the United States certain political principles of equality between the white and colored races; and for that purpose, among others, has given its masonic recognition to what is universally considered among the Grand □ of the United States to be an unlawful masonic organization, and the purposes to be effectuated thereby as entirely foreign to Masonry.

“This communication is written for the purpose of remonstrating in the most fraternal and respectful manner, not only against the recognition of this unlawful Council, but against the purposes and objects of that recognition, and to request that the decree of recognition may be recalled.

“It is further stated in the report which has been quoted, that the Grand Council you have recognized, ‘has completed its work by granting a charter to some colored men to open a □ and confer the degrees of Masonry, and that recently three other □ have been formed by that Council of like material.’

“The political objects sought to be accomplished through this recognition are entirely foreign to symbolic Masonry as conferred in the United States under its regular Grand □. No interference in political matters is allowed, nor are politics discussed in our masonic □.

“Not only is there no law of Masonry forbidding colored men from being made Masons, but our □ are exclusive judges as to whom they will accept, not violating the ancient landmarks; and colored men may be members of □, provided they are duly accepted. But they must apply to lawfully warranted □, otherwise they are clandestinely made, and will not be acknowledged by Masons or received in any regularly constituted □.

“The leading object, therefore, sought to be accomplished by the decree will totally fail, if attempted by the unlawful means stated in the report.

“Long before this unlawful Grand Council was organized, there existed, and still exists, a Grand □ of Masons recognized by every Grand □ in the United States as in the lawful and *exclusive* exercise, within that State, of the right to make Masons and confer the first three degrees of Masonry.

The Grand  $\square$  in the United States do not and will not consent that any organization whatever, whether  $\square$ , Council or otherwise, shall be organized within the jurisdiction of an existing Grand  $\square$ , for the purpose of conferring those degrees, or any of them, except by its authority.

"On this question there is perfect and absolute unity in opinion, sentiment and action.

"This, M. W. Sir, is no aggressive movement against you, or the rightful exercise of the authority of the Grand Orient over which you so ably and honorably preside.

"Conceding to you and to the Grand Orient, as is done in the amplest manner, your exclusive jurisdiction over those degrees in the French Empire, the Grand Master of New York demands of you for this jurisdiction and its Grand  $\square$  the like acknowledgment.

"And, beloved and respected brother, however highly we cherish and esteem you and your Grand Orient, be assured that nothing less than this entire and absolute independence will be accepted.

"If your Grand Orient may give the weight and influence of its authority to an unlawful masonic body, or to one exercising unlawful powers, and for un-masonic purposes within the jurisdiction of Louisiana, and it is submitted to, the same may be done by the Grand Orient toward this jurisdiction, and that must also be permitted.

"This can never be done without causing a total change of the present most cordial and peaceful existing relations between the two Grand bodies. This is so greatly to be deplored on our part, that your earnest attention is called to the subject.

"M. W. Sir, the Grand  $\square$  of New York is under many obligations to the Grand Orient of France. They are not only acknowledged cheerfully, but they are appreciated, and will be kindly cherished as among its happiest recollections, and it is therefore with the greatest regret that its Grand Master has been compelled to remonstrate with the Grand Orient for the decree it has granted.

"Trusting that you will consider the causes and facts stated as a sufficient ground for the decisive language of this communication, as it is written solely to bring to your knowledge the existing state of affairs arising, or sure to arise, from the decree of recognition, if not recalled, that you will therefore pardon the manner of bringing the subject before you in consideration of the importance of the matter.

"It is respectfully requested that you will reply as early as may be consistent, in order that the same may be laid before the Grand  $\square$  of New York for its ultimate action at its approaching annual communication.

"I remain, M. W. Sir, fraternally yours,

"JAMES GIBSON,

*"Grand Master of Masons in New York.*

"To his Excellency General MELLINET,

*"Grand Master of Masons in France."*

This letter, as well as a previous one, written on the same subject by a member of this committee, has remained without answer or notice of any kind, and we are irresistibly led to the conclusion that the Grand Orient proposes to stand by its decision, and to place a higher value upon the friendship of an irregular and clandestine association than upon that of the regular Grand  $\square$ , which have so long been its allies and co-laborers in the cause. In thus acting, the Grand Orient decides not only to approve the violation of our rights of jurisdiction, but invites a similar trenching upon its own prerogatives and the breaking down of all legitimate masonic government. While we most sincerely regret this conclusion on the part of the Grand Orient of France, and are pained in being forced to adopt the course of action thereby indicated for us, duty to ourselves and to the

great brotherhood of American Grand ☐ requires that we should hesitate at no sacrifice necessary to demonstrate our unalterable determination to maintain intact the doctrine that the right of jurisdiction is inalienably vested in the several Grand ☐, and we therefore recommend the adoption of the third resolution appended to this report.

We have already expressed our hopes and fears on this matter, and while we await anxiously for action, we trust that "mild words may turn wrath," and that brotherly counsels may prevail. We cannot commend the pugilistic attitude in Masonry, and yet we feel bound to uphold our integrity, even though we have to resist assault. May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement the Grand ☐ of the Union with the Orient of France.

Two pages are devoted to the memory of deceased Grand officers. May their work be accepted.

There are many other matters of value and interest to the craft at large in these proceedings, which we would like to discuss, but at this late hour your committee will have to forego that pleasure, and hope their successors may receive proceedings from the Secretary in time to digest them thoroughly and do justice to all concerned.

#### OREGON—1868.

M. W. Avery A. Smith, Grand Master; R. W. J. E. Hurford, Grand Secretary.

This Grand ☐ convened at the city of Portland, June 22d, with representatives from twenty-six ☐.

The Grand Master's address covers nearly nine pages, and is a good, systematic paper, principally devoted to a recital of his official acts. He congratulates the craft upon the fact that Masonry in Oregon and on the coast is gradually assuming a higher moral ground. And yet he has occasion to utter the following:

I am also sorry to say, brethren, that profanity has been and is now indulged in by many members of the masonic institution to such an extent that my attention has been called to it during the past year by persons in and out of the order. And I regret to say there are a few who even reject the teachings of that "Great Light" which should be the guide of every Mason's faith and practice. This evil, so prevalent at the present time, should receive the consideration of this and all other Grand ☐ of Masons, if they would exert that moral power and influence which the intelligent, the good, the true in society should wield over others, and which Masons should seek after above all things else. A Mason who believes it right for him to curse and swear and utter the name of God in any other manner than with that awe and reverence due from the creature to his Creator, ignores the moral law, and is false to his professions and his duty, and is of greater injury to Masonry than all the anti-masons in the world, with all their slanderous vituperations.

The moral teachings of that "Book of the Law," which we teach is given to us by God himself, is obligatory upon every individual Mason who kneels at our altars, and we say its claims should be enforced. That law is the supreme law of Masonry, and no Mason can reject or neglect its teachings without rendering himself amenable to discipline. It should never be forgotten that moral worth and moral influence constitute the

strength of a  $\square$  of Masons, and if the claims of those precepts were enforced there would be little cause of complaint. Nay, in that event Masonry would only be second in influence to religion itself. Then, brethren, we would present such an array of moral worth, and wield such a moral influence that the divine mission of Masonry would soon be felt in the world, and tell gloriously on the condition of man. Then we would realize what is contemplated in our teachings. Then might the world point to Masonry as an institution to which the burthened heart could pour out its sorrows, and to whom the distressed might prefer their suit—whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence. Let this achievement be the great object of each and every brother; let each strive for this till the great object is attained, that Masonry may be a light and an influence in the world, that mankind and society made be made better for our having lived Masons.

Is it possible that *Masons* who have professed to put their trust in God, should turn on their heel from the Masons' sacred altar, and take the sacred name of Deity upon polluted lips, and that to such an alarming degree, that it becomes the duty of profanes even to call the attention of the craft to it? Oh, shame! But we do not speak to the shame of our brethren in Oregon alone, for we hear that sacred name used in the most blasphemous manner, in our own midst, by Masons who have been *honored* by the craft; Masons who have been placed in positions calling for examples of morality, uprightness and virtue. And along with this horrible vice goes its twin sister—we had better say twin brother—gambling. Why, we have known a Worshipful Master to be at the gaming table, while the Junior Warden was doing his duty in the East. When, when will Masons *practice* what they *teach*?

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Bro. S. F. Chadwick, who has carefully and ably passed in review the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand  $\square$ s, covering fifty-eight pages. We would like to extract from this report, but cannot, without exceeding our limits.

M.: W.: Avery A. Smith was re-elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: J. E. Hurford, Grand Secretary.

#### OREGON—1869.

M.: W.: Avery A. Smith, Grand Master; R.: W.: J. E. Hurford, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this M.: W.: Grand  $\square$  was held at the city of Portland, June 21st, thirty-one  $\square$ s represented.

The address of the Grand Master contains but little save of local interest. He urges the Grand  $\square$  to abolish affiliation fees in the subordinate  $\square$ s, holding that a stumbling block will then be removed from the way of affiliation. No doubt this would be effective, in a small degree. But we incline to the belief, that a Mason who has so little love for the order, or its elevating, ennobling principles and teachings, would not unite and throw his influence with the fraternity, if you were to pay him an affiliation fee. The truth, in our estimation, is, that the true cause of non-affiliation generally speaking, is a want of capacity to appreciate Freemasonry. We must provide some more powerful stimulus than a paltry fee, and we therefore suggest,

as one of the best means of avoiding or preventing non-affiliation, a very considerable more care in taking signatures to petitions. Survey the applicant *mentally* as well as physically, and if he has not sufficient calibre to take in and appreciate the whole of Masonry, then save the petition for one who has.

We observe, in perusing the proceedings, the following resolution, which was adopted by the Grand □ :

*Resolved*, That Mathew Davenport, who was on the 1st day of November, A. D. 1856, indefinitely suspended by Multnomah □ No. 1, be, and is hereby reinstated to the rights and benefits of Masonry, and to membership in said □, as per prayer of petitioner.

This is not right. The Grand □ has the power to reinstate or restore an expelled or suspended Mason to the rights and privileges of a non-affiliated Mason, but does not possess the power to affiliate a Mason. The power to restore to membership, or to the rights and privileges of affiliated Masons, belongs to the subordinate □.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Bro. S. F. Chadwick, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand □, not including Nebraska, we know not why. The reprint of the proceedings of this Grand □ was duly sent. We like the spirit of the writer—fraternal, chaste, candid and courteous.

Peace and prosperity prevail among the craft. Grand □ funds seem to be scarce in Oregon, as well as in our own jurisdiction.

M. W. D. G. Clark was elected Grand Master, and R. W. J. E. Hurford re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### PENNSYLVANIA—1868.

M. W. Richard Vaux, Grand Master; R. W. John Thomson, Grand Secretary.

A quarterly communication was held at Philadelphia, December 2, at which one hundred and thirty □ were represented. The election of Grand officers was had at this communication, and several reports of committees made, which comprised the business of the session.

The annual communication was held December 28. The Grand officers were installed at the beginning of this session.

The Grand Master speaks of the craft as "united, harmonious, satisfied, and devoted to the supreme masonic authority which governs it." He says there is no cloud hanging over the horizon of Masonry in Pennsylvania.

We extract the following from the Grand Master's address, which we heartily endorse. After speaking of the increase of the craft, the enlarging of her borders and the strengthening of her stakes, he says :

Without wishing to assume "to be holier than thou," we would, in the most fraternal solicitude for the real welfare of the craft everywhere, beg leave to remark, that the greatest danger to which Freemasonry is now exposed, *is from enemies within, not those without*. Making members of the craft is not necessarily making Masons. There is too great a desire to increase the number of members, for peradventure the number of Masons is not thereby increased. Strict trial, severe tests, careful examination, thor-

ough investigation into fitness, caution, prudence, due consideration, and, above all, moral courage to do the duty which these virtues demand, are now essential in all  $\square$  as precedent conditions to a favorable report on those who apply for the rights and privileges of Masonry. These are the guards which are stationed at every portal of the temple. Woe unto that man who by deceit or lack of examination passes them unchallenged; but woe to those who are thus made their associates. Once destroy the harmony of fraternal unity in the craft, and the enemy is thus in our very midst.

Thirty-one  $\square$  have been constituted during the year, making in all two hundred and fifty-nine working  $\square$ , with a membership of twenty-nine thousand three hundred and forty.

Perusing this address, we find it full of the most wholesome counsel and instruction, and hence we cannot resist the temptation to add another extract, the subject of which cannot be too forcibly impressed upon the craft:

\* \* \* \* \* Freemasonry never proselytes. It seeks no strength in numbers or dignity from men. Those who are well qualified are, if found worthy, admitted; but they must come voluntarily and knock at its temple doors. Hence it is kept free from the contaminating and destroying influences which are gathered into other societies, hidden too often under the specious pretexts that numbers constitute strength, and the worldly popularity of men, unstable as water, as it not unfrequently proves to be, gives importance to such bodies. The pure, the true, the just, who can circumscribe their opinions and passions within the bounds of mutual esteem and fraternal relations; who have self-control and moral courage sufficient to enable them to override the prejudices and bigotries, motives and debased influences of the outside world; who can perform assumed duties without regard to the strife, contention and other influences which actuate the ignorant and the arrogant, who in the world pass for wise and respectable; such give lustre to Freemasonry only because they are true Masons. It does not require the wisdom of Solomon to know that the true Mason and the member of a  $\square$  are not necessarily the same. Membership is attainable by a strict compliance with the severest tests; but Freemasonry, in its purity, beauty and efficacy, is known by our faith in its sublime principles. This is not obtained by forms or ceremonies.

I wish to call your attention to this broad distinction. It is more than necessary now, when it is to be feared that many from the world, actuated by its instincts and motives, seek membership in our ancient and honorable order either to give them a respectability among men, which they cannot earn for themselves, or to seek to use the power of this fraternity for purposes which are forbidden by its teachings. If such there are, true Masonry will wilt them down to harmless insignificance, and their existence will only be known in the craft by their awkward efforts to escape from an association they at last discover they are pre-eminently disqualified to enjoy.

The address of Grand Master Vaux is one of the most interesting that we have had the pleasure of reading, and we are only sorry that it cannot be within the reach of every Mason.

They are now erecting a fine temple in the "City of Brotherly Love"—a befitting place—and the work goes beautifully onward toward completion. The ceremonies of laying the corner-stone are given in full in the proceedings before us, and are very interesting. About ten thousand Masons witnessed these interesting ceremonies.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence present a review of the proceedings of thirty-four Grand  $\square$ , including a very fraternal notice of Nebraska, 1857-67. The report is from the pen of Bro. Robert J. Fisher, chairman. It is an excellent paper.

M. W.: Richard Vaux was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W.: John Thomson, Grand Secretary.

#### RHODE ISLAND—1868.

M. W.: Thomas A. Doyle, Grand Master; R. W.: Charles D. Greene, Grand Secretary.

This Grand  $\square$  assembled at Pawtucket, August 6th, in special communication.

The Grand  $\square$  of Instruction was opened on the Entered Apprentice degree, for the exemplification of the work and lectures of the degree. The work and lectures were exemplified and approved, and the special communication closed in due form.

Another special communication was held at Providence, October 26th, for the purpose of installing the Grand officers, and to hear the report of the Grand  $\square$  of Instruction.

Another special communication was held at Providence, October 27th, for the purpose of constituting, consecrating and dedicating Corinthian  $\square$  No. 27, and installing its officers.

The semi annual communication was held November 16th; twenty-one  $\square$  were represented.

Nothing of interest was transacted at this session.

#### RHODE ISLAND—1869.

A special communication was held at Providence, April 30th, at which a small amount of business was transacted.

The annual communication was held at Providence, May 17th; twenty-three  $\square$  were represented.

The address of Grand Master Doyle principally relates to matters of local interest. Two questions of interest to the craft, however, are referred to by the Grand Master, and, that the arguments used may be brought before the brethren of this jurisdiction, we reproduce the whole subject:

Two decisions heretofore reported by me, and approved by you, have been dissented from by the Committees on Foreign Correspondence of several of our sister jurisdictions. As I entertain a high respect for the members of these committees who have disagreed with me, and as it is insisted that the questions at issue relate to the "Ancient Landmarks" and "Old Charges," I deemed it proper to refer to my decisions again.

The first is that reported in May, 1867, that "an affirmation can be administered instead of an oath to any person who refuses on conscientious grounds to take the latter," and the second was reported last year, and is as follows: "A man who has lost one foot, which has been replaced by an artificial one, can be made a Mason."

The objections made to these decisions are in brief, that the first one is contrary to an Ancient Landmark, and the second is in conflict with one of

the Old Charges. If these objections are correct, then I am ready to admit that I erred in making the decisions, and that it is your duty to reverse your former action.

But I do not believe that the objections are well taken, and after a careful examination of the authorities, I see no good reason for changing the opinions formerly expressed by me.

I do not consider it a settled point that the obligations are Landmarks. The modern writers on masonic law not only differ on the number of the Landmarks, but also as to whether the obligations are a part of them, and it is a fact that certain points in the obligations were changed by the Baltimore Convention, which would not have been done had the eminent Masons there assembled considered they were altering an Ancient Landmark.

Again, admitting that the obligations are Landmarks, it by no means follows that the obligation must be an oath. In the construction of statutes, it is well known that where it is required that an officer shall be *sworn* to the discharge of a duty, an *affirmation* may be given and is equally binding. Shall we be more rigid than the world at large and refuse admittance to a man whose conscience will not allow him to take an oath? For one, I answer no; and I think you will agree with me, especially when we look over the masonic history of our little jurisdiction, and recall the names of good and true Masons members of the Society of Friends, and others who have borne up our standard through good report and through evil report, and who were bound to their masonic vows by affirmation only.

In reference to the other decision, it would appear that our objecting brethren lose sight of the qualification in that portion of the fourth charge relating to candidates, which I claim makes my decision accord entirely with the spirit and letter of the law. I copy so much of the original text of the charge as applies to the question under discussion :

“Only candidates may know, that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient Employment for him, and unless he be a perfect Youth, having no Maim or Defect in his Body, that may render him incapable of learning the Art of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a Brother and then a Fellow Craft in due time, even after he has served such a Term of Years as the Custom of the country directs; and that he should be deesended of honest Parents.”

It is very clear to me that the meaning of the above as applied to modern Masonry, is, that candidates are to be so perfect in mind and body that they may be able to do masonic work, pass an examination, be capable of filling positions or prove themselves to be Masons, and this is all. Hence, a deaf or dumb or blind person cannot be made a Mason, a man who has lost the right hand, a cripple or badly deformed person, cannot be initiated, but to assert that a person who appears with an artificial foot, walking erect, possessing an unblemished character, and able, if admitted, to stand in proper position a just and upright Mason—to assert that he is disqualified because of the above extract from the old law, is to me as strange as it would be to object to a candidate because he wore artificial teeth.

The language is “Having no Maim or Defect in his Body that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master's Lord.” The qualification in the latter portion of the sentence is the explanation of the state of perfection which is to be expected. It never was intended that candidates should be Apollos, but that they should be able to do such work as might be required of them, and there the whole matter rests.

If my construction is incorrect, then let us have a surgeon attached to each □, and cast aside among the rubbish, such as are not perfect youth without maim or defect, and when this shall be done, I fear that one of our traditions may be often re-enacted, and the chief stone of the corner be



found among the rejected material. Let us go further, and carry out the charge in all its particulars. Let candidates be required to bring their genealogies with them, and committees be appointed to enquire into the honesty of their parents.

The truth is this, that we are to construe the ancient charges and regulations according to the light of the present day and the character of the people where Masonry is worked; adhering rigidly, as we have ever tried to do, to the cardinal principles of our beloved institution, and endeavoring to prevent all innovations in the body of Masonry; without attempting to carry out customs and usages which the present state of society absolutely prevents us from doing.

M. W. Thomas A. Doyle was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Charles D. Greene, Grand Secretary.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

We have nothing from this Grand  $\square$  for 1868 save the report of R. W. R. S. Bruns, 32°, Grand Secretary, on Foreign Correspondence. It appears in pamphlet, very neat, and covers one hundred and three pages, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-three Grand  $\square$ s, including Nebraska, 1857 to 1867, inclusive.

In his criticism upon the address of Grand Master Furnas, in 1867, where in he refers to the growing tendency or disposition in this as well as other jurisdictions to modernize Freemasonry, Bro. Bruns makes the following remarks:

Here is a passage upon which one might indulge in very copious remark. *Growth* is not innovation, nor is mere *routine* wisdom. All *legitimate* growth is not only lawful, but essential; but the mere pursuit of novelty is as mischievous as it is silly. There will be an eager set of young Masons, anxious to bolt ahead with every new notion that shall please the fancy, but there are quite as many sleepy old fellows, who oppose themselves as so many dead weights to all growth and progress, through their dullness, drowsiness, the dislike of the fatigue which requires them to study the new thing, and the vanity which recoils at the suggestion that they have any new thing to learn. Now, I am satisfied that of this very class nine-tenths of the unaffiliated are made. It is far better to have zeal, which is a fiery-blooded horse in the harness, though he may sometimes run away with the vehicle, than one of those dogged old mules who refuse to go at all. The nice line of demarcation is between the extremes; don't let zeal get the bit between his teeth, and don't let apathy and dullness, the old mule virtues, keep you in the slough. If the young colt sometimes runs away, the old mule just as often shows stubbornness, won't go at all, and blocks up the gang-way.

#### TENNESSEE—1868.

M. W. Joseph M. Anderson, Grand Master; R. W. John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

This M. W. Grand  $\square$  met in annual communication in the city of Nashville, October 5, with representatives from three hundred and fifty-four chartered  $\square$ s, and twenty-seven under dispensation.

The address of the Grand Master is short, but full of point. The sentiment contained in his opening is so good and so full of important truth, that we reproduce a portion of it:

The growth of our order is rapid, and the principles of Freemasonry are doing much, by their wide spread influence, to soften the asperities of life and promote good fellowship among men throughout this broad land. The uninitiated may not feel and see this, but we know that there is an under-current of good in the land, fed and directed by the prayers and sympathies of millions of hearts; and do we not feel gratefully proud that we can number ourselves with these hearts, if we are worthily enrolled with them, when we hear murmured thanks of those to whom relief has been given? May we not render thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God, whose Spirit has inclined our hearts to unite ourselves in a common brotherhood?

Our numbers and resources are vast. Our banners swell in every breeze that sweeps the continent, and the army of self-sacrificing and zealous men engaged in doing the deeds of charity and beneficence, excite our admiration, and suggest that as a part of that host we all, individually and collectively, have committed to us a sacred trust.

But the magnitude of that army is well calculated to excite apprehension. May not our numbers be too great? Are not our  $\square$  too numerous and our membership too great? I think I have placed an average estimate upon the goodness and virtue of mankind, and am of the opinion that a very small proportion of men are fit to become Masons, or have the ability to live up to its requirements.

He then urges the brethren to discourage the formation of new  $\square$ , "except where it is manifestly and unmistakably for the good of the craft." He says the number of non-affiliated Masons is on the increase in his State. He holds it to be the duty of every good and true Mason to contribute to the support of the order, and by his presence in the  $\square$ , to aid and assist in the preservation of the institution in its purity, and so say we. We think his average estimate of the fitness of men to become Masons is not overdrawn. A great many persons are permitted to pass the Tyler who should not be; and a great many are refused admission who should be inside. There is a manifest want of the proper discretion and vigilance that should characterize our  $\square$ .

A  $\square$  of sorrow was held during the Grand Communication, for the purpose of paying the last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Charles A. Fuller, Past Grand Master, and, at the time of his death, the very efficient Grand Secretary. A very beautiful eulogy upon the life and character of the deceased was pronounced by Bro. William A. Nelson, by special request.

The report on Foreign Correspondence comes from the pen of Bro. Geo. S. Blackie, and reviews, with ability, the proceedings of thirty-six Grand  $\square$ , our own among the number. The following, from Bro. Blackie's closing remarks, deserves to be printed in letters of gold and posted on the door of every  $\square$  room:

It is pleasing to see that under the care of a merciful Providence and an all-wise Ruler, the order continues to advance in harmony and prosperity. The only fear we can express is, that too many men are being made Masons. It is becoming fashionable, like church-going, and persons are getting anxious for initiation, not influenced by a desire of knowledge, but for idle show, and because it is respectable. And these brethren, be they ever so moral, do little good to the craft; they burden it with drones who serve to diminish the honey stored in the hive, but never bring any to it; and when the winter of trouble comes, they sneak out to leave the few

workers all the labor. There are too many vain men who pride themselves on their dignified titles, and showy regalia, and "so-called" masonic jewelry, and who care no further for the institution. There are men who have not the intellect to grasp, nor the education to understand, our sacred mysteries. There are many who are glib enough with their tongues, but alas! their heart is far away. Too many such are found among us; let us see that there are no more. Let us raise higher the standard of our membership, let us labor to vitalize our principles, and let the earnest and intelligent members of our body be its teachers and controllers, and not the martinet and puppies who believe that they, and they only, understand matters; "they are the world, and wisdom dies with them." Let us bear this in mind, and adopt the watch-cry of Missouri: "More morals and less numbers." Think of the deep solemnity of our own obligations, and cry aloud against the evils which are demoralizing the order. Let us all try and force this moral reform on ourselves, and the community will believe in our purity; they will see it is not all boasting, and will endeavor to follow and be guided by us. Let there be no such thing as a profane Mason—a poor worm who would dare to tamper with that unutterable Name before which every knee should bow. Away with the drunken Mason—poor unfortunate victim of self and its love! Out with the liquor-dealing Mason, the purveyor of woes and sorrows for others, he who is cursed in Holy Writ for giving his neighbor drink! No more masonic debauchees or whoremongers, stepping from the □ meeting to the brothel, or stealing into the bower of peace and pouring venomous poison on domestic bliss! No more gambling, lying, loafing, cowardly Masons! No more false-hearted friends, hollow pretenders, hypocritical religionists! Let us all try, at least, to be pure, and show the good that is in us for an example to others.

The craft is in a flourishing condition.

M. W.: Jonathan S. Dawson was elected Grand Master, and R. W.: John Frizzell, Grand Secretary.

#### TEXAS—1868.

M. W.: John R. Fretwell, Grand Master; R. W.: Geo. H. Bringhurst, Grand Secretary.

This Grand body held its thirty-second Grand annual communication at the city of Houston, June 8th, with representatives from seventy-three □ at the opening.

The Grand Master says: "The past season was one of unusual sickness, and within the bounds of our jurisdiction the bills of mortality are summed up by the hundreds and thousands, and especially along our southern border and sea-coast, the dark wing of the Angel of Death appeared to overshadow the whole land.

"Men deserted their usual avocations and occupied themselves in nursing the sick and burying the dead." \* \* \* "Our own beloved institution furnished her heroes and martyrs in this unequal combat, and Masons took their proper stand in the front rank."

He issued not a single dispensation for the organization of a new □ during the year. Quite a number of petitions had been presented, but for good reasons he had rejected and returned them.

From the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters we gather that the craft are working in peace and harmony.

The report of the Deputy Grand Master shows that he had issued a number of dispensations for the formation of new  $\square$ .

The Committee on Jurisprudence report unfavorably to the reconsideration of a ballot after it has been announced by the Worshipful Master. The report was endorsed by the Grand  $\square$ .

The report on Foreign Correspondence covers sixty-two pages, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-four Grand  $\square$  in a very fair, fraternal and able manner.

We find, however, nothing specially interesting in the report, which has not already been treated upon in other portions of this review.

Among the standing resolutions we find the following :

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand  $\square$  that a Master Mason can be a member of two  $\square$  at one and the same time.

If of two, why not of all in the Grand  $\square$  jurisdiction? We dissent.

We also find the following, which we unhesitatingly indorse :

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand  $\square$ , the use of Masonic Halls for sleeping-rooms, and other purposes than their appropriate business, is improper, and we recommend that such practice be discontinued.

We following we do not indorse. We do not think that brethren should be required to travel, especially by night, a distance of ten to twenty miles to attend the meetings of their  $\square$ . And the more especially so, when a good working number of Masons can be concentrated within a much smaller radius. *Convenience* should be consulted.

M. W. Peter W. Gray was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Geo. H. Bringhurst re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### VERMONT—1867.

M. W. Leverett B. Englesby, Grand Master; R. W. Henry Clark, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this M. W. Grand  $\square$  was held at Montpelier, May 9. Seventy  $\square$  under charter and two under dispensation were represented.

The M. W. Grand Master congratulates the craft upon their great prosperity and the progress of the principles of the order in his jurisdiction. He recommends that in all cases of expulsion, the proceedings should be certified to the Grand  $\square$  for its approval or disapproval, and the final action of the Grand  $\square$  certified back to the secular  $\square$  from which the proceedings emanated, so that the Grand  $\square$  may be the final judges of the propriety of expulsion from the order. We differ from our good brother on this point. The Grand  $\square$  should have no control over the questions of expulsion or suspension, except upon appeal.

The Grand Master made quite a number of decisions during the year, but we notice none that particularly attract out attention.

At the session of 1866, the Grand  $\square$  appointed a Committee on "Work and Lectures," for the purpose of obtaining from Bro. Samuel Willson, Past Grand Lecturer, the work and lectures of Thomas Smith Webb. The committee submit, at this session, a lengthy report of their doings.

Notwithstanding the length of their report, we reproduce it, believing that it will prove interesting to the brethren. The committee met Bro. Willson at his residence in Vergennes, on the sixth day of December last, and after a careful examination of the evidence presented by him, submit the following statement:

*First*, Bro. Willson presented to us the original lectures of John Barney, as communicated to him, with the following history: "In August, 1817, John Barney was sent by Friendship □, at Charlotte, to learn the lectures of Webb. After some time spent in studying the lectures under the instruction of both Webb and Gleason, he returned and commenced lecturing before the □ in the vicinity of his residence, and in December, 1817, was authorized as lecturer by the Grand □ of Vermont. Soon after, Barney was employed by twelve of the members of Dorchester □, at Vergennes, to instruct them in the work and lectures, and during his stay, made the house of Bro. Willson his home, and was for several years before, when at Vergennes, the guest of Bro. Willson. At the time of his first visit, and while holding a □ of instruction, Barney gave to Willson the original cypher copy of the lectures which was before us. A literal of the manuscript will be presented by one of the committee at this session."

To substantiate the authenticity of the Barney lectures, we present the following, which, although of some length, we do not feel at liberty to abbreviate, desiring to place before the Grand □ all the facts and evidence on record, which throw light on the origin and promulgation of the work and lectures in Vermont:

"I took the first step in Masonry in Faithful □, in Charlestown, N. H., in 1815. Soon after, I left that state and settled in Vergennes, Vermont, June 3, 1816. On the 19th of December, 1816, I took the second, and on the 26th of December, 1816, I took the third step, and became a member of Dorchester □. Between December, 1816, and October, 1817, I partially learned the ritual as Bro. J. L. Cross had taught it here in 1815. Soon after the session of our Grand □ in October, 1817, John Barney applied to Dorchester □ for employment as a lecturer, authorized by our Grand □. Application being made to our □ for that purpose, some of the members objected; because Cross had been here so recently, they thought it unnecessary. Consequently, about a dozen young men, myself among them, made up a sufficient sum to employ Bro. Barney for, I should think, from eight to twelve days. For my share, I took Bro. Barney in my family as a boarder. This last circumstance was the cause of Barney's making my house his home, while in Vergennes, until he removed from Vermont.

"At this time the inquiry was made, how we should know if his were the true Webb lectures, as nothing else at that time was orthodox, and nothing else would satisfy. Cross and Barney differed in some few particulars, and Cross had his admirers, and Barney his, which led to frequent discussions. Many of these differences, perhaps all, I can point out at this time. These discussions led Barney to make the following statement, which I have never before heard doubted or called in question:

"Barney stated that when he called on Webb to obtain the Lectures, Webb said that he was engaged, but referred him to Gleason, who, Webb said, would give them precisely as he himself would do. Barney replied, that his brethren had furnished him the means to obtain the Webb Ritual, and nothing else would satisfy them. Webb replied that he would occasionally hear him recite, and would review the whole before he left, and that he accordingly did so. This statement of Barney's satisfied the Grand □ of Vermont, and Dorchester □, and has never been called in question in Vermont to my knowledge. *Barney never saw Fowle or Snow to my knowledge.*

"I have copied Preston's and have a copy of Gleason's of 1805 from the source from whence he obtained his. I know that there are some slight differences between Gleason's Ritual of 1805 and that of 1817, but that they are 'dissimilar in principal and language,' I positively deny, and challenge the proof. Between 1805 and 1817 Webb made several changes in his *Monitor*. These were generally improvements, and any one acquainted with Preston's Ritual can readily see how these changes in the Ritual between the above dates would naturally occur, and have no hesitation in saying, that these changes are also improvements. We trace our Ritual through Gleason to Webb directly to 1805 and 1817, without the slightest ground for doubt or uncertainty, and that there are yet living a small remnant who are ready and willing to verify the truth of the foregoing.

"Bro. Willson further informed us that Barney was approved, as a lecturer, by a committee of the Grand  $\square$ , of which Bro. Gallup, of Sheldon, one of the most intelligent Masons of the State, was chairman. He also believed that Barney never made any changes while in Vermont, and never but two after he left the State, and those while lecturing in New York and Ohio, and those unimportant; and that the manuscript copy of Barney he submitted, was written mostly by Barney, and partly by Willson—dictated by Barney—and it was examined and corrected by them together. The most prominent members of the school at Vergennes in 1817 were Peter Welch, Seth Geer, Nathan Griswold and Amasa Belknap, and that Philip C. Tucker learned the lectures of Willson, and when called upon for information, always referred all visitors to Willson to instruct them."

Peter Welch died at Essex, New York, in 1864, and previous to his death, made the following statement:

"VERGENNES, July 23d, 1864.

"I, Peter Welch, do hereby certify that I was a member of John Barney's School of Instruction, in the fall of 1817, and that Barney then and there stated that he obtained the lectures of Gleason, and that Webb examined him thoroughly, and pronounced him perfectly correct. I learned the lectures of Barney at that time quite perfectly, and have retained them up to this time so far as to be able to detect any change of importance in their rehearsal. I am not aware of any change in these lectures in Vermont since I first learned them in 1817. I have generally held some office in Dorchester  $\square$ , until I recently removed from the State. I have been what may be called a working man (*i. e.*), I have generally participated in the active duties of the  $\square$ . I have been familiarly acquainted with Samuel Willson since 1817, and have often seen him work; he has strictly followed Barney's teachings in both.

"I have read a letter published in the *Voice of Masonry*, a periodical published in Chicago, Illinois, dated March, 1863, signed by Samuel Willson, most of which I know, and all of which I believe to be true. I was familiar with Willson's original key, which is now before me, made by Barney in 1817, and I know it has not been altered in any particular.

"[Signed]"

"PETER WELCH."

The statement of Nathan Griswold, long a citizen of Vergennes, and a member of Dorchester  $\square$ , was next submitted:

"This is to certify that I took the first two degrees of Masonry in the spring of 1818, in Dorchester  $\square$ , then No. 3, now No. 1, and that I very soon learned the lectures of Samuel Willson and others, who had then recently learned them of John Barney. I soon became an active working Mason, and from that time have been a member until the present hour. I have held the offices of Junior and Senior Deacon, Junior and Senior Warden, and Worshipful Master. Some of these offices I have held for several years. From the time I first became a Mason until the present time, I have often seen a manuscript cypher of the lectures which has always been one

standard from that day to this. This cypher is now before me, and I know it has not been altered, and I have often worked with Bro. Wilson and lectured with him, and know that he has not changed his lectures since 1818, and that his lectures conform exactly with that cypher, and this cypher has always been referred to and considered as our standard. I have seen Barney several times, and have always understood that Willson obtained his cypher from Barney, and that Barney obtained his lectures of Webb and Gleason. This authority has never been called in question until very recently, to my knowledge.

“NATHAN GRISWOLD.

“Vergennes, January 20th, 1866.”

The next document submitted was a copy of Gleason's lectures in manuscript, which bears the following memorandum :

“A certified copy of Gleason's Manuscript Lectures, with very few alterations, certified to Bro. Philip C. Tucker by Bro. Joseph Covell, Past Junior Grand Warden of the Grand □ of Maine, who obtained it of Gleason himself.”

Accompanied with an additional note, as follows :

“Copied from a copy of Gleason's Lectures (*verbatim, et literatim*), certified to by Joseph Covell of Jay Bridge, Maine.

“Attest :

“S. WILLSON, S. L.

“Original copy 1805, copied in 1859, by S. Willson.”

This copy confirms Bro. Barney's and Willson's lectures.

The incomplete manuscript of Bro. Seth Geer, a member of Dorchester □ was submitted. This document contains the following certificate :

“VERGENNES, October 4th, 1863.

“The within written by Seth Geer in 1817 and 1818. I saw him do some part of it, and have often seen it since that time, and have been familiar with it, and know what I affirm. It was given to Nathan Griswold by the widow of Seth Geer, after his death, and was given to me by Griswold some three years since.

“It was never finished, but as far as it goes is generally correct. Geer made this at the time I made mine (*i. e.*), at John Barney's dictation. The one confirms the other.

“SAMUEL WILLSON.”

This includes the first two degrees, and there is abundant evidence of his hand writing. Seth Geer was a member of Dorchester □, was Master and active working Mason, and familiar Lecturer.

The letter referred to by Welch is substantially the statement made by Bro. Willson to the committee. A copy of the lectures made by Geer under Barney's instruction, was before us, although an imperfect copy, having been mutilated, but so far as it went in the first two degrees, corroborated the Willson Barney key.

The next paper submitted was the original manuscript copy of the lectures belonging to the late Past Grand Master Haswell, made from Jeremy L. Cross in 1815. Although much worn, was perfectly legible. The papers were filed in the hand writing of Philip C. Tucker. “Old minutes and correct work from E. A. to R. & S. Master, borrowed December 6, 1865.” In authentication of these papers as being in the hand writing of Bro. Haswell, a certificate of a member of Bro. Tucker's family was presented, certifying that the party was, during the lifetime of Bro. Tucker, familiar with the style and penmanship of Hon. Nathan B. Haswell, from the long and familiar correspondence existing between them, and had no hesitation in stating that the documents were written by him. These papers were received by Bro. Tucker the year following Grand Master Haswell's death, from his grandson, W. H. Root, in a box filled with Bro. Haswell's masonic

papers, and have been called the "Haswell papers." Bro. Willson stated to the committee in reference to the Haswell notes, that the first knowledge he had of them was about the years 1822 or 1823. He was at Burlington with Bros. Tucker and Haswell, in the □. They three rehearsed the lectures, during which a discussion arose between Haswell and Willson about a certain point, and reference was made to these notes. He then understood, and had always, that they were taken from Cross by Haswell himself, and not from Barney, and believed Bro. Tucker to be under the same impression, although was not certain that Bro. Haswell ever told him so, but he knew the manuscript to be in Bro. Haswell's hand writing, and knew it to be the key that was consulted on that occasion. He was again in consultation with these brethren at Burlington, in 1847, in reference to these lectures, and these notes were referred to. He also stated that there was so little difference between Bros. Tucker, Haswell, Potter, of Middlebury, and himself, that they always worked in a □ together, without any collision or discussion, only as to the use of a few words. He thought Cross undoubtedly taught the true work originally, with the exception of a few glossary words, and that his lectures, as taught in 1822, were mainly correct; at any rate, the instructions received by Bro. Haswell from Cross, were very nearly the same as the Webb-Barney lectures. He took a copy of these lectures in 1863, in which we found the following memorandum:

"The following is a true copy of the original manuscript in the hand writing of N. B. Haswell, P. G. Master of Masons in Vermont, except I have omitted superfluous letters from prudential motives, but this does not change the reading of a single word nor vary the sense. I think Haswell made the original from Jeremy L. Cross in the year 1815. Haswell showed it to me many years ago.

"S. WILLSON, S. L."

He next presented a manuscript copy of the Haswell lectures, made by Bro. L. D. Stone, for many years Worshipful Master of Friendship □, at Charlotte. The copy by Stone was one made from a copy of the lectures made from Haswell's original manuscript by Bro. G. S. Sinclair, which Bro. Willson believed corresponded, very generally, with the original, and accompanied with the following letter:

"CHARLOTTE, December 27th, 1855.

*Venerable Friend and Brother:*

"I am sorry to inform you that I have not as yet heard from my friend, G. S. Sinclair, in relation to the copy of Bro. Haswell's lectures, which I herewith send to you. I shall write him again, and may possibly hear from him in season for the Grand □; if I do, I shall certainly inform you. I can truly say that he told me it was a true copy of the lectures in Bro. Haswell's possession, but in drafting this copy from his, some ten years since, and being myself uninstructed in the mysteries of Masonry, I am sure I have made some mistakes, but in the main matter it is correct.

"Fraternally your friend and brother,

"L. D. STONE."

A letter was presented as corroborating the Webb lectures from Bro. W. B. Langridge, of Iowa, addressed to Bro. Willson, under date of October 19th, 1866, of which the following is an extract:

"The Vinton notes compare in some respects very nearly with yours; in others they differ very materially. They are not properly notes so much as full reading. They are full of signs and contracted words, but he did not seem to have even learned the idea of the cypher in which yours and others is written. The history of them is about this: Vinton was one of the earliest of Webb's pupils; he went South, lectured, and was the author of one funeral ode, 'Solemn Strikes the Funeral Chime.' He taught in North



Carolina, and to some few  $\square$ , furnished a copy of his lectures. He died in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and was buried by the Masons. After his death, in his trunk was found this copy of notes and some other papers, which told who and what he was. His teachings are probably those of Webb's teachings. It is supposed this copy was made about 1798. There is the date and no water mark in to tell anything about it. The Snow lectures is a copy of John Snow, made from his verbal communication. They are almost *verbatim* with Gleason's. I find none so good, pure English—so well worded. He also says: 'Your account of the Haswell notes is very interesting and very satisfactory; also valuable, as it gives a clear argument for believing it to be the genuine thing it is claimed to be.'

A letter was also presented from Past Grand Secretary, Bro. John B. Hollenbeck, in corroboration of the history of Barney's procuring the lectures, and the evidences of their being correct. The testimony of one so familiar with the facts, and so well known in Vermont, can but carry great influence with it:

"BURLINGTON, December 21st, 1865.

"R. W. Sir and Brother:

In answer to yours of the 8th instant, I would say Bro. John Barney was made a Mason in and joined Friendship  $\square$  No. 20, now No. 24, in the year 1810, of which I was Secretary in 1816, and he was generally present at the  $\square$  meetings up to the time he went to Boston to learn the lectures, where he spent some time. I do not recollect how long he was gone. His family lived in the same village where I resided, and when he returned from Boston, he was appointed Senior Deacon of our  $\square$ , and when at home punctually attended our meetings and meetings for instruction, and quite a number of young Masons were taught by him; as our  $\square$  by vote employed him for lecturing. I learned the lectures of him on the first three degrees. Bro. Aaron B. Webb and many others learned the lectures of him. I was told by him that he learned the lectures of Bros. Gleason and Webb. Friendship  $\square$  paid him, for obtaining the lectures and teaching its members, about twenty dollars.

I was knowing to his visiting Vergennes for that purpose. I always understood that he taught the true Webb-Preston lectures, which were the same as taught by you to the fraternity in Vermont. After Bro. Barney went west to teach said lectures, I have no knowledge of him except so far as I obtained it from masonic publications, except I was informed by Brother Tucker that he went west, into different States. He slightly varied his lectures to suit the various versions insisted on by those who employed him.

"With great respect,

"Truly and fraternally yours,

"JOHN B. HOLLENBECK.

"W. SAMUEL WILLSON,

"Grand Lecturer of the Grand  $\square$  of Vermont."

The foregoing statements and letters cover the whole point of history of the introduction and promulgation of the Barney lectures in Vermont. Perhaps no more reliable authority can be found to substantiate the introduction of any series of lectures into any jurisdiction, than the reliable proof we have presented, and they give conclusive evidence that we once had the true Webb lectures direct through John Barney. As to the corruptions and alterations that have been made through the changes which the institution has passed since their first promulgation, there must, in a measure, ever be a doubt which no evidence, however satisfactory to your committee, can dispel from those who have not had the opportunity of comparison. We had before us the Barney, Cross, Snow and Haswell lectures, all in the main corroborating each other, with the evidence of those

who worked under and were familiar with them all, that the variations were so slight that no discussion or difficulty prevented the parties using, under either system, from harmoniously working together without scarcely a variation, which proves conclusively that there was but one real system, and uniformity prevailed, and no one who carefully compares one with the other, can doubt for a moment that Webb's lectures, as taught by John Barney in 1817, were a standard in all respects which could not be surpassed. From the contentions of modern days, it is very plain that corruptions or alterations have crept in which prevent working side by side in the quarries without much confusion, in what was once, and should be, a common and intelligible language, whether he be an aged craftsman or a young apprentice just commencing his labors upon the temple.

There was before the committee a copy made by Bro. Willson, which he has for many years called his standard, until perhaps 1856, in which he has noted additions by him. Since these will be fully pointed out as the work is exemplified before the Grand  $\square$  by the member of the committee to whom was assigned the transcribing of the original Barney key, if any of the Masons of the state have cyphers of Willson's lectures as made by him previous to 1856, they will find them, with very slight alterations, to agree almost *verbatim* with the original of the John Barney lectures in Bro. Willson's possession.

Your Past Grand Lecturer informed the committee that he did not know that the work Mnemonics, so called by Rob Morris, was claimed to be a copy of his lectures until some six months after it appeared in print, and that he has never since so considered it. Some of your committee have knowledge of the fact that Bro. Willson, from the first, ever claimed there were errors, and grave ones, in them and after patient and careful investigation and comparison, proclaims and points out more than one hundred changes, some of them vital and essential, made by Morris in his work called Mnemonics.

Therefore your committee, after a careful and patient investigation of the facts presented, and full examination of the corroborating testimony submitted to them, can come to no other conclusion than that Gleason, Snow, Cross and Haswell, and Willson, in his amended copy, have all made their own changes and interpolations, and that the original Barney lectures, as formerly taught previous to 1856 by Willson, are a transcript of the teachings of Thomas Smith Webb, and the others, although in all essential points they agree, are a mixture of the teachings of these several authors, compiled by each one to suit their own tastes and prejudices, and that the Mnemonics, by Rob Morris, are but a review of these various authors, making, perhaps, Bro. Willson's amended copy the basis, prepared in accordance with his own taste and designs, and hence the great discordance which has arisen in the work in this jurisdiction.

We therefore commend to the careful consideration of the Grand  $\square$  the original Barney lectures as copied by the Assistant Grand Lecturer, believing, from all the examinations, comparisons made and proofs submitted, that it is the original work as practiced in England and taught in this country by Thomas Smith Webb, and trusting that all preconceived opinions and prejudices will be thrown aside in the consideration of this question, and that the Grand  $\square$  will harmonize upon these lectures as taught to our fathers, and discard all others which, perhaps, embodying the principles, yet are, at the same time, expressing in their variations the personal opinions and varied tastes of the several compilers.

Your committee, after the performance of the laborious duty assigned them, in view of the facts and testimony which have been placed before them, having as thoroughly investigated the subject as can be done at this late period, when but a remnant of the men who had knowledge of the in-

roduction of the work and lectures as taught by Barney in Vermont, believe that the lectures of Thomas Smith Webb are contained in the original Barney key in the possession of Past Grand Lecturer Samuel Willson, and a literal copy of which in cypher is herewith submitted, was the ancient work in Vermont from 1817, and is the best standard that can be found, and that the work called Mnemonics, by Rob Morris, is but a corruption, with such interpolations from other compilers with additional changes by himself, and that the lectures presented by your committee should be adopted by this Grand ☐ as the standard in this jurisdiction. We believe that the further use of printed keys or notes, under whatever name, should be abandoned at once by all good Masons and ☐. We have endeavored, carefully and impartially, to arrive at facts and conclusions having only in view the truth of history, and the well-being of Masonry in our own jurisdiction, leaving other parties to arrive at their own conclusions in the premises.

In justice to Bro. Samuel Willson, Past Grand Lecturer, we would say, that we believe him to have been faithful to all the trusts reposed in him by the Grand ☐ of Vermont during his long service, and that he is entirely innocent of the corruptions and speculations of Rob Morris, and trust that in his declining years he may look back upon his labors as the custodian of the work with that pleasure which is ever the reward of the faithful servant, with the assurance that his brethren of the Grand ☐ appreciate his labors and kindly acknowledge the debt of gratitude they owe to him for his valuable services in their behalf.

The report on Foreign Correspondence covers sixty-two pages, and is an able criticism of the transactions of twenty-four Grand ☐, including Nebraska for 1865. We would like to cull from this report, but space forbids.

M.: W.: Leverett B. Englesby was re-elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Henry Clark, Grand Secretary.

#### VIRGINIA—1868.

M.: W.: Wm. Terry, Grand Master; R.: W.: John Dove, Grand Secretary.

This M.: W.: Grand body held its annual communication in the city of Richmond, December 14th. Eighty-four ☐ were represented. Quite a number of Past Grand officers and Past Masters were present.

The Grand Master's address is fraternal and courteous. He issued four-teen dispensations for new ☐ during the year. He congratulates the craft upon their prosperity, and admonishes them to guard well the approaches to the Temple. He says truly, "We are under a much greater necessity to restrain than to encourage additions to our numbers." In regard to the necessary qualifications of candidates for the mysteries of Freemasonry, he expresses our views so nicely, that we give them, in the hope that they may be read and weighed *well* by our own brethren:

And in this connection, I deem it not amiss to call attention, with the hope of doing some good, to the qualifications of candidates for initiation into the mysteries of our order; and it will be found that even many good and zealous Masons are not fully impressed with the grave responsibility resting upon them in the premises, and the rigid inquiry that should be made into the character and qualifications of all candidates—qualifications that should be found to be not negative, but positive. It is not enough that you do not know anything against the candidate, but you must know

enough of him to satisfy you that he is every way qualified and worthy of the honor you propose to confer. It is easy to prevent the admission of an unworthy candidate, but once admitted, a great deal of trouble may be given and much injury done. The admission of the unworthy is to us

"The direful spring  
Of woes unnumbered."

And what are the qualifications of candidates?

1st. Their circumstances:

According to the Ancient Charges, the candidate must be "of limbs whole as a man ought to be." In the language of our Grand  $\square$ , not "so maimed that they cannot conform to the Ritual," and capable of "pursuing their worldly avocations" if "necessitated to do so;" thus clearly contemplating a conformity to "law and usage," and guarding against the admission of persons, who, in all reasonable probability, would become a burden to the fraternity. Masons should be charitable, but their obligations neither require them to assume the peculiar and responsible relation of Masons to these charitable objects, nor indeed, are they permitted.

2d. Their connections:

According to the Ancient Charges, the candidate must be "no bastard"—he must be "free born, of good kindred, true, and no bondman;" and agreeably to the regulations of the General Assembly of 1663, the candidate must be "of able body, *honest* parentage, good reputation, and an observer of the laws of the land." It thus appears that it is not alone sufficient that the candidate should be personally unexceptionable; his connections must be such as will not bring reproach upon the fraternity. When we admit a person into our order, we assume certain relations, not only to the initiate, but to certain of his kindred, and it is evidently not only proper, but even required, that this kindred should be such as we are willing to assume these responsible relations to, but feel justified in imposing them upon others.

3d. Moral qualifications:

While I urge the brethren to give strict attention to the moral qualifications of candidates, yet I will not, in this paper, undertake to discuss this branch of the subject, as it opens too wide a field for the limits I have prescribed to myself.

4th. The intellectual endowments:

A candidate must not only possess the requisites of "circumstances," "connections," and "moral qualifications," but he must be possessed of sufficient mental capacity to enable him clearly to understand and discharge the "functions and duties" devolving upon him in this relation, but he must have such mental culture that he "be capable of reading—that he may enrich his mind; of writing, that he may communicate his thoughts to others."

Commissioners were present from the Grand  $\square$  of West Virginia, for the purpose of conferring with the *mother Grand*  $\square$  upon the terms of settlement between the two Grand  $\square$ , in reference to the subject of jurisdiction. The Grand  $\square$  appointed a committee to confer with the said commissioners; and, as the result of the conference, the following resolution, among others, was adopted by the Grand  $\square$ :

1st. *Resolved*, That this Grand  $\square$  hereby recognize the said Grand  $\square$  of West Virginia, and extend to her our fraternal and masonic recognition, and cordially recommend her to all other Grand masonic bodies in correspondence with this Grand  $\square$ .

This result fills our hearts with gladness. We delight to hear of this fraternal, manly, masonic spirit, manifested by the parties in this controversy.

The  $\square$  in Virginia do some business in the way of suspensions. One  $\square$  suspended thirty-eight of its members.

The following appears among the standing regulations of the Grand  $\square$  :

*Resolved*, That no Mason is authorized to disclose his ballot in any vote of admission or advancement, unless he shall have voted in the negative.

We hold this principle to be wrong, in that it permits a brother who voted in the negative to disclose his ballot. It is universally held that the ballot *must be secret*. In this case the ballot *may be secret*.

We congratulate our brethren of the Old Dominion upon their prosperity, and hope the day will soon appear when they, as well as our other sister jurisdictions of the South, shall have fully recovered from the effects of the war, when their Temples shall be rebuilt, and the waste places of our great masonic Zion shall be made to blossom as the rose.

M. W. Wm. Terry was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. John Dove, Grand Secretary.

#### WASHINGTON—1868.

R. W. E. A. Light, Deputy Grand Master, presiding; R. W. Thomas M. Reed, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this Grand  $\square$  was held at the city of Olympia, September 17. Representatives were present, at the opening, from only three  $\square$ . Grand Representatives of the Grand  $\square$  of Missouri, Maine, Vermont and Nova Scotia were also present.

M. W. James Biles, Grand Master, appeared on the morning of the second day of the session and took the gavel. His address is very short, but a sound masonic spirit pervades it. He granted two dispensations for new  $\square$ , one in our new territory, Alaska. He also granted three dispensations to confer degrees. He also granted a new dispensation to a  $\square$  which had lost their charter and hall by fire. The craft is represented as having kept pace with the growth of the territory.

We observe that in this sister jurisdiction the officers of  $\square$  to whom charters are ordered to issue are immediately admitted as representatives in the Grand  $\square$ .

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted their report, and the Grand Secretary was authorized to print such portions of the report as he might think advisable. He accordingly "*deems it advisable,*" in view of the "*situation,*" not to "*push things*" at the present, gladly awaiting a more favorable exhibit of the credit side of our (their) balance sheet. They acknowledge the receipt of proceedings from thirty-four Grand  $\square$ , including Nebraska.

M. W. Benj. E. Lombard was elected Grand Master, and R. W. T. M. Reed re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### WEST VIRGINIA—1868.

M. W. Wm. J. Bates, Grand Master; R. W. Thos. H. Logan, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of this M. W. Grand body was held at

Wheeling, November 10. Twenty-four ☐ were represented at the opening.

The address of the Grand Master is a business document, fraternal and courteous in tone. He granted six dispensations for new ☐. Allusion is made, at length, to the differences between his Grand ☐ and the Grand ☐ of Virginia; but as we noticed the action in this matter in our review of the proceedings of Virginia, we leave the subject.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters show the craft to be in a flourishing condition.

We observe that the regulations of West Virginia make it the duty of every member of a ☐ "to inquire for himself in regard to the character of those seeking admission to our institution," instead of referring the petition to a committee for that special purpose. We concede that it is the duty of every member of a ☐ to do so, but "what is everybody's business is nobody's business;" hence we favor the reference of petitions to a committee.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of R. W. Thos. H. Logan, Grand Secretary. The review covers nearly one hundred pages, and does credit to its author. It contains a *resume* of the transactions of thirty-five Grand ☐, including a notice of Nebraska.

We congratulate our brethren of West Virginia upon the amicable settlement of their controversy with the *mother* ☐. We wish them great prosperity.

M. W. Wm. J. Bates was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. Thos. H. Logan, Grand Secretary.

#### WISCONSIN—1869.

M. W. Harlow Pease, Grand Master; R. W. Wm. T. Palmer, Grand Secretary.

This M. W. Grand body met in annual communication in the city of Milwaukee, on the 8th day of June, with representatives from one hundred and forty-eight chartered ☐. There were also present a large number of Grand officers, Past Grand officers and Past Masters.

The address of M. W. Grand Master Pease is almost entirely local in interest. He speaks in very feeling terms of the death of Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary Wm. R. Smith, who had been intimately connected with the early history of the Grand ☐. He reports his correspondence with the M. W. Grand Master of New York upon a case of invasion of jurisdiction of one of his subordinate ☐ by a ☐ in New York, in conferring the degrees upon one Louis Shackman, a resident of Milwaukee. Upon examination of the case, it appeared that Shackman had imposed upon the New York ☐ by a statement in writing over his own signature, that he resided within the jurisdiction of the ☐ to which he applied for and received the degrees in, and that he had never been rejected by any ☐. The result of this little piece of strategy was—as was justly deserved—the expulsion of the imposter from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Masonry.

The Grand Master presents to the Grand □ the subject of the controversy between the Grand □ of Louisiana and the Grand Orient of France, and urges prompt action by the Grand □ upon the subject. The Grand □ adopted a resolution discontinuing all masonic correspondence and fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France during the continuance of their interference with the jurisdictional rights of the Grand □ of Louisiana.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report that they have carefully examined the proceedings of forty Grand □, including Nebraska, but they present no review, simply culling from the subject matters in a general way. The report is very short, only covering three pages. This we regret, for we had the pleasure of perusing a very interesting review in their proceedings of 1867.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows assets to the amount of \$8,453.29. The craft is flourishing in Wisconsin.

M.: W.: Gabriel Bouck was elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: Wm. T. Palmer re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### FRANCE.

This Grand Orient held its annual communication at Paris, June 1st, 1868. Two hundred and eighty □ were represented. M.: W.: G.: M.: Mellinet, presiding; R.: W.: G.: S.: Thevnot on the left.

The Grand Master's address is an eloquent production, and proves conclusively that slanderous attacks upon Masonry in France have resulted in strengthening the craft. Several questions of local concern are ably treated.

A long debate occurred upon the question of separating the legislative and judicial functions of the Grand body, and on the adoption of a code for trials. Certainly, the proceedings give evidence of a vast amount of interest on these questions, for we find any amount of the brethren engaging in discussion, most frequently in warm fraternal courtesy, but sometimes a trifle warmer than courtesy warrants. Nevertheless, these lengthy debates demonstrate conclusively that Masonry in France has genuine zeal within its bosom, and we predict for it greater results than have been attained in the past.

Grand Orator, Bro. Garrison, delivered a most eloquent address at the annual banquet. We extract one significant utterance :

It is necessary, in a typical society, such as ours, that life and light circulate on all points, in place of accumulating on one alone. Centralization pushed to excess, creates a head without bounds upon an impoverished body, drags societies towards a rapid and fatal decay. Their strength depends on cordial harmony, a proper equilibrium of all the component parts. Thus shall be peacefully prepared and realized the ideal goal which should be followed—even the prescribed model of social progress, "unity in the many."

As we have given the New York translation of the Grand Orient's proceedings in the controversy between it and Louisiana, in our review of New York, it is deemed unnecessary to reproduce it here. We can but

repeat our hopes that Grand Master Mellinet will, on reflection, perceive that his action in recognizing and sustaining the so-called "Supreme Council for the State of Louisiana," is in direct violation of masonic comity ; is an invasion of the rights of our worthy sister Grand  $\square$  of Louisiana ; ferments discord among Masons in the last named jurisdiction ; is condemned by every Grand  $\square$  in the United States of America, and if persisted in, will lead to a thorough and complete severing of the present fraternal and cordial masonic relations existing between the Grand Orient of France and every Grand  $\square$  in the United States. We trust that on a careful reconsideration of all the points involved in the premises, M. W. Grand Master Mellinet will not bequeath to French and American Masons so great and utter an estrangement as must ensue if he persists in upholding the position assumed as published in the "Bulletin" for October, 1868. May the Grand Architect of the Universe endow him plentifully with wisdom and discretion, to the end that he may act in such manner as will redound to the credit and glory of the craft now and forever. We linger over the proceedings of the Grand Orient with a fraternal love that is sorely troubled, for we know not now whether it may be our lot to exchange these masonic courtesies again. Between America and France, masonically speaking, there is a portentous cloud, and though we feel it has a silver lining, it rests with our *fraters* in France to say whether the vivifying sunlight of masonic fellowship shall break through this cloud, and relume our paths as in the past.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. N. WISE,  
D. H. WHEELER, } *Committee.*  
R. R. LIVINGSTON, }





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