

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE
Most Puissant Grand Council

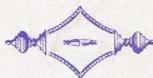
OF

Royal and Select Masters

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK,

SEPTEMBER 3, 1878.



BUFFALO, N. Y.:

BAKER, JONES & CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.

1878.

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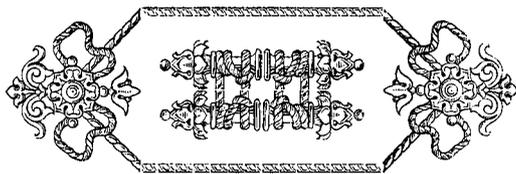
STATE OF NEW YORK,

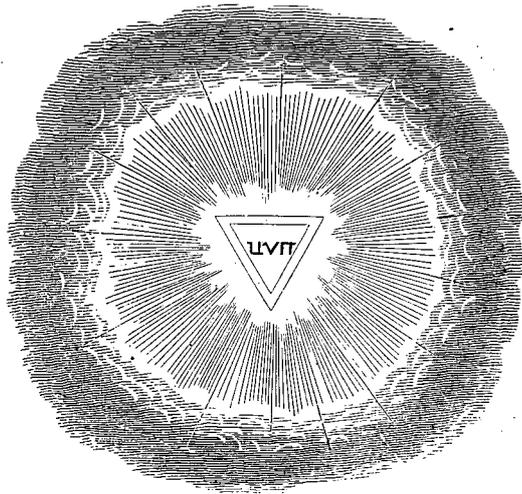
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ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

Grand Council R. S. M.

GRAND COUNCIL ROOM,

MASONIC HALL, COR. SIXTH AVE AND 23D STREET.

The Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York, convened in Annual Assembly in the City of New York, (in accordance with a resolution adopted at its last Annual Assembly,) on Tuesday, September 3, A. D. 1878, Anno Dep. 2878.

PRESENT.

M. I. GEORGE M. OSGOODBY,	.....	GRAND MASTER.
M. I. CHARLES NORMAN,	.....	ACTING DEP. GRAND MASTER.
R. I. ALEX B. KING,	.....	GRAND P. C. OF W.
R. I. DAVID B. HOWELL,	.....	GRAND TREASURER.
R. I. GEORGE VAN VLIET,	.....	GRAND RECORDER.
R. I. P. W. VERHOEVEN,	.....	ACTING GRAND C. OF THE G.
R. I. THOMAS H. FLOYD,	.....	GRAND C. OF THE C.
R. I. AND REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER,	.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN.
R. I. DARWIN E. MORGAN,	.....	GRAND MARSHAL.
R. I. JOHN J. MARTIN,	.....	GRAND LECTURER.
I. JOHN OMBONY,	.....	ACTING GRAND STEWARD.
I. JOHNSON FOUNTAIN,	.....	GRAND SENTINEL.

Together with the Representatives of the following Councils :

COLUMBIAN.....	No. 1	BATAVIA.....	No. 27
UNION.....	" 2	UTICA.....	" 28
BROOKLYN.....	" 4	KING SOLOMON.....	" 31
BLOSS.....	" 14	PENTALPHA.....	" 36
BRUCE.....	" 15	CRYPTIC.....	" 37
SOUTHERN TIER.....	" 16	KONHOCTON.....	" 40
DORIC.....	" 19	CORNING.....	" 53
KEYSTONE.....	" 20	PEEKSKILL.....	" 55
DE WITT CLINTON.....	" 22	HUDSON.....	" 62
ONTARIO.....	" 23	SING SING.....	" 64
DUNKIRK.....	" 25	ITHACA.....	" 68
PALMYRA.....	" 26	NEPPERHAN.....	U. D.

And the Representatives of the following Grand Councils :

ALABAMA,	MASSACHUSETTS,	NEW JERSEY,
CALIFORNIA,	MICHIGAN,	OHIO,
CONNECTICUT,	MINNESOTA,	PENNSYLVANIA,
GEORGIA,	NEW HAMPSHIRE,	RHODE ISLAND.
LOUISIANA,	NEW BRUNSWICK,	WISCONSIN.
MAINE,		

Among the visitors present during the Assembly were:

- M.:W.: EDMUND L. JUDSON, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 R.:W.: CHARLES ROOME, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 M.:W.: JOHN W. SIMONS, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York.
 M.:I.: ARTHUR R. BLAKESLEE, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Connecticut.
 M.:I.: GEORGE SCOTT, Grand Master of the Grand Council of New Jersey.
 M.:I.: GEO. H. FISH, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Indiana.
 M.:I.: JOHN HOOLE, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of New York.
 M.:I.: G. FRED. WILTSIE, Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of New York.

The Grand Council was opened in **AMPLE FORM**.

On motion of M.:I.: JOHN HOOLE, all Companions Select Masters in good standing were invited to seats as visitors in this Grand Council, except at such times as prohibited by the Constitution.

On motion of R.:I.: A. B. KING, the reading of the Minutes of the previous Assembly were dispensed with.

M.:I.: GEO. M. OSGOODBY, Grand Master, then delivered the following

ADDRESS:

MY ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANIONS :

The never tiring, never ending, but ceaseless course of time has again brought together the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the State of New York for the sixty-ninth time, and I cordially welcome you all, as the loved and select from the many; and while we have so much to be grateful for in the blessings and exemplification of the loving kindness of the Great Master above, and raise our hearts and voices in praise and adoration and revive ourselves in the good work appointed unto us, let us bear in mind that—

“The great procession of mankind moves on
To-day, as yesterday, and every day
With noisy tread, and all will soon be gone
Who now are here, and others throng the way.

“Up from the unexplored we climb to birth,
And march into the visible and known,
And then across this speck of rolling earth
Into the unexplored, with laugh and moan.”

And, therefore, we cannot forget the memory of those who have fallen by the strong hand of death and are numbered with the dead; have lain down their weapons of defence, their implements of work, and who have gone to receive their reward in the Temple of Light, among the Sons of Light..

“Dead !” did we write ? ah no. Can we forget
That some of them are speaking to us yet ?
Their spirits live in a fairer clime than this.
Where, Select and blest, in the noontide of bliss
Their souls will eternally shine.

Off with moistening eyes, our steps are stayed,
Beside the mounds, where low our friends are laid ;
The winds in the autumn leaves their requiem sing,
While to their memories, now, we sadly bring
The loving tribute of our praise.

JOHN.ATHERTON HARRIS, the Representative of this Grand Council to the Grand Council of New Hampshire, passed from this to an eternal life, September 3d. 1877, one year ago this day. The news of his decease did not come to our knowledge until after the close of our last Assembly.

In his death, the old saying that “Death loves a shining mark” is again proved true.

Our Illustrious Campanion HARRIS was one of the most distinguished Free Masons in New England, having been actively connected with the Order for many years. He was a member of Blazing Star Lodge, Trinity Royal Arch Chapter, Horace Chase Council and Mt. Horeb Commandery of Concord, and had also taken all the Scottish and French Rites of Masonry. The degree of Cryptic Masonry was conferred in 1863 by Horace Chase Council. In the Council he was Thrice Illustrious Master in 1866-7, and Recorder since 1870. In the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of New Hampshire he was Captain of the Guard in 1868, Illustrious Conductor in 1869, Illustrious Grand Master in 1870, Deputy Puissant Grand Master in 1871, Deputy Grand Master in 1872, M.P. Grand Master in 1873 and 1874, and Grand Recorder from 1875. At the time of his death he was Secretary and Recorder of five Grand bodies.

He had a thorough knowledge of all the Masonic rites, and was without an equal in that State as a Masonic historian. His private library was stored with publications of extremely rare value, and an immense number of manuscripts pertaining to the early history of the organization in New Hampshire. His address before the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in 1875, in

which he gave a sketch of Cryptic Masonry in New England, was so able that it awakened a wide-spread interest in the fraternity, and elicited compliments from nearly every kindred organization throughout the country.

The funeral was very largely attended by members of the Masonic fraternity and the public generally.

The Officers of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council, and of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, were nearly all present, so beloved was the deceased and in such estimation was his memory held. The loss is one not easily to be recovered from; he has passed from our fellowship, and his memory alone remains to us, but his work will remain as a bright example for us to follow.

Right Ill. Companion FREDERICK F. DRIGGS departed this life April 24th, 1878, at his home in Dunkirk, N. Y. He was raised in Meridian Sun Lodge, of Dunkirk, exalted in Fredonia Chapter, No. 76, and first Charter member of Dunkirk Chapter, No. 191, received the Cryptic degrees in Buffalo Council, No. 17, and was a Charter member of Dunkirk Council, No. 25; and in 1874 was the Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master of this body, and had held prior to that year various positions of trust and honor in this Grand Council. It can be safely said that he was the father of Cryptic Masonry in Dunkirk. In his Masonic career there he has held offices in every Masonic body, from Tiler of the Lodge through to Eminent Commander of the Commandery there stationed.

He belonged to a family whose history may be traced for over one thousand years. In the year 735, and during the reign of King Thierry IV, of France, the ancestors of the deceased emigrated from Normandy, a province in France, and located in London, England. This was about fifty years before the Danes first landed in England. THOMAS DRIGGS and his wife, HANNAH STERLING, were the first known ancestors of this name. Among the children of this marriage was one named STEPHEN, who was born June 22, 821, during the Saxon Heptarchy. From this period until April 16, 1512, the family continued to reside in London, and engaged in different professions and occupations. At this time GEORGE DRIGGS, by profession a watch-maker, removed to Sheffield, England. This branch of the family remained in Sheffield until February 4th, 1703, when JOSEPH, with two children, embarked on board the ship *Liverpool* at the port of London for Boston, in the Colony of Massachusetts. He arrived at Boston April 7, 1703, after a passage of sixty-two days, and after a time settled at Hartford, in the Colony of Connecticut. Joseph was the pioneer of the family in America, and a lawyer by profession. He died April 5, 1735, at Lynne, Conn. The family, with few exceptions, have continued to reside in Massachusetts and Connecticut. BENJAMIN DRIGGS, the father of FREDERICK F., was born September 21, 1773; by

profession a ship-master. He was married to JOHANNA MALONE at Lisbon, Portugal, March 20, 1798, by whom he had six children: MARY, ANN, BENJAMIN, ASA, FREDERICK F., and one who died in infancy. All of the family are now dead, FREDERICK F. DRIGGS being the last of the children. FREDERICK F. DRIGGS was born March 5, 1820, in the city of New York. He continued to reside in New York until he was twelve years of age, when he separated from the family and went to the West India Islands. Here he remained about four years. Becoming dissatisfied with the country, he returned to Cheshire, in the State of Connecticut, to which place his parents had previously removed. FREDERICK F. was now sixteen years of age, and acting under home influences, he devoted himself for the next four years to the study of medicine and necessary branches of education. There was, however, a restless influence at work which prevented him from engaging in any of the ordinary pursuits at home. At this time the great West, with its many opportunities for enterprise and wealth, opened to his view. Others might turn aside from the dazzling prospect, and remain content with home and prospects there, but young DRIGGS could not resist the tempting view to better his condition. Hence it is that we find him in the year 1840 in the City of Buffalo and in Dunkirk engaged in the commission and forwarding business. He finally located in Dunkirk, and on the 16th day of December, 1846, married SARAH E. GIFFORD, daughter of WILBUR E. GIFFORD, an old and respected resident of Dunkirk. Since his marriage and residence in Dunkirk, his life has been an open page—every line traced by him has been read daily by its citizens. Constant and unremitting attention to business brought its own reward. Having filled the common measure of man he leaves this life, and we hope and believe not without having accomplished some good. He had his earnest, unflinching belief and faith in a future life, and so he passed from this to an eternal rest of love and peace.

Let the examples which we have before us encourage and strengthen us to labor industriously, that our work may be completed when called from labor to rest.

“So live, that when the summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed,
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.”

The duties of my office during the past year have been many and various, and the pleasure I have experienced in the performance of these duties has been a perfect and ample reward.

Harmony still prevails among our Arches, and while the clinking sound of our implements of work have been heard throughout the jurisdiction, wielded

by the many skillful hands of the industrious among our Select members, no sound of wrangling, discord or of disturbance has been heard. And I have again to congratulate you upon the fact that all is love and quietness within our S. V., except the sound of the workman making music sweet to our ears.

I shall endeavor to make the record of my official acts, which require presentment to you, as brief and succinct as possible.

I have during the past year appointed as Representative of this Grand Council to the Grand Council of New Hampshire, M. I. HENRY P. GLIDDENS, and I have received notice of the appointment of our I. Companion PHILANDER REED, as the Representative of the Grand Council of Louisiana to this Grand Council.

I have also been honored myself with an appointment from the Grand Council of Maryland as its Representative to this Grand Council; this appointment came to me as a surprise, not having any intimation of such intention on the part of that Grand Council until the reception of my commission from it; hence it was all the more gratifying to me.

On the 12th day of October last I called an emergent Grand Council to meet at Buffalo with Keystone Council, No. 20, as directed by the last Grand Assembly, for the purpose of presenting to M. I. Past Grand Master SACKETT the Jewel prepared by this body as a testimonial to him, at which time a large number of visitors from abroad were present. It is needless to say that the affair went off with *eclat*, and that the worthy recipient of your favor expressed his gratitude and thanks for the distinguished honor accorded to him by you, and pledged for the future his aid in the noble work in which we are engaged.

I received notice in December last that the annual election of the officers of King Solomon Council, No. 31, at Newburg, had not been held, and that it was almost a forlorn hope to think of reviving it. Upon a full statement of its affairs being given to me by its Master, I was asked by him, "How much will it cost the Council to die now, and have a respectable (not a gorgeous) funeral?" Not desiring to erect any Masonic tombstone during my administration, a correspondence ensued between the Master and myself, and the live Companions of the Council decided, after proper encouragement had been given, to postpone their proposed "respectable funeral," to again proceed and work for the cause. I have to give a tribute of praise to its Master for his labors to that end. I immediately issued a Dispensation for an election of officers, which was had, and I have to report now that the Council paid up its dues for the several years past, and is to-day a live and working Council, with no present prospects of this body being called upon to number it amongst the dead.

On the 28th of January last I received from the Master of Ontario Council, No. 23, an application for a Dispensation to elect officers, the time for the

regular election having passed unimproved, in which application he stated: "There is but very little interest manifested here, but a few of us would like to have a regular election," etc. I therefore issued my Dispensation, and advised the Master that upon the election night to announce that I would come there and aid them in a revival if desired. An election was had, and Ill. Companion JOHN N. MACOMB, Jr., was elected Master. I am informed that previous to this election but one candidate had been received and greeted for about ten years past. The Master elect proved to be the right man in the right place. I have since made them an official visit, and it was my pleasure to assist in conferring the degrees upon nine candidates, amongst whom was the old Warrior in Masonry, DARIUS A. OGDEN, of Penn Yan, who, having gone through to the 33°, and held some of the highest offices in the gift of the Masonic fraternity, came back to the Council in search of the "missing link," and expressed his satisfaction that he found it in the Secret Vault, and that the whole chain of Masonry was now perfectly in his possession.

Ontario Council is now full of life, has received and greeted twenty-nine candidates, and has many new ones started towards the same Arch.

I have made visits to several Councils, including Dunkirk, Batavia, Hornellsville, Doric, Keystone, Buffalo, Ontario, Addison and Genesee Valley, and have, in fact, repeated the visits to many of them several times over. Have also been to visit and confer with the officers of several Councils which have not made returns for many years, and I am satisfied that several of them can be revived, providing this Grand Body will grant power to my successor to make an arrangement in reference to the payment of Grand Council dues for years past, so that the same may be compromised upon an equitable basis for both bodies. The great accumulation of back dues having prevented many from attempting to resuscitate, this power granted and judiciously exercised, together with a personal visit from my successor, will ensure the revival of several Councils; and I recommend that such power be granted and such action be had. If this power had been vested in me, I should be able to report from five to ten Councils, not represented in this body to-day, revived and set at work again with live working officers.

In the visits which I have made, it has been my good fortune to see the work exemplified, and to aid in it to some little extent myself, and I am glad to state that the work has been well done. I have been accompanied in many of these visits by Ill. Companions SACKETT, MORGAN, BROTHERS and others of Keystone Council; NORMAN, GLIDDEN, WILE and others of Doric Council; and in fact I have never called upon these Councils for assistance but I have had it rendered, and their work has always been thoroughly well done. These two Councils are noted for the excellence of their work, and for being *live* Masonic bodies—Doric Council being the Banner Council of the State for this

year, having greeted thirty-nine candidates during the year ending July 31st, and four others since that date, with several new petitions now on hand. This is chargeable to the good old Norman blood at its head, which knows no such word as fail, and inscribes "Success" upon its banner, following down an ancestry that is known from the times of William the Conqueror.

On the 29th of May, at my official visit to Doric Council, I regularly opened an emergent Grand Council, and installed the Rev. JOHN G. WEBSTER as the Chaplain of this body.

I made an apportionment September 25th, 1877, of the different Councils for visitation, in accordance with the direction of this Grand Body at its last Assembly, and caused a copy to be sent to each Council and to the several officers of this Grand Council, and I desire to read to you from the printed proceedings of this body of its last Assembly, from page 87, to which I refer you, as follows: "The Grand Master announced that in making his appointments, he desired such Companions as may be named for the several positions, to understand, that in accepting said positions, he should consider it a pledge on their part that they would perform diligently all the labors assigned them by virtue of such office." I regret to say, however, that I have not heard of those visits being made, except as will appear by the reports which I herewith present to you. Some of your officers have not even rendered an excuse for not making them.

In many instances the officers of Subordinate Councils have failed in doing their duty in relation to these visits, by not answering communications addressed to them by the Grand Officers in their official capacity. It should be understood that the burden should not rest wholly upon Grand Officers, but that officers of Subordinate Councils have their duty to do also, and that without co-operation between both Grand and Subordinate Officers nothing can be accomplished. The failure of an officer to do his duty does not, however, excuse any other; it may tend to palliate the dereliction, but not to excuse it. The following is the apportionment made, and the letter sent by me to them:

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

NUNDA, N. Y., Sept. 25th, A. Dep. 2877.

R. ILL. COMPANION:

In accordance with a resolution of the Annual Assembly of the Most Puissant Grand Council, I do hereby apportion the Councils in this jurisdiction to the several Grand Officers for Official Visitation, as follows:

R. I. CHARLES W. BROWN, D. G. M., Nos. 1, 4, 24, 31, 62.

R. I. ALEXANDER B. KING, G. P. C. of W., Nos. 37, 45, 46, 52, 64.

R. E. CLAUDIUS F. BEATTY, G. C. of G., Nos. 2, 7, *21, 30, 36.

R. I. THOMAS H. FLOYD, G. C. of C., Nos. 8, 14, 28, 55, 65.

R. I. JOHN G. WEBSTER, Grand Chaplain, Nos. 18, 23, 26, 40, 66.

R. I. DARWIN E. MORGAN, Grand Marshal, Nos. 15, 17, 20, 25, *32, 41.

R. I. JOHN J. MARTIN, Grand Lecturer, Nos. *21, 22, *32, 53, 56, 61, 57.

Ill. OWEN WILLIAMS, Grand Steward, Nos. 16, 19, 27, 35, 38, 63.

In addition to these visitations, any of the Councils may call upon the Grand Lecturer to instruct in the work. Arrangements should be made so that those Councils who are assigned two visits from different officers might receive them at the same time; if not, each visitor is expected to make his visit regardless of the other. This work should be done thoroughly, and the Councils revived when needed.

The officers of Subordinate Councils are required to send *immediately* to the Grand Officers, who are assigned to visit their respective Councils, the time and place of their meetings.

The visiting officers will be prepared to address the Councils they visit on the subject of Cryptic Masonry.

A prompt report of these visits is to be made to us, on or before July 1st, 1878.

With the wish that your work will be so well done that we may gain much strength during this year, and with assurances of esteem, I am,

Ever faithfully and fraternally yours,

Attest,

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

GEO. VAN VLIET,

Grand Master.

Grand Recorder.

FLUSHING, L. I., Sept. 3, 1878.

M. Ill. GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

G. M. ROYAL AND SELECT M. M'S. OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK;

MY DEAR SIR AND M. Ill. COMP: The sounds of hammer and chisel are still to be heard within the S. V's. of the four Councils which you were pleased to assign to me for visitation, and report—though one of these bodies, No. 31, located at Newburgh, was for a time supposed to be so near her final dissolution that her funeral trappings were ordered, and the offices of the Grand Master sought to give her a quiet and decent burial; but, thanks to the efforts of the Grand Master, exerted in a different and far more agreeable manner than that of acting as undertaker in so melancholy a case as this would have been, had the life of the Council become extinct—King Solomon's Council still "lives and has a being" This Council has been struggling for existence

for some time past ; her dues to the Grand Council had not been paid, nor her officers chosen for the present year—though the time of the annual election had passed—when the Grand Master came to the rescue. A Dispensation was issued, the officers were elected, Grand Council dues paid, and the late languishing body was again started on its way, to become once more, it is to be hoped, the strong and influential body it once was.

Columbian Council, No. 1, has done but little work, and has unaffiliated a number of members during the past year, but she is *financially* sound, having a balance in the Treasury after paying Grand Council dues. Columbian is proud of her history, and so long as she is governed by such lovers of the Rite as are now at the helm, she will compose a not unimportant part of the Grand Council which she honors, and to which she will ever maintain a steadfast loyalty.

Brooklyn Council, No. 4, ought to be, with such a jurisdiction as hers, one of the largest and most thrifty Masonic bodies within the State. It is holding regular meetings and is doing some work. She has removed into a new room, and her prospects are bright for the next year.

Hudson Council, No. 62, though organized in 1872 under most favorable auspices, is languishing, says the Recorder, for lack of harmony among its members ; and with fifty-nine members on her roll has great difficulty in securing an attendance sufficient to constitute a quorum. This is truly a deplorable state of affairs, and one which, I trust, may not be suffered long to exist. This Council has the power, and it is to be hoped may have the will, to become a peer of the best Council in the State. She is out of debt, says the Recorder, and is able to keep her warrant ; but this is not the aim and object of Freemasonry—“*STAGNATION*,” *is not and must not be* our motto.

Thus stand the Councils upon which it is made my duty to report. I trust I may be excused for briefly alluding in addition to the two other Councils, Union and Adelpic, which are held in the city of New York. Through the commendable efforts of a few zealous Companions, these two Councils are giving promise of vast improvement, and great things may be expected from them in the near future. Both Councils have recently removed to the Temple, and by holding their meetings alternately they are able to aid and strengthen each other. Their exact condition, and the praiseworthy efforts of their officers, will no doubt be reported to you fully by the Grand Officer whose duty it was made to visit them officially, and in part for that purpose.

Regretting, M. Ill. Sir, that I am not able to make a more flattering statement of the condition of Cryptic Masonry in that portion of the field assigned to me for inspection, but with an abiding faith in the Eternal charms of our beautiful Rite, and believing that a brighter future still awaits it, I am yet unwilling to mourn over the loss of that which we have not yet attained.

"We cannot lament the loss of something which never was our own." Let us strive to *earn*, by renewed zeal, a rank and place in the Masonic world to which the intrinsic merits of the Rite entitle us.

Faithfully yours,

C. W. BROWN,

Deputy Grand Master.

Troy, August 24, 1878.

M. I. GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

MY DEAR SIR AND M. I. COMPANION: In compliance with the requirements of the Grand Council, I herewith transmit to you my report of the several Councils assigned to me for visitation; and, in doing so, regret to say that I have been unable to obtain any information from two of the Councils assigned to me.

Cryptic Council, No. 37, has a membership of fifty-three; holds no regular Assemblies unless they have work. They have received and greeted six, and have three candidates elected for the degrees. It still lives, and proposes to do so in the future.

Sing Sing, No. 64, membership thirty-nine, received and greeted during the past year nine. Is out of debt and in good health, with no prospect of a funeral at present.

Zabud, No. 46, *dead and buried*.

Otsego, No. 45. I addressed a letter to the T. I. Master immediately on the receipt of your circular letter making the assignments, asking him to inform me of the time of their regular Assemblies, but up to this time have received no reply.

Washington, No. 53. I also wrote to the T. I. Master of this Council, making the same request, which was the third communication I had addressed to this Council, all with the same result—no reply—which, to say the least, is discourteous to the writer, if not to the Grand Body he represents.

Regretting that I am unable to make to you a more full report, and with many wishes for your future welfare and prosperity, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

A. B. KING,

G. P. C. of W. I.

UTICA, July 22, 1878.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

GRAND MASTER OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASONS
STATE OF NEW YORK:

MOST ILL. SIR AND COMPANION: In accordance with instructions please find attached a *resumé* of the Councils placed under my supervision. The Councils are as follows:

EUREKA, No. 8.
BLOSS, No. 14.
UTICA, No. 28.
PEEKSKILL, No. 55.
SHERBURNE, No. 65.

Sherburne, No. 65, died a natural death some two years since, with no prospects of a revival. Cause: Not enough Chapters in the jurisdiction to supply the material. The warrant and belongings of the Council are at the disposal of the Grand Master.

Eureka, No. 8, located at Greene, has done no "work" for two years, owing to the continued hard times. I am informed by the Th. Ill. Master that better things are hoped for in the Fall.

Peekskill, No. 55, located at Peekskill, on the Hudson, has a membership of thirty-six. This Council possess all the necessary paraphernalia for the conferring of the degrees in full form. The Treasury of this Council is strong. No "work" done for the past year, but they live in hope.

Bloss, No. 8, located at Troy, was visited by me on the night of their annual election. I was accorded the honors due my office. Bloss Council is one of the strongest, if not the strongest, among our number. They have a large membership, a good financial standing, and are well officered. The prospects for the future are very bright.

Utica, No. 28, located at Utica, still flourishes. As this is the Council of which I was one of the first members, my modesty debar me from expressing my pride at its advancement. Suffice it to say, that No. 28 is still the most home-like Masonic body located in this city. Long may she wave.

I have now given a brief sketch of five Councils. Although they have not increased materially in numbers, yet the foundation is laid for the Cryptic Degrees which time can never efface. Hoping that in due time all worthy R. A. M. will be found working in the S. V., I remain,

Yours, fraternally,

THOS. H. FLOYD,

G. C. C.

BUFFALO, August 1st, 1878.

TO M. I. :GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

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

M. I. :SIR: At your request, and in the discharge of the pledge made at my installation, to visit the Councils assigned to me and endeavor to promote an interest in Cryptic Masonry, I have the honor to report, that on the 19th of January, 1878, I made my official visit to Keystone Council, No. 20, at Buffalo, it being the occasion of the Installation of Officers for the ensuing Masonic year. The Installation ceremonies were according to the Ritual, in *due* and *ancient* form. The Installing Officer was that ardent and zealous lover of our Cryptic Rite, M. I. :J. B. SACKETT, P. G. :M. : After the installation, your humble servant was received in his official capacity with the honors due to his station and conducted to the East, where a short address was made upon the Cryptic Rite and the duties of its members. The attendance was large, and a general interchange of ideas was indulged.

This Council, as you are aware, has among its Roll some of the leading Masonic minds of Western New York, and is active and progressive in its work, believing that Cryptic Masonry should receive from the hands of its Masonic brethren that position to which she is justly entitled—the connecting link between the *Capitular* and the *Chivalric* Degrees.

During the past year, under the Mastership of that zealous Brother, T. I. :JOHN L. BROTHERS, Keystone Council has largely increased her membership, and her position *numerically, financially and masonically* is *strong*. At the close of the ceremonies a Royal Banquet was spread, which partook of the general characteristics of the whole evening, *Rich, Pleasant and Profitable*.

On the 1st of February, 1878, in company with yourself and several distinguished Royal and Select Masters from Buffalo, I visited Batavia Council, No. 27, at Batavia N. Y. T. I. :Master H. M. WARREN, and many of the craft, greeted us in the *true* Masonic style, which touched a responsive chord in each brother's breast. T. I. :J. L. BROTHERS conferred the degrees, assisted by several of the Masters, upon several candidates. We trust that this Council had infused into it, at this time, a good degree of zeal and prosperity, and its members pledged themselves to work for its constant increase and success. The Grand Master made a few ringing remarks, exhorting them never to have but one sleeping *ahisha* in that Council. While examining the Books and Records of this Council, we were shown in the Lodge By-Laws the signature of *Morgan*, the Hero of the Masonic excitement of 1826. It is *said* he wrote an *exposé* of Masonry, and afterwards took up his residence in *Turkey*.

On the 6th of February, 1878, I visited Dunkirk Council, No. 25, at Dun-

kirk, N. Y., in my official capacity. Was accompanied by M. I. GEO. M. OSGOODBY, G. M.; M. I. J. B. SACKETT, P. G. M.; T. I. JOHN L. BROTHERS, of Keystone, No. 20, and several other Companions from Buffalo. We were received in their large and commodious Lodge-room by T. I. CHAS. E. HEQUEOMBORG, with a reception worthy of the members of Dunkirk Council. The degrees were conferred in a very impressive and beautiful manner. After a short address upon Cryptic Masonry, the Grand Master followed with some appropriate remarks and sound advice to all lovers of our Cryptic Rite. This Council, under the Mastership of that large-hearted and genial Companion T. I. M. CHAS. E. HEQUEOMBORG, can report progress during the year, and no doubt will give a good account of themselves in the future.

After the ceremonies were over we were conducted to a Banquet Room profusely decorated with flags, under which were tables loaded with solids and luxuries, which were keenly relished by all, and we took our departure for Buffalo with pleasant remembrances of Dunkirk and its Companions.

I had made an appointment to meet Bruce Council, No. 15, at Lockport, but just before the fulfillment I received notice from T. I. M. CHAS. CRAIG that he could not be present at that time. Consequently I deferred the pleasure which I had promised myself at that visit until some future period. Since which time I have been, as you are personally aware, unable by sickness to even attend to my secular affairs, and which is the excuse I shall offer for not completing the visitations you assigned me, believing that faithful and energetic work by the Grand Officers in their visitations will result in much good to *Cryptic Masonry*.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

D. E. MORGAN,

Grand Marshal.

More interest must be taken in these official duties or the Cryptic Rite will languish, if not die, in this jurisdiction, as it has in some others, to which we shall refer hereafter. No one should accept an office in this or in a subordinate body unless they will do their duty and do it well, sickness or other unavoidable accident only interfering. I speak earnestly on this subject. I mean what I say. I would in all kindness say to the officers of this body that if you expect this work to which you have been specially appointed to prosper and flourish, you who are under a pledge to do it by the acceptance of your respective offices, must be required to do your work or else make room for those who will. As my term of office and official relations with you in the capacity of your chief are now drawing near their end, and that relation between us will close to-morrow, I desire to and do leave behind me a healthy body and organization; but in order to keep up this life and health it will re-

quire active, earnest effort upon the part of not only the officers of this Grand Council who are to take charge of the interests of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction, but also upon the part of the Subordinate Councils, that they keep their *best*, their *live*, enthusiastic workers in charge, and to effect that end officers who have the interest of the Rite not only on their tongues, but who will work, *work*, *work* for its perpetuation and advancement must be put in place, and then be sustained by the hands of every Companion. I see much to be thankful for.

The Order is flourishing in the western part of this state, where I have had an opportunity of paying particular attention to it; and in other parts, I am informed, it has not fell behind, but is constantly progressing.

I had desired and intended to visit many more of the Councils than I have been able to, but I have devoted time and money in traveling at my own expense to the visits which I have made, and willingly and gladly, for the interest of the Order lies near my heart. And for the future I recommend that any officer of this body failing to do his duty as assigned to him, without good excuse being rendered therefor acceptable to the Grand Council, shall be deemed to have waived all claim to further advancement in line of promotion. Accidents will sometimes occur to prevent the performance of these duties, but it is no more than just to your head, that when they do occur, that some excuse or other be offered for their non-fulfillment, and some opportunity be given him to obtain the required information or services in some other way. The duty of Grand Officers, as well as those in Subordinate Councils, is not wholly ornamental; although they are expected to ornament and magnify their position, and to do not only themselves honor and gain distinction, but to do honor to the cause in which and of which they are the chosen representatives. The Millinery department of Masonry is not in the Council, and the Council is, and ever will be, just what your officers make of it. One good live worker in a Council is worth a regiment of "Ahishars," and if you allow your Grand Council or your Subordinate Councils to have their ranks filled with "Ahishars," then the end draweth near and the funeral paraphernalia should be got in readiness for a "respectable if not a gorgeous funeral," and upon the monument to be erected let the inscription be,

"Ab suis amicis neglectum mortuum est."

During the past year I have issued two Dispensations for new Councils; one to RALPH E. PRIME, as T. L. Master, LYMAN COBB as L. Deputy Master, and Ill. Wm. AUG. GIBSON as P. C. of W., for a Council to be located at Yonkers, N. Y., to be called Nepperhan Council. This Council, I am advised, has been duly organized and instituted under very favorable auspices, and with abundant material to insure a live working body, and I recommend that

a Warrant be duly granted to it for a long life of usefulness and profit to the Order. The other was issued to SAMUEL A. BAILEY as T. I. M., JOTHAM L. WOMBAUGH as I. Deputy M., and Ill. LORIN ALDRICH as P. C. of W., to be located at Addison, N. Y., and called Addison Council. This Council was duly instituted on the 7th day of August last by myself, with the assistance of M. I. Past Grand Master JOHN D. WILLIAMS, and T. I. Companions CHAS. H. THOMSON and CHARLES NORMAN. This Council also starts off under favorable auspices, and I see no reason why it should not prove to be an ornament and a useful addition to the Cryptic Rite, and I recommend that a Warrant be issued to it for future work and usefulness.

I am also advised that a petition will be soon presented from Companions at Albion for a Dispensation for a Council at that place. I simply mention it to you to show that while we have had no deaths amongst our Councils during the past year, some that were sick have, and others are, recovering from what had been deemed fatal attacks of inanition; two new births have made seasonable and welcome accessions to our ranks, and another is soon expected. That these infants may be properly cared for, and their limbs wax strong, and that they may be possessed of strong bodies and constitutions, is to be not only hoped for, but expected as a matter of course, and let the work be done with and for them that will tend to that end.

It is well known that several of the Grand Councils of sister jurisdictions have or are about turning over their rights and prerogatives to the Grand Chapters of their respective states to hereafter control the Council Degrees in their respective jurisdictions. This seems to me to be fatal to those bodies, and those who receive the degrees in Royal Arch Chapters will be clandestinely made, and as such will not be entitled to fellowship or recognition by us. The Grand Councils of Pennsylvania and of Louisiana have taken action accordingly, and revoked and cancelled the commissions of its representatives to such Grand Councils as have taken this step and merged the Rite with the Chapters. I recommend the same action to you, and that this Grand Body place itself upon the same footing, and refuse to recognize such as are received and greeted to the Cryptic Degrees under or by virtue of any Royal Arch Chapter. I understand that an appeal is to be made to the next General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, to recognize and assume the control of these degrees; I recommend that this Grand Council enter its solemn protest against any such unwarrantable usurpation on the part of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and refuse to be bound thereby if such action be taken, and declare its non-affiliation with any and all who assume to confer or to receive their degrees by virtue thereof, and that a committee be appointed to defend and protect the interests and rights of Cryptic Masonry in reference thereto, and that my successor be empowered to recall

Commissions from its representatives to such jurisdictions as already have, or shall hereafter, take this unwarranted action.

I have been in correspondence with many of the Grand Masters and other prominent Cryptic Masons of the United States on this subject, and their views accord with those I have here expressed to you without exception. It seems to me to be peculiarly unfortunate that this action should be taken by such of our sister Grand Bodies as Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska and some others hitherto deemed steadfast, who either have or are contemplating this step. Cryptic Masonry is fast gaining ground, making friends in the Chivalric branch of Masonry, and in due time cannot fail of receiving the reward of prerequisite (as it already has of recognition) which it has been striving for, but as it often happens that wounds almost mortal are given by well meaning but inconsiderate friends, so it is with us ; the wounds that the Cryptic Degrees receive in this way will be healed, and though time may elapse before the Rite recovers from the effects of "wounds received in the house of our friends," still in this Grand Jurisdiction we can hold the fort, and we will ; and it may be understood that our banner is nailed to the mast, and that it cannot be pulled down, even should there be those who would be willing to place it in mourning at half-mast, and to save (? God save the mark) the Cryptic Degrees, turn them over to the Chapters—already so over-worked that they groan under their labors of keeping up in the work and conferring four degrees.

The only course that seems to me to be proper to be taken is, to insist upon keeping up our present organization separate and apart from that of the Chapter Degrees, and maintain them upon their own merits.

If we go on as we are, without having these degrees made prerequisite to the Orders of Knighthood, I see no reason why we should be discouraged. We have, masonically speaking, sufficient intrinsic value in the Cryptic Rite to warrant us in laying out much labor in perpetuating and advancing its interest.

The argument of those who favor the Mississippi plan of merging the Council with the Chapter, is based upon these grounds:

1st. That the Cryptic Degrees were originally a part of Capitular Masonry, and belonged to the Chapter.

Our answer to that proposition is, that while it is easy for its advocates to make the statement, it is impossible for them to prove its truth. There is nothing in the history of Masonry that establishes it, and there is nothing in the Ritual of Capitular Masonry, and *never was*, that tends to establish it. It is, in fact, a statement not only without foundation but unworthy of those who make it, and only tends to establish their ignorance of the Masonic system.

The second argument advanced is that which alone can touch, it is said, the soul of a corporation, *i. e.* "Money." The expense of keeping up the organization of Grand and Subordinate Councils separate from the Chapters.

The answer to this proposition is but simple. If we are to measure the benefits of Masonry by the Almighty dollar, and be controlled by the fact that it requires money to pay expenses and to conduct our work, then let the same argument be applied to the Chapter, and let it merge with the Lodge; and let the Chivalric branch abandon entirely its organization, for it is the most expensive of any, and it cannot be merged with the Council, Chapter, or Lodge, for many of the brightest and best of the membership of both Lodge, Chapter, and Council could not pass the ordeal of the Chivalric test—and it is in fact not a part or portion of what is termed "Ancient Freemasonry," but of more modern origin, and based upon an uncertainty that does not attach to the birthright of the Cryptic Rite.

The last and final argument is, that there has been such a falling off in the membership and number of Councils, as to establish that the Cryptic branch of Masonry does not hold the interest that is maintained by the other branches.

Now, the fact is, that after the revival of Masonry there was such a reaction in its favor, from the persecutions which it had undergone; that it spread too rapidly, and partook too much of the mushroom character, and a great many more bodies were instituted than the appropriate material to use in the building of the structure warranted. Masonic bodies sprang up in almost every hamlet, which languished and finally died from want of proper sustenance. The Cryptic Rite grew in this manner as well as the Symbolic and Capitular, and other branches, and not only in this jurisdiction but throughout the entire land, the tombstones of these bodies—Lodges, Chapters and Councils—are to be seen. The death or removal of a few, sometimes of but one live, enthusiastic, working Brother or Companion, would give the death blow to the body of which he was the moving spirit.

There was a great but unhealthy stimulus given to Masonry by the war; many joined from improper motives, and taking the degrees in this way, when Masonry had answered its purpose with them, they threw it overboard and neither attended meetings or paid dues. With the loss also to be taken into consideration caused by the war, by which many of our best and ablest Masons were lost to active work in Masonic bodies, together with the terrible depression in business and financial matters consequent upon the return to a sound basis of the business interests of our country, a large falling off in membership of Lodges, Chapters, and Councils took place, as well as in the number of the bodies themselves; hence it is that we see the monuments of these departed bodies strewn over the land, and hence it is that there has been such a struggle on the part of many for existence, hardly 'breathing, but still just

alive; but we insist that the statistics show that this combination of causes, which have resulted in such injury and depression in Masonic matters is drawing near its end; that already can be seen the bright day-star of hope beaming upon us, and a return to happier times is soon to be expected. The languishing condition of Cryptic Masonry is owing to the same causes that have made their influence felt upon the other bodies, and in this jurisdiction there are more falling off, in the Lodge and Chapter, in proportion to their membership, than there are in the Council; hence, as far as New York is concerned, there is nothing in the argument that is applicable. While in some portions of the country some of these bodies lost nearly all their membership during the war, and in other places bodies which had sprung into existence, as we have remarked before, without adequate sustenance for their support, have had to succumb; and while this has been so in this jurisdiction to some extent, we nevertheless conclude that with the settlement of the business and financial interests of the country upon a sound basis, that the Cryptic branch, as well as the other branches of Masonry, will extend and flourish, and that those who love these degrees can, by united effort and perseverance, sustain and make them successful. And, again, to counterbalance this falling off, many of the oldest and ablest of the representative men of other branches are taking hold of Cryptic Masonry and giving their presence to the meetings of the Councils, and their aid and encouragement to its advancement; and I might refer for the instant to some whom I see before me, both as visitors and as representatives to this body this day, who have been convinced of its rights, and who have the Masonic fairness and justice to acknowledge this change of views, and present themselves with us and are of us for the future. They embrace names that are time-honored, and whose glory will not pass away while Masonry continues to exist.

Now that we have considered and answered, as we will assume, the arguments in favor of merging with the Chapters, let us consider the objections which it seems to us are insurmountable. First. Neither the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States or the Grand Chapter of any state has any right to assume the control of these degrees, and it would be an unwarrantable usurpation on the part of any such body to assume to confer them. This is unquestionable, unless *all* the Grand Councils of *all* the states should consent to such an action. The consent of no one Grand Council can give the right or authority to have these degrees conferred in a Chapter. There is an inherent right in every Council to these degrees, and if *one* objects to such a transfer, no such transfer can be made legally, or with Masonic fairness or justice.

Again, in the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania the system of Capitular Masonry is such that the Cryptic Rite cannot be united with it. In Virginia and West

Virginia still a different system, then still another in Texas, and so on in different jurisdictions, while the Mississippi plan stands out pre-eminently the most absurd and ridiculous. Where, we ask, will be the uniformity in the Rite? Instead of preserving these degrees in their beauty, the adoption of this plan would, unintentionally perhaps, but no less effectually, give the death blow to the Rite, and these most beautiful and sublime degrees be forever lost.

The subject of forming a General Grand Council has been often broached, and the last Convention held for its consideration adjourned subject to the call of its Chairman, not as an abandonment of the project, but simply pending the question of prerequisite and the Mississippi plan. We are inclined to think it would be advisable to take united action with the other *live* Grand Councils in this hour of peril to the Rite, and request a Convention to be called again to consider such subjects as may be brought before it for the benefit and interest of our Order, for the action of the Grand Bodies after a report shall be made thereof; and a proper time, we suggest, would be at the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter in Detroit, in 1880, and there use every means that we possess to exhibit not only our strength, but to take united action to defeat the so-called Mississippi plan, and to preserve to future generations these degrees in the purity that they have come to us. I have now called your attention to all those things which I deem it advisable for you to consider and act upon.

And now, Illustrious Companions, what is the prospect? Can you, by the light of faith, with the works which we know have progressed and are approaching completion, see the dawning of a day of glory to our beautiful degrees? Or are your hearts downcast and your banners trailing in the dust? Gird on your armor and do battle earnestly and nobly for the right. You know what is necessary for us to do, and upon your work and upon your action, and the action of its friends elsewhere, rests the responsibility. The eyes and hopes of our sister Grand Councils are fixed upon the work of this body, and if you falter and hesitate, and fail to give proper attention and labor to advance the interests and perpetuate the stability of this, the fairest portion of the entire Grand Masonic edifice, the ruin of it becomes only a question of time. Are you willing to meet this responsibility and take the consequences? Then with you rests its completion or its downfall. And may the blessing of the Grand Master above, who has passed His approval upon this structure, rest upon you and your labors, and guide you in your deliberations and final action; and when the busy sound of the Implements of the Select Workmen, and the hum of Industry in the Arches is heard throughout the length and breadth of the land, and you are finally called from labor to eternal rest and refreshment, having completed your good work and the report

off your stewardship rendered, may you be greeted with the welcome plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord," and the response from every Arch shall rise up in unison,— "So mote it be."

And now, Companions, though I shall vacate this position, with which you have honored me, on the morrow, I do it with the satisfaction of knowing that I have done my duty, and that though I have labored long and faithfully that my work is not completed, and I shall carry with me during life a love and anxiety for the welfare of this Grand Body, and of the Rite throughout the land; and, wherever I go, I am ever at the service of its friends, and shall in the private ranks to which I turn my footsteps, ever labor to finish my work for its success; but with my retirement this work will not end; a brilliant and glorious future awaits you, and I trust its interests with implicit confidence to your action.

On motion the Address was referred for subdivision and reference to Companions

R. C. CHRISTIANCE, CHARLES H. THOMPSON,
PHILANDER REED.

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

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

Your Grand Treasurer submits his Annual Report as follows:

Balance on Hand, as per last Report,.....	\$	5.87	
Receipts from the Grand Recorder,.....		1,280.50	\$1,286.37

DISBURSEMENTS.

Warrant No. 476.	Expenses of Grand Master,.....	\$	14.79	
" " 477.	" and Salary of G. Recorder,..		283.45	
" " 478.	Com. on Foreign Correspondence.....		50.00	
" " 479.	Sentinel,.....		10.00	
" " 480.	Rent,.....		35.00	
" " 481.	P. G. M.'s Jewel,.....		100.00	
" " 482.	Pay of Representative,.....		436.46	
" " 483.	Printing Proceedings,.....		216.25	
" " 484.	Apron Case,.....		5.00	\$1,150.95

Balance on hand,.....\$135.42

Respectfully submitted,

D. B. HOWELL, Grand Treasurer.

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

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

The Receipts of the Grand Council have been as follows:

During the Annual Assembly of 1877, (as per printed proceedings,) \$1,020.00	
Jan. 8th, 1878—From Batavia Council, No. 27, for dues to Aug. 1st, 1877,	12.50
Feb. 16th, 1878—From King Solomon Council, No. 31, for dues to Aug. 1st, 1877,	30.00
June 29th, 1878—For Dispensation for Nepperhan Council,	20.00
July 31st, 1878—For Dispensation for Addison Council,	20.00
Aug. 23d, 1878—From Buffalo Council, No. 17, for dues to Aug. 1st, 1878,	61.50
Aug. 29th, 1878—From De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22, for dues to Aug. 1st, 1878,	109.00
For attaching seal to 14 certificates during the year,	7.00
Total,	\$1,280.50

I have entered in the Grand Council Registry to the present date,, 2,880 names, among which the following changes have occurred:

Suspended for non-payment of dues,	281	
Died,	96	
Dimitted,	59	
Expelled,	1	437

Leaving the registered membership in good standing of,, 2,443 names.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET, Grand Recorder.

The following letter was received from Past G. M. JOHN D. WILLIAMS, and on motion, ordered printed in the Proceedings:

ELMIRA, SEPT. 2, 1878.

MOST ILL. R. ILL. AND ILL. COMPANIONS OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL :

Circumstances beyond my control, and official duties devolving upon me too important to neglect, compel me to forego the pleasure of meeting you this year in Annual Assembly.

I anticipated great pleasure in again experiencing the warm clasp of "Brotherhood," and the glad tokens of recognition, so often met with in the past; but stern duty to others forbids their realization.

Using the emphatic language of Masonic Ritualism, "It is not within the length of my Cable Tow." I hope, however, in the near future to be able to make amends for what is indeed unavoidable absence.

Wishing the Companions of the Grand Council a pleasant and profitable Assembly, I remain,

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN D. WILLIAMS.

On motion of R. I. JOHN J. MARTIN, the hours of meeting during the Annual Assembly were fixed at 10 o'clock, A. M., and 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the Grand Master's Address for subdivision and reference, reported as follows :

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

Your Special Committee respectfully report that the said Address has received due consideration, and we recommend as follows:

That so much as relates to the Fraternal Dead, be referred to a Special Committee.

That so much as relates to the condition of Cryptic Masonry, Dormant and Delinquent Councils, and Dispensations for election of Officers, be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

That so much as refers to the merging of the Cryptic Degrees in the Chapter, and to a General Grand Council, be referred to a Special Committee.

That so much as refers to the performance of duties by the Grand Officers, be referred to the Grand Council and the Grand Master elect, for careful consideration before election, or appointment.

That so much as relates to Warrants and Dispensations, be referred to the Committee on Warrants and Dispensations.

That five hundred copies of the Transactions of this Grand Body be printed for distribution.

Respectfully submitted,

R. C. CHRISTIANCE, }
 CHAS. H. THOMSON, } Committee.
 PHILANDER REED, }

On motion, the report was received, and their recommendations adopted.

The M.: Ill.: Grand Master appointed the following Committee:

On Credentials and Returns.

GEO. VAN VLIET, ISAAC J. MERRILL, ALBERT E. LEACH.

Warrants and Dispensations.

JOHN G. BARKER, JESSE B. ANTHONY, J. N. MACOMB, JR.

Constitution and By-Laws.

JOHN L. BROTHERS, JOHN J. MARTIN, JOHN C. COATES.

Grievances and Appeals.

CHARLES H. STURGES, CHARLES E. HEQUEMBOURG,
 CHARLES H. THOMSON.

Finance and Accounts.

PHILANDER REED, DARWIN E. MORGAN, O. C. PARKER.

Unfinished Business.

DANIEL SICKELS, ISAAC TERWILLIGER, JASON COLLIER.

Merging the Cryptic Degrees, &c.

THOMAS GLIDDON, JOHN L. BROTHERS, R. C. CHRISTIANCE.

On the Fraternal Dead.

JOHN W. SIMONS, S. D. WADHAM, EDWARD B. CASH.

The Grand Council was then called from labor until 2 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, Sept. 3d, 1878, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as at the morning's session, except that R. I. CHARLES W. BROWN, Deputy Grand Master, was at his station.

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

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

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

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

Columbia	.....No.	1	....	JOHN G. BARKER	.....	Master.
"	....."	1	....	DANIEL SICKELS	.....	Proxy for Dep. Master.
Union	....."	2	....	PHILANDER REED	.....	Master.
Brooklyn	....."	4	....	ALBERT E. LEACH	.....	Master.
Bloss	....."	14	....	JESSE B. ANTHONY	.....	Master.
Bruce	....."	15	....	JASON COLLIER	.....	Deputy Master.
Southern Tier	....."	16	....	S. D. WADHAM	.....	Master.
Buffalo	....."	17	....	HENRY WATERS	.....	Master.
Doric	....."	19	....	CHARLES NORMAN	.....	Master.
"	....."	19	....	THOMAS GLIDDON	.....	Proxy for Dep. Master.
"	....."	19	....	ISAAC A. WILE	.....	Proxy for P. C. of W.
Keystone	....."	20	....	JOHN L. BROTHERS	.....	Master.
DeWitt Clinton	....."	22	....	JOHN J. MARTIN	.....	Master.
Ontario	....."	23	....	JOHN N. MACOMB, JR.	.....	Master.
Dunkirk	....."	25	....	CHAS. E. HEQUEMBOURG	.....	Master.
Palmyra	....."	26	....	JOHN C. COATES	.....	Master.
Batavia	....."	27	....	O. C. PARKER	.....	Proxy for Master.
Utica	....."	28	....	EDWARD B. CASH	.....	Master.
King Solomon	....."	31	....	CHARLES ESTABROOK	.....	Master.
Pentalpha	....."	36	....	THOMAS DARLING	.....	Master.
Cryptic	....."	37	....	CHARLES H. STURGES	.....	Master.
Konhocton	....."	40	....	ISAAC J. MERRILL	.....	Master.
Corning	....."	53	....	CHARLES H. THOMPSON	.....	Master.

Peekskill.....No. 55....JOHN OMBONYDeputy Master.
 Hudson..... " 62....W. H. SCOVILL.....Master.
 Sing Sing..... " 64....ISAAC TERWILLIGER.....Master.
 Ithaca..... " 68....R. C. CHRISTIANCE.....Master.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. VAN VLIET, }
 ISAAC J. MERRILL, } Committee.
 ALBERT J. LEACH, }

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the report of that Committee, which was, on motion, received and ordered printed in the Proceedings:

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

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER AND COMPANIONS: Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence once more make their report of the doings and the condition of the Cryptic Rite. The swiftly fleeting months have brought to us much of interest and cheer, mingled with gloom. Our work has been to us one of deep interest. We have prepared our Report with pleasure, realizing that the greater part of our Companions depend upon us for news of the Cryptic world. With this thought we have endeavored to do our appointed work faithfully and fully. We are conscious of many imperfections in our Report, but we trust that your charity and kindness will fling their mantle over them.

We have tidings from nearly all the Grand Councils, either by Proceedings or by Circular, and, when these were wanting, we have copied from the Reports of other Companions.

We have tidings from thirty Grand Councils, and the following is the list:

ALABAMA.....	1877
ARKANSAS.....	1877
CALIFORNIA.....	1875-6
CONNECTICUT.....	1878
FLORIDA.....	1877-8
GEORGIA.....	1878
ILLINOIS.....	1877
INDIANA.....	1877
IOWA.....	1877
KANSAS.....	1875-6-7
KENTUCKY.....	1877
LOUISIANA.....	1878

MAINE	1877
MARYLAND.....	1877
MASSACHUSETTS	1877
MICHIGAN.....	1878
MINNESOTA.....	1877
MISSOURI.....	1877
NEBRASKA	1877
NEW BRUNSWICK.....	—
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	1876-7
NEW JERSEY.....	1878
OHIO.....	1877
ONTARIO.....	1876-7
PENNSYLVANIA.....	1878
RHODE ISLAND.....	1878
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	1878
TENNESSEE.....	1877
VERMONT.....	1878
WISCONSIN.....	1878

We hope, Companions, you will cause the members of your Councils to read this Report, to increase their interest in the Rite and their knowledge of its condition. We especially ask this, because it is too often the case that the officers of the Councils carry the Proceedings to their homes, and they never come to the eyes of the Companions.

But, without further preface, we come to our Report. The first upon the list is

ALABAMA—1877.

The fortieth Annual Assembly was held in the city of Montgomery, Dec. 5th, 2877. JAMES MILTON was the G. M., and eight Subordinates were represented.

The G. M., in a brief address, thinks that the immediate prospects of Cryptic Masonry seem better than for several years past, and that the report of the last Grand Assembly of New York (2876), seems quite encouraging. He had appointed Companion SAYRE as Committee to the Grand Commandery of Alabama on the prerequisite question, but the action of that Body was unfavorable. With reference to the action of the Grand Encampment, he says:

"I do not regret the action of either Body, for the reason that I think it humiliating to Council Masonry to seek aid from other Masonic Bodies to accomplish that which, if we will substitute perseverance and energy for indifference and neglect, we are so abundantly able to do for ourselves. If we again intend to place Council Masonry in the prominent position it once held, in my opinion it is not to other Masonic Bodies, or to the Grand Councils, but to the Subordinate Councils that we must look, and to those of this

Jurisdiction I offer a few words of advice. First, elect for your officers such Companions as are best qualified to discharge the duties pertaining to the office. Let it be known and understood that on every regular Assembly, without a Providential interference, there will be a meeting; meet promptly at the appointed time, and as far as possible avoid late hours. Endeavor to make the meetings interesting, and each Companion to feel that his presence is needed; but above all other considerations, thoroughly learn the work; rehearse it again and again, until it becomes as familiar to all as 'household words.' The degrees of the Council need only to be known and understood to be appreciated, and are not, as many who are unacquainted with them suppose, a simple factor in the sum total of Masonic knowledge. For I venture the assertion, that in point of information, beauty and grandeur, the degree of Select Master is excelled by no Masonic degree from Entered Apprentice to Knight Templar. And with a sincere prayer for guidance and assistance to Him who is alone able to keep and preserve us through all the dangers, seen and unseen, by which we are surrounded, if we are true to ourselves there can be no such word as fail."

The G. T. reported a balance on hand of \$266.50.

Companion DANIEL SAYRE presented a very appropriate and beautiful memento upon the death of Companion WILLIAM E. BEARD.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was written, as usual, by Companion SAYRE. It differs from those usually presented. Although an elaborate report had been prepared, it was thought best, in view of the diminished resources of the Grand Council, to print extracts only. These extracts are many of them pithy and forcible, but lose much of their interest from the fact that all proper names are blank. We quote the following:

"Long experience demonstrates that money loaned by a Masonic Body to individuals is seldom returned. They do not think, as a general rule, that they are under any obligations to return it. So, also, the Grand Council of ——— had loaned a large amount to the Grand Chapter. Doubtless the Grand Chapter is amply able to repay; but then, why does it not? Money, in a Masonic Body, is a cohesive substance. It has a tendency to keep it together. And if it has any redundancy of funds they had better be invested in some public security, where they can be realized when wanted. The Grand Lodge of Alabama has large experience in loaning out its money to individuals, and has profited by its experience.

"Thus far the G. M. is right; but he commits the same mistake that so many of our writers commit, in imagining that the Masonic degrees ought to succeed each other chronologically. Hence, he thinks that the Royal Master ought to come after the Select. That is a great error. The writers should remember, that the moment the Masonic inquirer after truth receives the Select Degree, a flood of light bursts upon him which explains everything that has gone before. There is nothing more to find. There is nothing more to do. *All is finished.*"

He says with reference to the action of Mississippi:

"Now, the truth is Companion WALTER had not informed himself about the condition of Council Masonry in his own jurisdiction. That very year, the additions to Council membership by degrees was more than five per cent of the whole number reported; a fair increase for any Masonic body whatever. And notwithstanding these lamentations of Companion WALTER, and the notice which the Councils received, that they were all to be abolished, the increase next year by degrees, was over three per cent. In this calculation it would be fair to include affiliations and reinstatements, because they show that Council Masons were becoming more interested in the degrees; but we have left them out. In these estimates we have not taken into account the falling off in numbers by suspensions for non-payment of dues. That, everywhere at the South (and to a considerable extent elsewhere), has been large during the last several years; and whether owing to a growing indifference to Masonry, or to the hardness of the times, the result is the same. But we think it is the latter, because Masonry is a luxury, and only indulged in when people have money.

"In the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in 1876, the additions by *Raisings* were less than three and a half per cent; and there was actually a falling off in the number of affiliated Masons from the preceding year of fifty-five, and ninety-nine lodges did not confer a single degree. And yet Brother MURRAY, the Grand Master, did not recommend that either the Grand Lodge, or its Subordinates, should be abolished.

"In the Grand Chapter of Mississippi, in 1875, the additions by *Exaltations* were less than five per cent, and there was an actual falling off from the preceding year of one

hundred and twenty-three. All the work that was done, was done in twenty-five Chapters; forty-three Chapters had not a single Exaltation. And the Grand High Priest, Companion MURRAY, while deploring this state of things, attributes it to what we think are the true causes, and principally to the *stringency of financial matters*, and he looks hopefully to the future. In 1876 there were eight *Chapters in force* less than there were in 1875, and the reported membership had fallen away one hundred and ninety-seven. Seventy-four Chapters (the whole number in force) had seventy-four Exaltations; but forty-three of them had not had a solitary Exaltation during the year. And it is sad to note how often the Chapters that had work, had to resort to substitutes; and not unfrequently of *two* to make the number.

"It seems to us that in Mississippi Cryptic Masonry has fallen out of the frying-pan into the fire. Of course the Cryptic Masons of Mississippi are aware of the fact that there is no power under Heaven that can dissolve the Grand Council, as long as three Subordinate Councils choose to keep up the organization. Nor is there any power that can dissolve a Subordinate Council as long as there are nine members who choose to keep up *that* organization. The Grand Council has no authority in the premises, nor has it any right to dispose of the degrees elsewhere. These are the laws of Masonry that will not be disputed by any one."

We are much pleased with the above remarks. We are convinced that the Councils are obtaining their fair proportion of work. None of the bodies anywhere are doing the work they did a few years ago, but it is in the Council only that we have propositions to give up the organization. We must make up our minds to a decrease in numbers; we must expect that Councils, hastily organized and without foundation, will disappear. The fittest will survive, and more prosperous days will return. These are times of retrenchment; we have to economise in every direction; all things have been languishing; let us bow to the inevitable, and *hold on*.

We quote again with approbation:

"The Grand Master is right, and what is true of * * * * is true of every other Masonic jurisdiction. All depends upon the officers, Grand and Subordinate, and if they are found sleeping upon their posts, or are indifferent to their duties, and show no interest in the welfare and success of the bodies over which they are elected to preside, or sit idle in their chairs, and wait for somebody to come and stir them up, how, in the name of the Holy Saint John, can they expect the members, the private members, who are elected to fill no office, how can they expect *them* to sustain the body? The official head of a Masonic body is not intended to be a *dead-head*; his office is not intended to be a sinecure; he is expected to work; to keep his eyes wide open, and observe what those in his jurisdiction are doing, and see that they perform the duties they were elected to perform. Otherwise they might as well set up in the East a marble statue, that, having eyes, yet it sees not; a head, but it does not conceive any designs; and hands, yet draws none upon the trestle board; and does not see to it that the craftsmen are at work."

These are sentiments which we have often urged, and shall continue to repeat."

Subordinate Councils.....	14
Subordinate Councils Paying Dues.....	9
Members.....	191
Received and Greeted.....	6
Dimitted.....	11

JAMES MILTON, G. : M. : , Eufaula.

DANIEL SAYRE, G. : R. : , Montgomery.

[ARKANSAS—1877.

We have received no Proceedings from Arkansas this year. We copy entire the review of Arkansas by Companion GARRA B. NOBLE, of Michigan:

"The Annual Assembly convened Oct. 6, 1877, Companion C. W. MILLERD, M. P. G. M. Eleven Councils were represented.

'The G. M. C. W. MILLERD, says:

'I consider this present meeting perhaps one of the most important this Grand Council has ever held, for, from the best information I can obtain, Cryptic Masonry in Arkansas lies languishing in its bed looking at the river, and only waiting Charon's boat to take it safely across the stream.'

"A petition was received from one Council to surrender to the Grand Chapter control over Cryptic Degrees. If it cannot be done, then the Council petition the Grand Council to dissolve its organization; and that the delegates be instructed to use every effort to carry into effect the said resolution, and that a copy of the resolution be sent to each Subordinate Council in the State asking a co-operative action.

"The following, from the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, was received and referred to a committee:

'TO THE M. P. G. GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

'The undersigned respectfully call the attention of the Grand Council to the following resolution of the M. E. Royal Arch Chapter of the State, passed at the Annual Convocation, which has just adjourned:

'Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to act in conjunction with a like committee from the Grand Council of the State of Arkansas, to take into consideration the propriety of requesting permission of the General Grand Chapter of this jurisdiction to transfer the jurisdiction of the Cryptic Degrees from the Councils to the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons; and that said committee report at the next General Convocation, so that such action may then be had as will fully advise the General Grand Chapter of our wishes in that regard.

'In accordance with said resolution, the undersigned have been appointed on the part of the Grand Chapter, and we are ready to act in conjunction with any committee your body may be pleased to appoint.

'JOHN VAILE.
'L. E. BARBER.
'JOHN R. EAKIN.'

"On motion of Companion MCGUIRE:

"Ordered, That the communication from the Grand Chapter, together with the communication from the Grand Council of Mississippi, and the resolution of Osiris Council, be referred to a special committee, to act with the committee from the Grand Chapter.

"No report on correspondence. Companion J. P. McCOWN, Magnolia, was elected G. M.; L. E. BARBER, Little Rock, was re-elected G. R."

CALIFORNIA.

For several years we have heard nothing from the Grand Council of California, although we have written several times for copies of Proceedings.

We copy the following from the review of Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine:

1875.

Annual Assembly, April 15th, 1875; five Councils represented; one charter revoked.

1876.

Annual Assembly, April 13, 1876; six Councils represented; eight made returns; one Charter revoked; business of a merely routine character; no report on Correspondence.

The address of the Grand Master (HENRY S. ORME) is highly interesting. He attributes the falling off in the interest in Cryptic Masonry very much to the failure of officers to study the history and symbolism of the degrees. He seems to rather favor the proposition of Mississippi, to attach the degrees to the Chapter.

Companion LANGRIDGE, of Iowa, says in his report:

"In the former of these (California) resolutions were adopted and a committee raised to memorialize the General Grand Chapter to so amend its Constitution so as to include in the list of degrees conferred in Chapters, the degrees of Royal and Select Master. These resolutions also approved the action of Mississippi."

CONNECTICUT—1878.

The sixtieth Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held in the city of Hartford, May 6th, 1878, and was opened in AMPLE FORM by Companion DWIGHT PHELPS, G. M.:

The representatives of sixteen Councils were present.

The Annual Address was very brief, and related to domestic matters only. It notices the death of P. T. I. M. JOHN W. LEEDS, at the age of 81 years. There were also reports from the T. I. G. M. and the G. P. C. of W., by which we find that the Grand Officers had visited a majority of the Councils.

The balance in the hands of the G. T. was \$104.00.

The report on Masonic Correspondence was delayed by the mistake of Companion LEE as to the time of the Assembly, but being prepared was printed in the appendix. It is somewhat briefer than usual, owing to financial reasons, we suppose. It acknowledges the receipt of the Proceedings of twenty-one Grand Councils, including our own for 1877. It takes a general view of the condition of the Rite, and does not go into a full review of each Grand Council. He says of New York:

"New York has declined somewhat in Councils and membership, but still none of the symptoms of decay and death are to be seen."

He says in another place:

"As a delegate from our Grand Council I attended the Convention at Buffalo, and was also in attendance at the General Grand Chapter at Buffalo, and the General Grand Encampment at Cleveland. Perhaps among the most zealous of the advocates of the prerequisite plan, certainly the most prominent (for he stands six feet six in his stockings, and well proportioned) is GEORGE M. OSGOODBY, the Grand Master of New York, yet even his ardor must have cooled somewhat at the treatment the plan received at Cleveland. It is a significant fact that one-third of the jurisdictions in the Convention at Buffalo voted for consolidation, entirely from the South and West, while the East was solid against it. For my own part, I am opposed to asking any more favors of any State or

National Grand Bodies of Knights Templar. The treatment we received at Cleveland may have been courteous, but it was freezingly so. I was in consultation with Companions OSGOOD and HUDSON, of New York, HAIGH and CHAPMAN, of Massachusetts, WOODHULL, of Wisconsin, and several others, who were much interested in the matter. I could not get, nor could I learn of any one who had, an opportunity to be heard before the committee of the General Grand Encampment, nor do I think there was any desire to hear us. 'Where there is a will, there is a way,' and had there been any desire to hear us on the part of the Encampment, ways would have been found. No one said a word in favor of our plan except Companion DRUMMOND (incidentally), and anything looking toward working together for the common good was voted (I might almost say hooted) down with cheers and jeers. It may seem a harsh judgment, but I can't help thinking that feathers and trappings attract more than the solid worth of the organization. If I can draw an inference or judge correctly by the Proceedings of the Grand Councils that have held their Assemblies since the meeting at Cleveland, no more petitions or supplications will be sent to that body upon that matter. The general feeling seems to be about as Companion CHARLES G. HUDSON, Correspondence Committee of New York, expresses it."

Here he gives our conclusion for last year. Once more we quote :

"Perhaps justice to the advocates of the 'consolidation plan' demands that some of the reasons given by them for such a course should be stated. It is urged that we have too many organizations, too much machinery, and necessarily too much expense; that those who are willing to work for the good of Masonry are overtaxed, loaded down with labors and cares, etc. Any one who has been some years in service can see and feel the force of these reasons. Probably not more than one in twenty, certainly not more than one in ten, of all who are admitted into Masonry possess the retentive memory, the executive ability, easy dignity, good delivery, education, tact and 'gumption,' which, all in combination, are found in an A. No. 1 presiding officer, and when such an one is found, usually the harness is put on him and he is kept at work until worn out. There are few members of this body but what have seen years of service in Lodge, Chapter and Council until we have become tired and wearied—felt at times we would serve no longer under any circumstances. The law of compensation prevails everywhere, and if we would have pleasure or advantages we must pay for them either in labor or money, sometimes in both. I have been in service for twenty years and more, either in Grand or Subordinate bodies, much of the time in three or four places, yet these positions would always come unsought, and even now I am reluctantly serving my sixth year as High Priest of my own Chapter. My own conclusions are different from Companion DRUMMOND'S. I think it is more difficult to get competent brothers to serve in the various Orders of Masonry than it is to get votes for them. No man is made sufficiently sturdy to last forever. We all grow older and are wearing out. We are citizens also, and have duties to the state and society. Most of us have families which require some of our time and attention, and we all do or should feel some interest in matters of religion. All these things require something of our time and attention if we are the citizens we should be, and as no one is able to get more than twenty-four hours out of a day and night, it follows that oftentimes some of these duties are neglected, as they should not be. Hence it is urged, if we can simplify the machinery of Masonry, and dispense with some of our Grand and Subordinate bodies, it will be of advantage to us all. I heard these reasons often given at Buffalo for the consolidation plan, and it was earnestly contended that it would work no disadvantage to the institution."

We hope, Companions, that in connection with this extract you will read the quotation from Companion DRUMMOND, under our review of Maine.

Companion LEE tells the truth, when he speaks of the burdens which competent officers have to bear. We have felt it ourselves. And it is a burden. When we were a young Mason, we filled too many places and devoted too much time to the institution; but as we became older, we refused to hold any more positions than we could fill with convenience to ourselves, and do them justice. The advocates of the consolidation plan, among whom we do not reckon Companion LEE, err in thinking that the consolidation would afford any relief, except, perhaps, in the matter of expense, and here it would be very light. The consolidation of Councils with Chapters, or holding Councils under the authority of Chapters, would not lessen the burdens of officers.

It would rather increase the labor of the High Priests. Those of us who have been High Priests for years know how great is the labor of that position, and how great is the tax upon the memory to retain the work, and be ready to prompt every officer; and to oblige the High Priests to learn the ritual of two additional degrees would be a queer way to solve the problem. Nor would it take less of our time, for it seems to us it will take just as much time to open and close Councils, and do their work under Chapter authority, as it would independently. The same reasons will apply with greater force in favor of the proposition to consolidate the Chapter with the Lodge. We think consolidation will work to the disadvantage of both Chapter and Council. It will not infuse more life into the Chapter, and it will lead to complications and difficulties, as witness the result in Texas, as shown forth in our extract from Companion DRUMMOND with reference to Texas.

We think the remedy is in not allowing one Mason to hold so many positions. If he be competent, both he and the Craft should be satisfied with his occupying but one position a year. It would be a grand thing for universal Masonry, if the Constitutions of the various bodies should prohibit any and every officer from holding more than one office at a time, and the fact that he held an office in one body should disqualify him for holding official position in any other body. This is the rule in civil matters, and it is a wise one. Such a rule might cause Masonry to be of slower growth, but that would be no detriment. We have always opposed too rapid increase of bodies and of membership, for it always results in reaction and injury. We prefer the slow, but solid, growth of the coral reef, to that of the mushroom or Jonah's gourd.

But we suppose the consolidationists will learn only by experience. Each generation refuses to profit by the lessons of the past, and must itself pass over the same old road.

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Charters Revoked.....	2
Received and Greeted.....	47
Died.....	35
Membership.....	2,429

ARTHUR R. BLAKESLEE, Derby, G. M.

JOSEPH K. WHEELER, Hartford, G. R.

FLORIDA—1877.

The Proceedings of Florida, for the Annual Assembly of 1877, are a masterpiece of work. They are well printed, well arranged, and full of interest.

From them we learn that the Grand Council assembled in the city of Milton, June 4th, 2877. Present, A. N. CAULKINS, G. M., and Representatives of

three Subordinate Councils. The address of Companion CAULKINS contains the following reflections, which we quote, feeling that they are questions we should all ask of ourselves:

"How many of us, as we assemble to-day, feel the responsibility resting upon us, and the ardent desire availing us, to perpetuate the glorious work of the Secret Vault to the degree which filled the minds and souls of our Three illustrious Grand Masters at Jerusalem in the days of long ago? Are we scanning each block that comes from the forest and quarry to see that the material is perfect, that no ragged or jagged corners are protruding, to at length unfit it for any part of the Secret Vault, even the Cap Stone itself? Are we meeting the demands of the helpless widows and orphans, whose voices call daily from all parts of our broad land, demanding their pittance from our hands who have sworn to answer their calls for relief? Are we subduing our own, and aiding our weak brother in subduing his irregular passions, and keeping them within due bounds? Are we striving to teach Masonry, (or, in other words, morality) and to interest and fill the craving minds of our lesser informed brothers who may be fainting by the wayside? If such be the case, then, indeed, are we Select Masters in the fullest extent of the term, and new incentives should actuate us, that we may receive the smiles of the Divine Master above us, and feel within the innermost recesses of our hearts 'that peace of love, which passeth all understanding.'"

Companion WILLIAM MORRILL was received and welcomed as the representative of the Grand Council of New York.

The finances displayed a total of \$114.00. The Charters of five Councils and one Dispensation were revoked. It was resolved that the Assemblies of this Grand Council should be annual, and not biennial or triennial, as was recommended in the address.

Companion Rev. JAMES O. ANDREW delivered a beautiful address before the Grand Council, which we would be glad to give entire, if our space would allow; but we have room for one quotation only:—

"Calumny may blast the reputation of a man, but his character is beyond the reach of calumny, ay, is beyond the reach of death. Upon this edifice his blows fall harmless as a summer shower. All other possessions are swallowed up in the greedy jaws of the grave. This alone is immortal, and stands unshaken in the midst of its decay. This alone of all our possessions we carry with us beyond the tomb. It is the object of Masonry to instruct and assist us in rearing this sublime edifice. If, in conformity with the teachings of our order, we shall devote our time and faculties to the accomplishment of this as our life work, it shall be said to us, well done, good and faithful servant.

"If this be ours, let Death do his work upon the superstructure of the outward life, and sprinkle its broken fragments with the mildew of decay; the eye of the Omniscient shall watch the treasures of the soul, and somewhere beyond the shadows, when search shall be made into the life history, the sacred treasures shall be found secure. We shall gather up the broken threads of purpose and effort, the web of destiny shall be woven in fairer colors of fadeless beauty, we shall rear again the shattered columns of life's endeavor, and the glory of the latter house shall be infinitely greater than the former.

"With this faith we can stand in the presence of the dread monarch before which the world has so long trembled, and, in full view of the ruin he can and the ruin he cannot work, we can exclaim—'Oh, Death, where is thy sting?' We are taught that death terminates the labor of man. To the faithful laborer, as the sun goes down, the summons of death, falling upon his ear amid the deepening shadows of the gathering twilight, is unmix'd with sounds of terror; and laying aside the working tools of life, and wiping the dew of toil from the brow of care, he answers the summons in the full assurance that he goes to 'wages, refreshment and rest.' To such—

There is no death. The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore,
And bright in Heaven's jeweled crown,
They shine forevermore."

The report on Foreign Correspondence, written by Companion JOHN CARLOVITZ, is an excellent history of the Cryptic Rite for the past year. It is well written, interesting, and well arranged, with the exception that there

is no distinction of type between original and selected matter. We suggest that in the next Proceedings that distinction be made. Companion CARLOVITZ has no occasion to feel any inferiority as compared with other reviewers, and his maiden effort is worthy of all commendation.

Commenting upon the remarks of G. M. WALDRON, of Connecticut, he says:

"This deplorable state of things is the result of a reckless disregard to see that the Lodge is tyled and the blackball fearlessly and righteously thrown. It is better to have but one candidate a year, who, from the pure motives of his heart and with honesty, enters fully in the spirit of the institution, than to have a dozen rich ones, whose zeal will wither in a day, and whose actions will disgrace the name of Mason as soon as invested with that honor. The haste with which candidates are advanced can easily be broken up if the Grand Masonic Bodies would give the subject the consideration it deserves. Why not adopt the rule and place a year of probation between each degree, during which time he should attend a certain number of Lodges of instruction, and none should advance unless fully qualified mentally and morally? The Grand Master believes in leniency toward delinquent Councils. We also believe in leniency where it is proper to bestow it, but when a tree has too many dead limbs, they must be pruned to save the life of the trunk, and the sooner that is done the better for the tree."

New York for 1876 receives a kind and fraternal notice of over four pages, in which he quotes at length from the two addresses delivered that year.

In reviewing Pennsylvania, he says on the subject of Clothing, Jewels, &c.:

"Now, one definition of 'to render' is, to boil down or clarify; perhaps this definition may be wrongly applied here, but it seems to us that the wardrobe of Pennsylvania in ancient, mediæval and modern clothing is so extensive as to approach the confusion at the Tower of Babel, and needs boiling down, in which opinion we feel somewhat confirmed by the confused report of the committee. It is our opinion; that, besides our common clothing and the working tools of our profession as Royal and Select Masters, in the spirit of enlightenment of the Nineteenth Century, all other paraphrenalia such as appertaining to *dramatis personæ* should be considered as gew-gaw, and abolished."

He pays his respects to Grand Recorders upon the subject of statistics, some of whom never insert such a table, and whose whole work is done in a most slovenly manner.

"Much as we desire to furnish the craft with a reliable statistical table that would represent the exact status of the Rite at the present day, yet the inexcusable nonchalance with which many of the Grand Recorders override their responsibility to furnish this valuable material for compilation, has blasted our hopes. How a correct statement of the condition of the whole craft may be arrived at without the aid of these necessary statements from each Jurisdiction, we are at a loss to imagine; the culpability of these officers in not furnishing most complete statistics deserves the censure of all enlightened minds. Any one who desires to obtain a clear statement may set to work with the best intentions, and after obtaining full and correct statistics from some of the jurisdictions, feels delighted at the progress of his labor. Alas, how sadly he feels disappointed when he stumbles upon others that baffle all understanding, only at last to arrive at some so destitute of what he seeks as to break the heart of the stoutest constitution."

Well, Companion CARLOVITZ, you will get used to such things after a time, and you will be convinced that some persons are incapable of improvement or of observation, though they may peruse the finest samples every year. We extend to you the reportorial hand, and wish you success, hoping to read you every year. We are glad to see that the Grand Council of Florida has fallen into the hands of live officers, and we predict for our sister future prosperity, even if she be small in numbers.

Subordinate Councils.....	3
Membership.....	79

A. N. CAULKINS, of Milton, G.:M.:
 GEO. S. HALLMARK, of Warrington, G.:R.:

1878.

At the last moment before closing up our Report, we have received the Annals of Florida for 1878, and we pause to insert a few pages of review. Our lack of time will prevent us from making it as thorough as we would be glad to do, for the Proceedings of Florida are very superior.

The ninth Assembly was held in Pensacola, June 3d, 2878. Present, A. N. CAULKINS, G.:M.:, and the Representatives of three Councils.

The Annual Address, like all those we have read from the pen of G.:M.: CAULKINS, it an able and interesting production. He asks:

"Has the Law, delivered to Moses on Mount Sinai, on the tables of-stone, been before us in all our transactions of every-day life, or has the talent which has been given us by the Grand Master's hand been buried and allowed to remain idle and useless? 'Tis a question each and every one of us should ask our hearts to-day as we assemble here, and if the vows and resolves of other days have been lightly cast aside, to-day they should be renewed around the altar of our Temple, with heartfelt contrition for their neglect, and an earnest determination to faithfully complete the work assigned us 'ere the Sabbath of eternity sits in."

"The outlook for the coming year for Cryptic Masonry is equally cheering as in the past. Within our own State there is a degree of tranquility and general sense of security and confidence which has not been known for years, while this and every community enjoys at last a rest from an imbecile State government, with its attendant evils of violence and threatened revolution, which always causes a depression, not only in business, but also with the labors of the Craft in general, and is safe to predict that the same qualities which were so triumphant in adversity will now render them successful in their efforts to restore the former prosperity of our Secret Vault, which is dear to every heart who has placed his hand to the plough."

We would be glad to quote more, but time forbids. Companion CAULKINS' absolutely declined a reelection.

Companion WILLIAM MORRILL presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Council of New York, and was received with the Grand Honors.

The G.:T.: reported cash on hand \$185.00.

Companion CARLOVITZ presented a new Constitution and By-Laws, which were laid over until the next Annual Assembly for a final ratification.

It was recommended and adopted that the commissions of the Grand Representatives near the Grand Councils of Mississippi, North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Illinois be revoked, and their Representatives near Florida be discharged.

On motion of Companion CARLOVITZ, it was

"Resolved, That the Grand Council of Florida declare that the Royal and Select Masters' Degrees cannot be lawfully conferred by, or under the sanction of the warrant of Royal Arch Chapters. That Cryptic Masons so made can not visit Councils in this jurisdiction, or be recognized in any manner whatever."

The report on Foreign Correspondence is again from the pen of Companion CARLOVITZ, and is fully up to his report of last year. We always welcome

the accession of an able reviewer to our ranks, and such we have in this Companion.

In his introduction he ably considers the duties of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and defends the present method of making these Reports.

He had received tidings from twenty-nine Grand Councils, among which were ours for 1877. We wish we could make every quotation we desire, but we must content ourselves with only a few. He says of the action of Illinois:

"It is best to let well enough alone, than to fly from evils to evils unknown. Illinois with its thirty-eight working Councils on the roll, embracing 1904 members and an annual revenue of over \$600.00, will one day regret the step they have now taken, and will have to undo that which they have now done. Florida, with but three Councils and seventy-seven members, and no money in the treasury, will never take that step. We have no Knight Templarism on the brain, and fear nothing from that quarter. What we do, we do for the love we have for the institution, and when expenses accrue we haul out and pay like a man. Mileage and perquisites of a like character are not known in this country."

We make a quotation from his review of Maine:

"We have always been of the opinion that the true characteristics of these valiant Sir Knights is 'Magnanimity.' The above, however, savors strongly of the reverse, and no doubt many Sir Knights who have not passed the Secret Vault are tainted with this malignity. This brings to our mind a letter we received from a Companion who was present at the General Grand Encampment when the prerequisite question was brought before that illustrious feathered body for consideration, and we will here quote *verbatim* what the Companion writes: 'In the General Grand Encampment there was not one to say a word in its favor, and the sneers and cheers with which the prerequisite question was voted down (more than five to one—I watched them closely) convinced me that the large majority care very little for Masonry except as a means to gratify their vanity and love of display.'

"This truly exposes the vanity of these valiants. Take away from them the military features and the opportunity for attracting notice and admiration, and they would number fewer than do the Select Masters of the country. Instead of harboring malignity against the Cryptic Rite, they should indeed feel grateful toward the Masonic Order, as that Order has elevated them to the position they now occupy. Who filled their ranks before they hid themselves behind the Masonic institution, the rabble of ages past? Was not the fear of their own dissolution why they retreated behind the solid breastworks of the Masonic Order, and Masonry in its innocence and purity, not suspecting that any evil would accrue, silently submitted to this retreat now to find herself ignored. Like unto the spoiled child of adoption, it malignantly bites the hand of its protector.

"That the Grand Encampment has adopted Masonry as its safeguard against its own dissolution cannot be denied. That Body, therefore, as a consequence, must acknowledge York Rite Masonry as a whole, as taught in this country. The priority in position these valiant Knights assume over Masonry, and the scorn exhibited by them in their vote—five to one—when assembled in General Grand Encampment, must certainly with scorpion venom have stung the honor of every Royal and Select Master present on that occasion. Enough has been said and done to convince the Companions of the Cryptic Rite that they have been treated with contempt, and every Royal and Select Master of the land, who is also a wearer of the feather and the sword, should feel in honor bound promptly to sever his relations with and disavow a body that looks upon him in his position as a Mason with contumely."

New York receives an excellent notice of over three pages. He says of the Address of G. M.: OSGOODBY:

"This document, covering twenty-seven pages, is replete with interesting topics, and shows that he has made the subject of Cryptic Masonry a matter of study and careful investigation. As Chairman of the Committee of the National Convention of Royal and Select Masters he has labored faithfully, and we feel sorry that his labors have not been crowned with that success he so justly merits. What must have been the feelings of our good Companion, and what the expression of his countenance, when, after his arduous and toilsome labors in the cause he loves so well, instead of reaching the goal, he was compelled to listen at the dictum: 'That no memorial from any Body but a Commandery of Knights Templar could be received by the Grand Encampment.' Profound regret at the Companion's disappointment, and our sympathy at the chagrin he must have felt, to

see his cherished hopes thus blasted in despair—refrain comment. We have always considered our position as Royal and Select Masters too exalted, that we should appear as petitioners before a Body to whom we owe no fealty! The Grand Encampment may amend their constitution to receive a petition from the lowest beggar for aught we care, yet it can neither add to nor detract a jot from the dignity and sovereignty of a Grand, yea, even a Subordinate Council of Royal and Select Masters. We wish our Companion the most complete success in his arduous labors, but should we be asked to appear before the Grand Encampment to espouse the cause, we would most respectfully and emphatically decline the honor."

He compliments our Report on Correspondence, and quotes our narration of the action of the Grand Encampment. He says of it:

"This confirms our remarks under the head of Maine, and convinces us that they were none too severe, especially when we see the manner in which these Sir Knights manifest their courtesy (more properly speaking, malignity and hatred). We fully endorse Companion Hudson's advice as to the course to be pursued in the future; indeed, we have always thought and expressed ourselves so."

We think best to give the conclusion in full, as containing much that is excellent, while we would not endorse it all:

"From the foregoing review, we find that the original number of thirty-three Grand Councils is gradually diminishing. Three Grand Bodies, in apparent health, like a man who has laid down to sleep at night with an overloaded stomach, under the stupefying influence of the nightmare, is tortured by horrid phantoms, have, in their strength and vigor, replete with wealth, fallen into a like stupor to be tortured by a phantom called 'prerequisite,' and fled from their abode to seek refuge in the bosom of the Chapter. Thirty are now left, and some of this number, like afflicted, will soon follow:

"Why this abandonment of the existing system of York Rite Masonry? Is it a movement to reform? Is the order, in which it was found necessary to arrange the Masonic fabric, no longer tenable? Is Masonry, which has withstood the shock of ages, actually on the decay? Are all the teachings and virtues of Masonry a myth and fable demanding reform? No, we say emphatically, no! This phantom was conjured into existence by a few, who, while reaching after an infective bauble, were bid to pass through ceremonies, which they did in such haste they have neither mastered nor understood. Let us look now this thing squarely in the face. The retrograding movement of Mississippi, Illinois and Wisconsin, by turning the Council Degree over to the Chapter, in which Iowa, South Carolina and a few other jurisdictions are soon to follow, may be based upon two reasons:

"1. The Companions, feeling mortified at the continued disregard and slight with which the Council Degrees have been looked upon by all those who have sought the honors of Knighthood, in not first obtaining these Degrees before they received additional honors, caused the action of placing the Council Degrees in the bosom of the Chapter, by which they undoubtedly contemplated to coerce all such candidates into the necessity of obtaining these degrees. The Council Degrees having been placed under the control of the Chapter, of necessity are now a part and parcel of that body, and the Chapter Degrees being a prerequisite to the Order of Knights Templar, they will be thus forced to receive them.

"2. A reform in the multiplicity of Grand Bodies separate and independent as they now exist.

"It is our opinion that the first is the real object of the movement, as neither of the Councils mentioned were actually in a distressed condition. Their membership was large, and they had ample funds in their treasury. The degrees remain as they were; there has nothing been taken from nor added to them, neither have the fees been reduced; they have simply become Chapter Degrees. Had, on the contrary, reform been intended in the present organization, why not disband the Chapter also, and place Lodge, Chapter and Council under one common head? But why should reform be necessary? It is claimed that the multiplicity of Grand Bodies is expensive. Will the placing of all the degrees under one common head be less expensive? Certainly not. The degrees being the same the fees are the same, and, if the fees were reduced, would cheap Masonry under such reformed systems prove beneficial? Of this we entertain most serious doubts. Masonry under the present system has maintained its merits through many ages: kingdoms and empires have tottered and crumbled into dust, yea, even Templarism itself, with all its glittering pageantry, when it stood alone, succumbed; but Masonry, founded upon the 'Rock of Ages,' assailed from every quarter, even by the Romish Church, has always held its own, and stands now firmer than it did of old. Time and experience have shown the necessity of having Lodges, Chapters and Councils established for the proper working and prosperity of the Craft, as they now do and have existed for many, many years in York Rite Masonry. Behold our Sister, the Scottish Rite, with her thirty-three degrees! She has Lodges, Chapters, Councils, etc., and has no intention of changing her existing

orders; no prerequisite phantom disturbs her tranquility. Why should we desire to change? That which is proven to be efficient with one must surely be practicable with another.

"It is claimed by some that the multiplicity of Grand Bodies is expensive, and that reform is necessary. Why not, then, reform the whole Masonic fabric, and unite the York with our sister, the ancient and accepted Scottish Rite? Is not the one coequal with the other? Are not the members of the one admitted and acknowledged as genuine brethren at the meetings of the other? Why not unite them, if reform is contemplated? The alleged expense can be no cause for reform, as many of our brethren who are in search of still farther light have sought admittance into this sister Rite. Would, now, a union of Rites not strengthen the unity and tranquility of the Masonic fabric? If York Rite Masonry is of such feeble constitution as to need reform, if this system, that has stood for ages, now, at this late day, proves inefficient, then, by all means, let us unite, that this 'prerequisite chimera' may be forever banished from our minds.

"Reform is, however, not intended, for, were it so, we would soon observe the consummation of this plan. Magnanimity and charity prevailing would abolish all these glittering military pageants and love of vanity and display. Let reform begin in the abandonment of these costly triennial gatherings, which, taking all things together, must certainly involve an expenditure of half a million dollars. Let all moneys that are now invested in this tomfoolery be invested in some institution that would gladden the hearts of many widows and homeless orphans.

"York Rite Masonry is not on the decay, as will be found in time if we but stand upon our merits. Let us have one established system, and let us abide by that, like our Scottish Rite brethren, and the prerequisite chimera will no longer burden our minds.

"Before closing this discussion upon 'Reform,' may we be permitted to suggest another proposition: The Order of Knights Templar, the fundamental tenets of which should be manifested by its votaries in the protection of the oppressed and the overthrow of all wrong, while engaged in the tournament of life, is by many alleged to be a Masonic institution. If this assertion is verified, why not unite an Order of such noble parentage, as claimed, and firmly incorporate it in the Masonic institution, especially if what is claimed is true, that 'the tenets of that Order are to Masonry (symbolically speaking) what the New Testament with its revelations is to the Old.' We can see no reason to prevent a closer union of these Orders. If reformation and reorganization is contemplated, we say, by all means let us unite. Let us reorganize upon some such plan as would leave Lodges, Chapters and Councils intact in their present system; let the degrees of the Templar Order constitute a Consistory, as the finishing part and capstone of the philosophical system, and let the General Grand Encampment, as Supreme Council, constitute the crowning and governing head of all. Should such a union be consummated, let it be based upon principles of fundamental truth and wisdom, and let all glittering pageantry be cast aside as rubbish, more suited to inexperienced youth and illy associated with ripe and mature manhood.

"The plan is feasible, and, I dare say, well worthy of the labor spent upon the 'prerequisite,' and well deserving the consideration of our greatest Masonic minds; but even if not consummated, let us by all means drop the malignity and hatred conjured into existence in the ranks of both by the prerequisite chimera. Such actions are illy associated with either Order, and, if persisted in, must certainly prove dangerous, while a union of both would more firmly cement and strengthen all.

"We have thus expressed our ideas, which, while they may receive the endorsement of some, we hope will not be condemned as untenable by others. It seems to us an undisputable fact that the York Rite Degrees need a governing head, to bury Hamlet's ghost, and to prevent all further squabbles and technicalities that may yet arise. Will this head be established is the question to be solved."

We think not. While we feel the need of a strong central power, it would be almost impossible now to establish it, and its discussion would tend to injure Masonry. We are against any more change, or efforts to change. We say, let us hand it down to our successors as we received it from our predecessors, intact, unchanged.

Subordinate Councils.....	3
Membership.....	76

GEORGE S. HALLMARK, Warrington, G. M.:

JOHN CARLOVITZ, Milton, G. R.:

GEORGIA—1878.

The Grand Council of Georgia has sent out nothing but circulars for several years, and this year is no exception.

It says the Annual Assembly was held in Macon, April 24th and 25th, 2878. It acknowledges the receipt of the Proceedings of twenty-three Grand Councils, including ours for 1877.

Councils represented.....	10
Promoted the past year.....	7
Affiliated.....	5
Dimitted.....	15
Died.....	7
Members.....	267
Dues.....	\$140.00

CHARLES R. ARMSTRONG, Macon, G. M.

ANDREW M. WOLHIN, Albany, G. R.

ILLINOIS—1877.

We regret that we are obliged to say that the Grand Council of Illinois is abandoned and defunct, or, at least, it lies *in coma*, which will not be broken. Although this jurisdiction had thirty-eight Councils out of fifty-one making returns, reporting in 1877 a membership of 1607, and 62 advanced during the year, being three and two-tenths per cent of the whole number, and receipts amounting to \$632.48, yet these Companions have, in conditions as good as could be expected in these times, surrendered the degrees to the Grand Chapter.

But we will proceed to give an account of what was done. The twenty-fifth Annual Assembly convened in the City of Chicago, October 24th, 2877. G. M. LEVI R. JEROME opened the Grand Council in Ample Form, and on calling the roll Representatives were found to be present from twenty-six Subordinate Councils.

The Address shows that the matter of dissolution was cut and dried before the Annual Assembly, and as usual the majority blindly followed the dictation of a few. The Address first gives thanks for harmony, laments the death of P. G. M. LEVI LUSK, and goes on to say:

"The universal shrinkage of values in the business world seems to have extended to Masonry. The Brotherhood have found that the demands upon their time and purses have come to be a burden almost unbearable, and they *must* retrench. Cryptic Masonry, seeming to be less utilitarian than other branches of the Order, is first thrown aside, and everywhere (?) are reports of 'unhallowed ravage and devastation' of our beloved degrees. So dead (?) is the Rite in this jurisdiction, that not a question has been asked me in the whole year, of law or usage. I have had nothing to decide. Harmony reigns complete. But it is the harmony, or rather stupor, that precedes dissolution."

He had issued circulars proposing to form within the Rite a Mutual Benefit Society, but had received few replies. The cat finally comes out of the bag as follows :

"Believing that the action of the Grand Encampment must be accepted as a finality, and that no relief can be expected from that quarter, I can see no tangible method of saving the Cryptic Degrees from the dark waters of oblivion, but to follow the action of the Grand Councils of Mississippi and North Carolina, and relegate them to the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, where, in my opinion, they of right belong."

Upon this and similar sophistical reasoning he recommends a committee of five to meet a like committee from the Grand Chapter.

Memorials were read from Orion Council, No. 8, and Siloam Council, No. 53, requesting the Grand Council to take this action.

A committee of five was appointed, and the Grand Council was called off until October 26th. On that date it was called to labor, and after hearing the report of the committee, and making the necessary amendments to the Constitution, it was voted:

"That this Grand Council surrender to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois all constitutional right to confer, or authorize the conferring, the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters; and,

"Resolved, That the action of this Grand Council in amending the Constitution aforesaid shall be null and void, if, within two years from this date, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois shall fail to adopt the degrees of this body as a part of the Ritual and Work of Capitular Masonry."

A committee of three was appointed to confer with a like committee from the Grand Chapter to perfect the consolidation. The Degree of Super-Excellent Master was stricken out. The following is the plan of consolidation:

"I. The Degrees of Royal and Select Master [shall] be accepted by the Grand Chapter, and shall be conferred as follows:

"Each Royal Arch Chapter shall open a Council of Royal and Select Masters, and confer the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Master subsequent to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason. The officers of the Chapter to hold corresponding rank in the Council.

"II. All Royal Arch Masons, at the date of the communication of this plan, shall be entitled to receive the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Master without fee.

"III. All permanent members and present Grand officers of the Grand Council shall be admitted to the Grand Chapter as honorary members.

"IV. That the officers of all Chapters in this jurisdiction shall qualify themselves in the work of conferring the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Master as soon as possible.

"That the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, being the custodian of the work and ritual of all degrees conferred under the authority of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois, shall, as soon as practicable, take the necessary steps to carry out the foregoing plan."

We also find the following circular from G. M. FRENCH:

"It will be observed on reading the minutes of the last Annual Session, that the Grand Council invested the Grand Chapter with authority to confer the Degrees of Royal and Select Master. At the end of two years said action will be null and void, provided the Grand Chapter fails to make constitutional provision for conferring these degrees; in which case the authority for conferring them shall revert solely to the Grand Council and her constituents. From this it will be apparent that it is not the intention of the Grand Council to disband immediately, or the Subordinate Councils to return their charters; such action will be deferred until the Grand Chapter confirms the degrees as a part of their work.

"It was the desire of the Grand Council to provide a safe repository for the degrees, and make the conferring of them more universal and popular. The Grand Council and her constituents, therefore, waives her right to confer the degrees, and watches with interest

the progress the Grand Chapter will make in promulgating them. I think an error has been committed in a recent circular issued by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, when he says: 'The Grand Chapter and Grand Council have consolidated.' Such is not the fact, and a reference to page 27 of our Proceedings will reveal the error.

"Section 1 of Article I, of our Grand Constitution yet remains, the only amendments being the striking out of Art. I, Secs. 2, 5; Art. II, Sec. 2 and even the action whereby said Articles are stricken out (suspended) is conditional. No dues should be collected from the members of Councils after this year; neither will the Subordinate Councils be required to pay dues to the Grand Council—all will remain in *statu quo* for two years pending the action of the Grand Chapter in amending her Constitution. It is earnestly hoped, however, that the Councils will meet at once and pay up all their indebtedness. Members desiring dimitts from extinct Councils can obtain them by applying to the Grand Recorder, and the payment of his dues.

"It is my desire to see this matter consummated properly; but more radical changes, I think, should be made, reducing the work to its original simplicity.

"We think the imputation from Chapters of an usurpation of degrees belonging to them as unbecoming those who have been flagrant violators of jurisdictional rights. What, for example, is the Past Master's Degree doing in the Chapter? I ask, where did you borrow (?) it? Would it not be wise, when detected in error (?) to return borrowed (?) goods, and make an apology? We would kindly suggest that the degree be *unconditionally* surrendered to the Grand Lodge, and that henceforth, if conferred at all, it be by dispensation of the Grand Master, and in the Lodge of which the candidate is a member. I would rejoice if the intermediate degrees of the Chapter, together with those they have now assumed, be worked in a convention of side degrees, and the Royal Arch be conferred (in a very simple and plain manner,) in connection with the Lodges, as an honorarium.

"In conclusion, we recommend the constituent Councils of Illinois to endorse the recent action of the Grand Council, and while you are thus called upon to lay by the trowel, may you be girded with the sword, and, regardless of personal interests, be ready to assist in seeing executed such propositions as seem to be best and safest to pursue.

J. J. FRENCH, G. M.

Will there never be any end of propositions for change? Will not some one sit down upon these suggestions? Each man seems to think it is his duty to propose a change. It is one of the dangers of the craft.

There is another question for us, whether we shall recognize these Companions who are made in the Chapter, or consider them as clandestine. Such was the action of the Grand Council of Pennsylvania, and we are inclined to think it was proper.

Subordinate Councils	51
Councils making returns	38
Membership	1,607

JONATHAN J. FRENCH, Chicago, G. M.

GILBERT W. BARNARD, Chicago, G. R.

INDIANA—1877.

The Proceedings of Indiana are always a beautiful piece of work. Companion BRAMWELL never sends out inferior Proceedings. They are well arranged, full, and all the tables of statistics are carefully compiled.

This Grand Council assembled for the twenty-second time, in the City of Indianapolis, October 16th, 2877. SAMUEL B. RICHARDSON, G. M., presided, and thirty-four out of forty-six Councils were represented, and a large number of visiting Companions were present.

The Annual Address, like all those of Indiana, was lengthy, full, exhaustive, and interesting. He says:

"Although we have not been able to increase the number of subordinates, as in former years, considering the condition the country has been in, we have much reason for thankfulness for what we have and are to-day. We now have reason to believe that the cloud of such dark forebodings that hung over us has passed away, and that our future has a brighter outlook. * * * Let us, therefore, be jealous of our well acquired honors, taking special care that our vaults and temples are not polluted, no evil harbored or wrong-doing permitted, purging our vaults and temples of all vice and immorality, that the bigoted scorners cannot point his finger at Masons, and say: 'Behold the drunkard, the profane, the liar, seducer, debaucher, licentious,' or to any other immorality, within our Cryptic Rite. We cannot be too guarded in selecting the timber for our symbolic temples. They should be tried by the square of morality, and also by the test of truth—the great luminators of our Masonic altars. It is better to have ten good and true Masons, than to have an hundred slothful drones and unworthy ones. The former will command the respect of the community in which they live, while the latter bring upon the Order shame and disgrace."

After an account of his labors in his office, he calls attention to the office of Illustrious Master, which he rightly thinks the "fifth wheel to the wagon," but the Grand Council decided to let the office remain. He also gives the report of Companion ALEXANDER THOMAS, whom he had appointed delegate to the Buffalo Convention. By this report he thinks that "it will be seen that the hobby of uniformity and General Grand Council is at an end."

The project of a General Grand Council may indeed be at an end, and we for one are willing to bow to the decision of the majority. But uniformity is not at an end, unless the fact that three-fourths of the Grand Councils have adopted the uniform work may be considered as putting it to an end! Read the various Proceedings a little more carefully, Companion RICHARDSON. Once more we quote:

"As to the Mississippi question, it is still open for discussion. But why is this the case? It is very strange, indeed, to an Indiana Royal and Select Master, that there should be any attempt to attach these beautiful and sublime degrees to the Chapter, or any other Order of Masonry.

"These degrees being a regular succession of degrees in our American system, it would be a great innovation to divide, separate, or in any manner destroy the connection of the lesson taught in the Cryptic Rite. And, to my mind, just as inconsistent as it would be to confer the Royal Arch in connection with the Master's Degree. In either case one would destroy the sense and force of the other. If Masons will take a view of the history of our Order in its various divisions, they will evidently see that the dates and circumstances that are illustrated and taught in each makes it unmistakably necessary to maintain the present system, and adding to or taking from the old and well-established landmarks are alarming forebodings of evil to our Order. The antiquity of our Order is what gives it strength and beauty. Let us not, therefore, open the door for change in either ritual or system in our Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masonry."

On the prerequisite question and the failure of the effort with the Grand Encampment, he says:

"Now let us go to work on our own rich stock in trade, and no longer be found seeking the capital of other people. As the famous HORACE GREELEY said, 'Young man, go West.' If we are fervent and zealous in our work, and prompt in the performance of our duties, we can have an abundance of good and valuable material to fill up our Crypts, and then there will be no disposition to pass us by in order to wear the beautiful costume of the Templar. It would be so advantageous to a Knight in making himself known to another, having the Royal and Select Degrees, that he cannot afford to pass them by. In fact there is no Masonry so cheap and so instructive, and so indispensable to the recipient in our whole system, as the Royal and Select Degrees. Intelligence and earnestness, with zealous labor in our Councils, will insure prosperity and success."

The finances show the total receipts \$1,730.69, and a balance on hand of \$653.39. No business of especial importance was transacted.

The Annual Cryptic Review was written, as usual, by Companion WM. M. AUSTIN, and is fully up to his former productions. We regard him as one of the best reviewers in the Rite. In his review of Alabama, he says :

"Will Companion SAYRE point out to us what Landmark says anything *in favor* of fines? MACKEY says: 'It is contrary to the principles of Freemasonry to inflict pecuniary fines for non-attendance.' MORRIS says: 'Fines are unmasonic.' MACKEY lays down twenty-five Landmarks, saying that they are unrepeatable, and we fail to find in those given by him anything sanctioning that kind of penalty.

"He also remarks that 'each member is bound to a discharge of certain duties by a motive more powerful than any that could be furnished by a pecuniary penalty.' 'The imposition of such a penalty would be a tacit acknowledgment of the inadequacy of that motive, and would hence detract from its solemnity, and its binding nature.' He admits that it was formerly a custom, to impose fines. Will our worthy Companion please re-read the paragraph in the Entered Apprentice's charge, commencing, 'Although your frequent appearance,' &c., and then say whether that sanctions such penalty? The grand key note to Masonic actions is that they are done of our 'own free will and accord.' Heaven is said to love a cheerful giver. It is thrown up to the members of the Royal Craft that the various imitation societies of the present day excel Masoury in their deeds of kindness to the sick and the dead: admit the act, but there lies behind the motive in the generality of cases, a *fine for the neglect of duty.*"

Reviewing Massachusetts, he says :

"A committee was appointed to revise grammatical errors and secure uniformity in the rendering of the work. It is to be hoped that the Millenium day will come at last, when this 'correcting the grammar' of the work will be finally accomplished. We remember the fable of the man who had an old and a young wife—the former quietly pulled out all the black hairs of his head, and the latter all the gray ones."

He gives our Proceedings for 1876 a kind and fraternal notice, occupying two pages.

Under Vermont, referring to the "bosom of the Grand Chapter," he observes :

"There seems to be no disposition, in the action of this Grand Council, to go home to that 'bosom.' Like some of the others they are weaned, and can live on hard victuals."

Again under Wisconsin :

"Among the men who don't want to go to that dear 'bosom,' who goes for paddling his own canoe, sink or swim, we can recommend Companion JOHN W. WOODHULL, Director of Foreign Correspondence."

We hope New York, too, will always be able to run alone and eat hard tack, and never yearn for the "bosom" of any Grand Chapter, especially if it be such a flat one as that of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi.

Subordinate Councils	46
Advanced	99
Membership	1,620

CHARLES H. BUTTERFIELD, Evansville, G. . M. .

JOHN M. BRAMWELL, Indianapolis, G. . R. .

IOWA—1877.

The Annual Assembly was held in the city of Davenport, October 2d, 2877. Present, PAUL C. DAUM, G. . M. ., presiding, the Grand Officers, and the Representatives of seven Subordinate Councils.

The G. . M. . delivered a brief Address, in which he said that his official labors had been very light, and he had not been called upon to decide any of those "knotty questions of Masonic law which are sometimes propounded to perplex the mind of the Grand Master." Peace and harmony had prevailed. He had appointed Companion F. L. BUNTING as Representative near the Grand Council of New York. No new Councils had been organized in the jurisdiction. He closes with the following doleful refrain:

"One thing is certain [?] and patent [?] to everybody, that Cryptic Masonry without being actually defunct, is so near it that it can hardly be distinguished from it, not only in our own jurisdiction, but all over the country. This is a fact that cannot be denied, though we may regret it ever so much, and ought not so to be, not only on account of the great beauties contained in the Royal and Select Master Degrees (and I think they are not surpassed by any of the degrees of Masonry,) but also because without them the Royal Arch Degree is incomplete, and the whole symmetry of the American system of Masonry is marred. I wish that I could recommend some plan, or something that would revive the dormant spirit and awake the interest in our beautiful degrees of Cryptic Masonry it so justly deserves, but I must acknowledge that I can make no such recommendation, and shall therefore leave it to the superior wisdom of the Grand Council."

We regret that any one in so elevated a position as the Grand East should have so narrow a range of vision. We deny that Cryptic Masonry is virtually defunct everywhere throughout the country. It has its proportion of prosperity. It is defunct only in those hearts in which fervency and zeal are defunct. Let those Councils die that depend for life upon candidates, for they have failed to comprehend the genius of Masonry, and their organization was labor for naught.

The finances of this Grand Council show total receipts of \$653.30 and a balance on hand of \$500.95.

As might be expected from the Address, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed by this Grand Body, whose duty it shall be to act in conjunction with a like committee from the Grand Chapter, to consider and report at the next regular assembly such legislation as may be necessary to effect a consolidation of the Council Degrees with the Chapter upon a basis of the action of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of the State of Mississippi during the last year."

This committee is now in process of incubation, and will doubtless present a full fledged bird to the next Assembly.

There seems to be every prospect that the Grand Council of Iowa will hereafter draw its nourishment from the "bosom" of the Grand Chapter.

Companion WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE succeeded this year in making a report on Foreign Correspondence, as he had found something "of interest" in the Proceedings. He had received those of twenty-five Grand Councils, including our own for 1876. Instead of one page, this year, it occupies seventeen pages. He still, however, complains of "lack of interest" in the Proceedings. Whenever we hear this stale complaint, we think the "lack of interest" is subjective.

He says a good thing with reference to the continued sending out of circulars by some Grand Councils instead of printed Proceedings:

"This thing has gone on long enough! You have printed no Proceedings since 1871. If you please we want your pamphlets to keep up your history and perfect our files. You ought to reprint from your organization up to 1855; but because you do not, outsiders are doing it for you—the more shame to you! Wake up, and leave some evidence that you are dead, or else *die all over*."

Under Indiana he says:

"Ill. Companion W. W. AUSTIN presents the report on Correspondence. He reviews Iowa for 1875, and speaks of our report for that year as "shorter than pie crust." But we think we had in it all there was to report, and why string it out unnecessarily?"

We think the general intelligence of the Craft require "stringing out." The report on Foreign Correspondence is a review, a history of the Rite for the year past. Upon it the Companions depend for all their knowledge of the Masonic world. It is the duty of the reporter to include everything, whether his fastidious taste may regard it as of interest, or not.

It is in those Grand Councils, that have no report, or tolerate a reporter who slights his duties, that we find so many wailings, so many declarations of hopeless decline universally, and so much tendency toward the Capitular "bosom."

In reviewing New York he pays his respects in the following terms:

"REV. CHARLES G. HUDSON, from the Committee on Correspondence, delivered a very able and interesting Address, in which he argues for the independence of the grade on the ground of its intrinsic excellence and interest, and is enthusiastic for a General Grand Council. Doubtless his arguments are convincing in New York, which has always been noted for an abundance of ambitious men who like to be at the head of things, and are never happier than when pinning on a new jewel or tacking on an additional string of alphabetical adornments, and who rejoice to furnish 'supplies' to their country cousins; but away out west, the idea does not take so well. Of course Ill. Companion HUDSON is not one of those numbered above, being really and genuinely in favor of a General Grand Body, because he honestly believes it would benefit the grade; but we can only judge of what will be from what has been, and we do not see why Blue Masonry, without a General Grand head, has not done as well as the Chapter and Commandery with them, and the steady encroachments these latter are making, and the money they are beginning to cost, and which is sharpening the appetites of their officers to demand more under a pretext of building large 'homes,' not for charity, but for ostentatious display, as witness the Address of the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment for this year, makes us dread these Greeks, even when they come with the plausible gifts of uniformity, strength, and respect. Let us keep out any more of the Trojan horses, which, pretending to be for our welfare, will in the end do as the General Grand Bodies we have threatened to do, eat us soul, body and breeches."

In these highly flavored and classical remarks, we accept the personal disclaimer made, and all who know us will witness that Companion LANGRIDGE's slur can have no application to us personally. We consider it an unfounded slur upon the Companions of New York generally. It is very easy in this world to play the part of a Diogenes, or to be a dog in a manger, that will neither do, nor let any one else do. We deny that the project of a General Grand Council was sustained by any one for the purpose of obtaining office, new jewels, or additional alphabetical adornments. It was no Trojan horse filled with armed terrors. The terrors were the baseless visions of its opposers, "our country cousins." That proposition came to naught, and, as we said, we cheerfully and Masonically acquiesce in the will of the majority;

but, if that idea had been adopted, instead of being met with sneers for lack of argument, the Cryptic Rite would be better off than it is to-day, and the Grand Council of Iowa would not have taken refuge in the "bosom" of the Grand Chapter, where it will be under the protection of the *General Grand Chapter*. It is truly alarming to think of being "eaten up, soul, body, and breeches," and, even if it were true, we fear in many cases it would be a very meagre diet. Masonry boasts of its charity, but few are the "homes" or other practical endeavors to practice its boasted charity, which are fostered by it. Every proposition to in some such way carry out the professions of our Order, to provide a shelter for the dying head of the poverty stricken brother, is met by a cry, born of penuriousness, of waste, fraud, ring, and ambition, and such a thing is used as an argument (?) against a General Grand head.

In a former report we criticised our Companion for the briefness of his report. To this he retorts:

"We think, after skimming the pot as carefully as he did, and getting so few sprangles of ——— richness for his pains, he would have thought the same."

Well, we are glad that our skimmer didn't have as many and as big holes in it, as did that of Companion LANGRIDGE, and did bring up something. Great minds will differ as to the richness of our skimmings; but we diffidently venture to suggest, that it may, perhaps, possibly be better to have a few "sprangles of richness" than none at all, and that it is better to use a skimmer than a fork.

But our space warns us that we must leave the Vault of Iowa, where the workmen are untying their aprons, sheathing their swords, and wiping off their trowels, preparatory to an abandonment of their labors, hoping that the Grand Chapter has sent them back to their labors. We have told what we found, and have given our opinion.

Subordinate Councils	13
Passed the Circle.....	35
Membership	437

DANIEL B. SHELLY, Davenport, G.:M.:

WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE, Muscatine, G.:R.:

KANSAS—1875-6-7.

Kansas publishes her Proceedings triennially. This year we receive a copy for the three years above mentioned.

The Assembly for 1875 was held in Topeka, October 19th, JOHN H. BROWN, G.:M.:

The Address was short, relating to domestic matters and the New Orleans Convention. The project of a General Grand Council was approved. E. D. HILLYER was elected G. M.

In 1876 the Annual Assembly convened in Emporia, October 17th. Present, JOHN H. BROWN as G. M., and Representatives of all the Subordinates. The next morning the G. M., E. D. HILLYER, was present and delivered his Address, in which he notices the death of P. M. I. G. M. RICHARD H. REES, aged 62. He also truly prophesies the result of the application to the Grand Encampment. He had appointed our loved Companion JOHN D. WILLIAMS as Grand Representative of Kansas near New York; and had received the notice of the appointment of Companion DAVID BROCKWAY, of Topeka, as our Representative near the Grand Council of Kansas. He rejoices that all the Councils are practicing the uniform system of work with perhaps one exception.

It was recommended that a Committee on Foreign Correspondence be appointed, a committee which Kansas has never yet had, and which we are sorry to say presented no report.

The Assembly for 1877 was opened in Ample Form in Topeka, October 16th, by DAVID BROCKWAY, G. M., assisted by the Representatives of all the Subordinates.

The Annual Address informs us of the formation of one new Council. We quote the following as worthy of all commendation:

"I most earnestly protest against any action looking toward an abandonment of the Order or a transfer of its degrees to any other Masonic Body, and am glad to be able to say that I have not met with a single Select Master in Kansas who advocates such a suicidal step. Better let the Secret Vault be closed until future explorers penetrate it, and through tedious processes decipher its mystic lore, than let its treasures be scattered by vandal hands, or its beautiful and instructive degrees become side degrees in the Chapter or any other body. Let us have a separate existence or none at all."

The G. T. reported receipts \$85.25, and a total of \$182.90.

The G. R. regrets that business has kept him from preparing a report on Foreign Correspondence, an excuse that we might all make. The business was purely routine.

Subordinate Councils.....	6
Passed the Circle 1875-6-7.....	61
Membership (in part).....	140

W. J. COCHRAN, Atchison, G. M.

JOHN H. BROWN, Wyandotte, G. R.

KENTUCKY—1877.

The Proceedings of Kentucky are a thick pamphlet, printed on green tinted paper, and very well arranged. They tell us that this Grand Council assem-

bled in the City of Louisville, October 17th, 2877. Companion L. D. CRONINGER, G. : M. : , presided, and eighteen Councils sent representatives.

The Address was brief, and states that there had been no official decisions of any importance; that the G. : M. : had attended the Buffalo Convention; that Cryptic Masonry is not losing ground; and that the G. : M. : had procured the uniform work, which, of course, he thought inferior to the Kentucky work.

The Grand Recorder reported receipts of \$315.75, and a balance of \$15.23. The Grand Treasurer made no report. The uniform work was presented, its differences from the Kentucky work were explained, and the uniform work was adopted. We welcome the accession of Kentucky to the ranks of uniformity.

The titles of the officers were changed to correspond with those of the uniform work. The law was repealed requiring monthly meetings of the Subordinate Councils. A committee of three was appointed to confer with a similar committee from the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, as to the propriety of merging the Council Degrees into the Chapter.

We find no hint as to the result of the deliberations of this committee on this subject, but we hope they came to the conclusion that it would be an impropriety.

The Appendix contains the Constitution, General Regulations, and last of all the Report on Foreign Correspondence. This report is written, as usual, by Companion H. A. M. HENDERSON, occupying twenty-three pages, and as usual is well worth the reading. It is full of gems, and remarks short and sharp.

In his remarks on Louisiana he says :

"Judging from the jeremiads we have heard of the waning fortunes of Cryptic Masonry, and the pleadings to which we have listened for extraneous support, we judge there was some reason in the name given to this branch of our Order by an ignorant brother, who called it 'Crippled Masonry.'

"One of the best ways to ruin anything is to cry it down. Cheer, boys! cheer! Let our faith rise triumphant over our fears."

Under North Carolina:

"While it is contrary to the Landmarks to solicit a man to become a Mason, it is not wrong or contrary to Masonic law to ask a Brother or a Companion to advance. Once within the door, of his own free will and accord, we can ask to show him all the inner chambers.

"A little judicious propagandism would help Cryptic Masonry. Too many think that it is a sort of side-show Masonry, and are, therefore, indifferent. It is the closing act of a splendid drama."

Our Proceedings had not been received, we presume, as New York is not noticed. Vermont receives the following:

"The G. : M. : (Companion DANA) had been to a feast of Puissants and stolen all the scraps. His address is made up of quotations. We wish he had given us something original. We would rather a man would present with pride a club-footed child of his own,

than a perfect one of his neighbors. * * * * Grand Master DANA's opening suggested daisy-dimpling dingles, beauty-blooming flowers, the carol of birds, the hum of hungry bees, the ribboning rivulet, and similar bright things of nature. This may be mere tinsel, but if the printer must have copy why not give him something pretty instead of doling a dirge. * * * * DANA must be some kin to the illustrious Richard. There is poetry in him. That was a pretty conceit of his of the 'heart burning sweet incense in unseen censers about our altars.' Perhaps a man who has no higher conception of the human heart than that it is a good blood pump, will not understand it, but it smells sweet to the souls of those who love the beautiful and feel it, like Goethe, their duty to cultivate it because the useful encourages itself."

It is often forgotten that Beauty is one of the principal supports as well as Wisdom and Strength. We quote the following under Wisconsin:

"The Companion thinks we might succeed as an evangelist,—if not to 'convert the poor wicked cusses, to tickle them.' Well, if we could make poor, sad, weary and wretched humanity laugh, we would save to that extent. If all the world could be kept smiling, Paradise would be restored and the kingdom of happiness would have come. After paying us the nice compliment of being a laugh-producer, he turns round and calls us 'a head-smashing warrior.' We do take a scalp once in a while, and our belt is hung round with several of these hirsute trophies, but if a fellow looks in our face and laughs, then our war-whoop changes into a welcoming hail, our scalping-knife into a turkey carver, and our heart into a temple of fraternity. These coarse grained fellows that don't know a 'love-lick' from the knout of a thug, in whose eyes the light of humor works a strange Egyptian darkness, and who take the gaiety of others as a signal for epilepsy—from all such, 'Good Lord, deliver us.'"

In conclusion he distinguishes himself as a "laugh-producer," and we think, Companions, you will be pleased to read what he says:

"So we are through the desert—the sand, mind you, and not the plum-pudding. Our faithful camel, which we call by the endearing name of 'Scissors,' has safely transported us over the arid wastes and free from injury at the merciless hands of the Bedouins who beset the way. When we started out we had a fanciful conceit of lythe, but dusky brigands of the plain, mounted on Arabian steeds of spotless white, with flowing manes and tails, with whom, when they threw up the sand and cried, 'there's blood between us,' we intended to immediately eat salt and sit down with them around the common bivouack fire for a 'night's entertainment,' such as we read of in oriental fable lore. Imagine our surprise when the miserable, scurvy crew came trotting up to us in a shambling gate, on knock-kneed and spavined 'plugs,' who looked as if it would be a charity to weatherboard their equine sides to protect them from the simoon blast, which threatened to sow the desert with their bones; and instead of the ferocious cry of 'Blood!' they sputtered out the well-chewed word, 'Bucksheesh!' Shade of Ishmael, how our feather (penna) fell. No wonder their maternal ancestor was *Hagar*-ed. Every now and then the vision of a palm grove or oasis would woo and delight the view, and we would whip up in glad expectation of grateful shades, refreshing draughts, and verdant views, only to find that we had been pursuing an illusive mirage, which mocked our thirst and dissolved into thin air, only saying as it flitted away, 'it is all in your eye.' We had heard of that illustrious Shiek Corson, and expected that he, at least, would welcome us to his tent, tell us of his triumphs and show us his trophies. But he received us in well nigh surly silence—muttering something that sounded like 'New journey,' but not understanding this gibberish, we mounted our camel and stole away—that's all we could steal.

"Now, we have exhausted that figure, and feel penitent for having used it. The reporters have done as well as the materials would enable them to do, and far better than we have done."

He then goes on to argue as to the propriety of merging the Council in the Chapter, but we don't think the Companions of New York would take any interest in his arguments. Companion HENDERSON must have been jolted too hard by the up and down gait of his camel, "Scissors," the heat of the desert must have partially coagulated his duramater, and filled his eyes with "Mirage," which he considers to be argument. Look at it a little closer, Companion, and "they will flit away, saying, 'it is all in your eye.'"

Look at the statistics, and see if there is any need of abandoning the Grand Council of Kentucky.

Subordinate Councils.....	39
Membership, estimated.....	2000

W. LARUE THOMAS, Danville, G.:M.:

A. G. HODGES, Louisville, G.:R.:

7

LOUISIANA—1878.

This Grand Council assembled in the city of New Orleans, February 14th, 2878, GEORGE J. PINCKARD, G.:M.:, presiding. The report of the Committee on Credentials showed that seven Councils were represented.

The Address of Companion PINCKARD was an excellent effort. We take pleasure in giving some extracts from it:

"Since last we met, it has pleased Him, in His Divine Providence, to remove from our midst our late Grand Recorder, Ill. Comp. GUSTAVUS SONTAG, P.:T.:I.:M.: of Louisiana Council, No. 2, for ten years Grand Recorder of this Grand Council. Companion SONTAG had been in feeble health for some years, and at our Annual Communication in 1876 felt necessitated to ask the Grand Council to release him from the duties of the office. He died peacefully on the 3d of June, and was buried with Masonic honors by his Lodge, George Washington, No. 65."

We find that Companion SONTAG was born in Hildesheim, Hannover, 1826.

The G.:M.: then says, after speaking of the lamentable fate of Companion GOULEY, of Missouri:

"Death, in its mildest form, when gently bearing away the aged and infirm, the decrepit or the fragile, is ever wont to excite feelings of solemnity and awe; but when the King of Terrors suddenly and without a note of warning, presents himself before the strong, the healthy and robust, armed with the terrors of the devouring elements, advancing remorselessly and with rapid strides, mocking the puny efforts put forth by the beleaguered one to relieve himself from the impending grasp, gibbering with a thousand tongues and pressing him onward toward the confines of a boundary from which in another and equally appalling form he ruthlessly stands ready to receive him, utterly hopeless of all human succor, with the full knowledge that a few moments and he launches upon the unfathomable abyss from whence there is no return—what pen can portray? What art depict? What man can comprehend the awful situation? Is there a sullen stupor? Is there a horrifying sense of fear? Is there a reckless bravado? Is there a sublime grandeur? Is there a softened submission to the will of the Divine Master, which inspires the cry aloud, 'Father, not my will, but thine be done?'"

"GEORGE FRANK GOULEY has passed the terrible ordeal. Faithful in life, triumphant in death, peace to his ashes, all honors to his memory; his life and Masonic services need no further eulogy here.

"While Death has been busy in our own midst individually, dissolution has been at work in our midst as organizations. Three Grand Councils have gone out of existence, and gone by their own acts. The Grand Council of Mississippi, the Grand Council of Illinois, and the Grand Council of North Carolina. The causes which led to these Masonic deaths, if I may so term them, are utterly incomprehensible to me. The Grand Council of Mississippi, with a roll of constituents numbering twenty-one and a balance credit of \$400, due it by the Grand Chapter, suddenly and without time for mature reflection, surrenders its powers, steps down and out, and asks the Grand Chapters to relieve it of its work, ignores its mission and becomes a thing of the past. The Grand Council of Illinois retires gracefully, carrying with it fifty-four constituent Councils and a balance in its treasury of \$50. The state of the Grand Council of North Carolina I am unacquainted with, not having seen a report of its Proceedings."

The Address then gives full report of the Buffalo Convention, the action of the General Grand Chapter, and that of the Grand Encampment, with quotations from Companion DRUMMOND, which we will give under Maine.

He says it was found necessary to print the Proceedings in Chicago, on account of the high prices charged at New Orleans. It was done by the Bulletin Printing Co., of Chicago, for \$85.00, instead of \$135.00, as estimated in New Orleans. There had been no decisions. One Council, Holland, No. 1, desired to surrender its charter, because to pay its indebtedness the members would have to go down into their pockets to the sum of *Three Dollars each!*

In conclusion he utters these eloquent words:

"We come to the close of another Chapter; another mile-stone on the way is passed. What of the situation? Ye watchmen on the topmost pinnacles, what of the night? Can ye not as yet faintly discern the harbinger of approaching day? Is all around you still in gloom, without one cheering hope or ray of comfort? If so, ye stalwart champions of the Crypt, gird up your loins—you know the work to be done. On your exertions possibly depends the stability of one of the fairest portions of the Masonic structure. The Stone of Foundation is yet firmly based; it has passed the approving square of the Great Master Builder and been pronounced faultless; that it remains intact is your business; its symmetry of perfection can never be destroyed; it may by ruthless hands be upheaved and cast aside—that is your business—and with its upheaval may possibly tumble the superstructure—that, too, is *your* business. Are you prepared for the sacrifice? I think not; I hope not. Be up, then, and doing; be alert at your posts; the day spring from on high may not be far distant; yet a little while and happier and more prosperous days may dawn upon us.

"I cannot but condemn this dull and listless state of inactivity, ever waiting and watching without any effort to overcome. Bear this important truth in mind, that he who would secure the Divine approbation must not only implore His aid, but set his shoulder firmly to the wheel. Exert your whole strength, and whatever you may lack will in due season be supplied."

We would that all our Companions in the East were such Giblemites as G. M. PINCKARD.

The report of the G. T., Companion SAMUEL M. TODD, shows receipts \$143.98, and a balance on hand of \$95.73. We regret to say that there was no report on Foreign Correspondence, but Companions TODD and LAMBERT were appointed such committee, and we have hopes of a splendid report next year from these well-known Companions.

Companion LAMBERT, G. R., in his report acknowledges the receipt of the Proceedings of twenty-three Grand Councils, ours not among the number. The following was adopted, which we give with emphatic commendation:

"Resolved, That the commissions of our Representatives to those Grand Bodies which have dissolved be and the same are hereby cancelled and revoked; and that the Representatives of such Grand Councils near this Grand Council be and are hereby discharged from attendance upon this Grand Council in such capacity, and that they be requested to return their commissions to the parties from whom they received them."

In the matter of Holland Council, No. 1, their request was referred to the Grand Officers with power. We find a note saying that they accordingly met that Council and concluded to accept its charter.

Subordinate Councils,.....	9
Membership,.....	435
Degrees,.....	10

GEORGE J. PINCKARD, New Orleans, G. M. .

RICHARD LAMBERT, Drawer 872, New Orleans, G. R. .

MAINE—1877.

It is with peculiar interest that we take up the Proceedings of Maine, for we always expect to find a rich treat in them. They are always full of information, well arranged, and contain the utterances of the leading men and of the best Reporter in the Rite. They tell us that the Annual Assembly was held in Portland, May 2d, 2877, and was opened in Ample Form by Companion SUMNER H. BOYNTON, G. M. . Eleven Councils out of twelve were represented.

The Annual Address was able, but we find nothing that would now be of interest, as the questions it treats are decided.

It announces the death of Companions P. T. I. M. . CHARLES W. SNOW, and of P. T. I. M. . EDMUND B. HINKLEY. It also says that the Grand Council lost its jewels and paraphrenalia in the fire which destroyed the Masonic Temple in Portland. The archives, however, were saved, and not much damaged. The report of the G. T. . shows receipts \$296.50.

A committee was appointed on Ritual to examine the work, and report to the Grand Council what verbal alterations should be made.

Companion JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND presented one of his inimitable Reports on Foreign Correspondence, which we always regard as the best that are written. He reviews the Proceedings of twenty-nine Grand Councils, including our own for 1876.

Under Alabama, on the subject of fines, he says:

"If our memory serves us, it was the custom in old Portland Lodge a hundred years ago to impose fines."

We quote the following bit of history from his review of Minnesota:

"While substantially correct he has fallen into a few errors. Cross got the degrees (or one of them) in 1816; we think ECKEL then had only the Select: Cross gave the Royal before the Select, and undoubtedly the first who united the degrees in one system. It was in Massachusetts that the order of the degrees was reversed. The Northern Supreme Council, in 1850, granted a charter with authority to hold a Council in Rhode Island, and the authority was used until it was revoked, but a few years ago. We cannot find that a ritual of the *Royal* degree was ever deposited in the archives of the Southern Supreme Council, but only of the *Select*. We hope during the coming winter to give the reason for the faith that is in us."

New York receives a full notice, quoting from the Address of Companion SACKETT, giving a synopsis of our Address, of which he speaks in too flatter-

ing terms, thinking our argument for a General Grand Council the ablest he had seen, and quoting also largely from the Correspondence. In answer to our question why the Proceedings of Maine have a green wrapper, he retorts:

"In his review of Maine he notices that our Proceedings are in green, and says: 'Tell us, some one, why that color?' For the same reason, no doubt, that New York uses *yellow*."

We have never been able to discover any reason for yellow or green. We always supposed the proper color was purple, but very few of the Proceedings are of that hue. Some are white, some crimson, some blue, some green, some yellow, some drab, and some purple. More colors in fact than there are in the spectrum.

We never in our time have heard anything from Texas Cryptic Masonry. It will be of interest to all to give what he says about Texas:

"This Grand Council dissolved in 1864; but the following from the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, shows the *status* of the degrees:

"These degrees are conferred in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, opened and closed in due form. None but affiliated Royal Arch Masons, in good standing, with the consent of their Chapters, are entitled to the degrees. The Chapter to whom the candidate belongs collects the fees, and makes return of the work. All who were Royal Arch Masons, in good standing at the time of the transfer of jurisdiction of these degrees to the Chapter, were regarded as entitled to the Council Degrees without ballot; all petitions balloted upon since that time, of course, included the Council Degrees. A Council is no part of a Chapter. It is a distinct Body so far as its work is concerned. The Council Degrees in this jurisdiction are not conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, as they are in Virginia and Maryland—in Virginia, since the 17th of December, A. D. 1841, where they are placed between the Past Master and Most Excellent Master; and in Maryland, since A. D. 1824, where they are placed as in Virginia. In Texas Councils of Royal and Select Masters have not been merged in Chapters of Royal Arch Masons. The only authority this Grand Chapter ever acquired over them was by the concordat of both Grand Council and Grand Chapter, in June, 1864. This Grand Chapter could not by its sole action, acquire any title in the premises; the title acquired by virtue of the concordat, was that of a custodian and guardian of the Subordinate Councils; by it the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters were only to be conferred in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, appendant to the Subordinate Chapters, and after the candidate had received the Royal Arch Degree. The record does not admit of any doubt as to the correctness of this decision. No Royal Arch Chapter of this jurisdiction can confer, within its bosom, the Royal and Select Degrees. They can only be conferred in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, duly held for that purpose.

"The committee to which the Grand High Priest's Address was referred, says:

"We note, too, the decisions in reference to Cryptic Masonry, and appreciate the difficulties encountered in answering the various questions. Our system is peculiar, and the Grand High Priest finds no precedent in the history of other Grand Chapters to guide him. It has been in vogue with us so short a time, that it is still crude and incomplete; and the action of his predecessors affords but meagre data upon which to found his conclusions. Consequently, he is left to decide the cases as they are, upon his own judgment, unaided by the experience of others. Maryland has given up the control of the Council Degrees to a Grand Council now organized in her jurisdiction, and Texas and the Virginias stand alone among their sisters in this respect, and the system here is different from theirs. So, in reality, ours is peculiar to Texas. Your committee *submit to the Companions, whether it is best to continue thus isolated from our sister Grand Chapters in this respect.*"

We put in the italics. So Texas finds it don't work well. They find difficulties. They already think of abandoning the plan. Maryland has taken the Cryptic Degrees out of the Chapter. We predict, that in those jurisdictions, which are now going to try the experiment, the result will be the same, and will not continue, but will be abandoned in a few years. How much better it would have been to have taken time to reflect, and inquire how it

had worked where it had been tried, rather than to rush blindly into such a plan, like a flock of sheep, because some influential Companion advised it, or had made it a pet croquet for years.

In conclusion, Companion DRUMMOND, having delayed his report until after the Grand Encampment, gives an account of the Buffalo Convention, the General Grand Chapter, and the action of the Grand Encampment. We now give entire his remarks concerning the "Future of the Rite," and, Companions, we hope you will read them carefully, for they are full of truth and of able argument, and ought to forever set at rest all new propositions and plans, which are to-day the bane of Cryptic Masonry. He says:

"The plan of a General Grand Council having been abandoned, and there being no prospect of making these degrees prerequisites to the Orders of Knighthood, there remain *three* things which may be done:

- "1. Go on as we are.
- "2. Adopt the Mississippi plan.
- "3. Abandon the degrees entirely.

"We have examined very carefully all that we have found pertaining to this matter, and we have no doubt whatever that this is the true situation, and that Cryptic Masons must accept it as such.

"The arguments of the Mississippi Companions were embraced under three general heads:

- "1. That the degrees originally belonged to the Chapter system.
- "2. The expense of sustaining separate organizations.
- "3. That there is such a falling off in the membership and the number of Councils as to show that there is not sufficient interest in these degrees to maintain them independently of the Chapters.

"The reply to the first proposition is, that it is not true, either historically or ritualistically.

"The second and third run together and may be considered together.

"We believe that the depression in Cryptic Masonry, wherever it exists, is not due primarily to a lack of interest and ability to support them in a proper manner.

"Upon the revival of Masonry, the cultivation of these degrees was resumed, and was gradually extended. The reaction in favor of Masonry was such that it was overdone; the growth was too much of the *fungus* character, and certainly too rapid. Brethren devoted to it more time than due attention to their avocations allowed; they held official stations in from two to four Bodies, and even Grand Bodies, at a time. Too impatient of waiting for promotion in their Body, they sought to establish new ones; each little village was also ambitious of being the seat of one or more Masonic Bodies. The result was, that a vast number of new charters were granted for Bodies, which, when they lost the services of one or two zealous brethren who were their backbone, began to die, or, at best, live at a poor, dying rate. Such was the position in 1861, at the breaking out of the war; but even then the membership and the number of live Councils in the country were not so large as at the present time.

"The stimulus the war gave to Masonry, however, was felt in the whole system; but it was an unhealthy stimulus: members joined and went 'as high as they could get' (as the saying was) from mercenary or selfish motives, and, worse than all that, they were hurried through the degrees with a rapidity that absolutely prevented their receiving any benefit whatever from our teachings; the inevitable result was that when the occasion passed by for which they sought the benefit of Masonry, they cared for it as little as they knew, and ceased paying dues; having never been in the habit of attending our meetings, they did not have to change in that respect.

"But there was another cause for depression. When the war broke out, many of the best officers and members were called away from their Masonic duties, and never returned to active work; the Bodies fell into the hands of brethren equally ambitious and zealous, but not as competent; that is to say, the average standard of excellence and competency of officers was lowered. To this should also be added the fact, that in the South many Bodies were actually destroyed by the war, in everything but name. The result was, that when peace, and a settling down to the avocations of peace came, we had a very large number of Bodies, especially in the South, which had lost all their members who could be relied upon to maintain them; and another large number, which had been unadvisedly organized, with no efficient material in the surrounding country for their support; and others with a large nominal membership of those who had never been Masons more than in name, who paid no dues, and for whom the active members paid dues to the Grand Bodies.

"When matters were precisely in this condition, there came in business that terrible

depression, which was the necessary result of the overdoing in the previous years; the same law produced the same effect in business, as in the material affairs of Masonry; but it told with double effect, of course, upon Masonry. The result is, that in many Grand Lodge jurisdictions, there has been a large falling off, and the membership throughout the country has scarcely held its own; in the Chapters, the result has been worse; and if it has been even worse in the Councils, it is simply because the higher bodies inevitably feel it the worst. For instance, Companion WALTER, in his eloquent speech in the Convention, said that if we turn the degrees over to the Chapters, as proposed, *five thousand* Royal Arch Masons in Mississippi would, in a brief time, be in possession of them. We have no reason to doubt that there are five thousand *nominal* Royal Arch Masons in that State, but the latest returns give the membership at only two thousand one hundred and twenty [!]. Without going into particulars, it is sufficient to say, that whether we regard the falling off in membership, the decrease in the number of Bodies, or the number which fail to make returns and pay dues, Royal Arch Masonry has not sufficient advantage over Cryptic Masonry in Mississippi to boast of; and the same arguments, which show that Cryptic Masonry should be turned over to the Chapters, are equally strong to show that Capitular Masonry should be turned over to the Lodge. For the sake of comparison, we give the totals of our statistics for ten years past:

YEAR.	NO. OF COUNCILS.	NO. MAKING RETURNS.	MEMBERSHIP.	INITIATES.
1868	444	389	16,048	2,167
1869	482	452	20,184	3,077
1870	504	472	22,024	2,713
1871	570	508	24,361	2,430
1872	626	539	27,208	2,682
1873	653	567	28,558	2,395
1874	663	557	29,597	1,992
1875	676	549	29,693	2,127
1876	679	548	30,004	1,775
1877	656	515	28,985	1,434

"We should have said, also, that in the South, where some of the causes we have named have prevailed to the greatest extent, the depression has been the most serious, while in some jurisdictions there has been, and still is, a continuous and steady growth, in spite of all causes for falling off.

"Our conclusion is, that the depression in Cryptic Masonry is not occasioned by causes inherent in the system, but is the result of a combination of causes of a temporary character, and within the power of those who value the degrees to remedy. So much in reply to the arguments adduced in favor of the Mississippi plan. In addition, there are several considerations, of a weighty character, against the proposition.

"The first is, that Chapters already have so many degrees to confer, that it is exceedingly difficult to find officers to do the work properly; to add to the four Chapter degrees two more, which *must* be conferred by the same officers, is imposing a heavy burden upon them, and would cause a still greater depression in the Chapter.

"Another consideration is the confusion which will be introduced if the Mississippi plan is adopted. We shall have so many different systems, that all semblance of uniformity will be destroyed. We shall have one system in Pennsylvania, whose Grand Chapter system is such that these degrees can never be made a part of it; another system in Virginia and West Virginia; another in Texas; another in the States adopting the Mississippi plan; and another in the other States. We destroy uniformity, not only in the Cryptic system, *but also in the Chapter system.* We should prefer to abandon the degrees altogether, than to introduce confusion by adopting the plan proposed.

"We believe that when we have cut off all the *fungi*, we shall find solid timber enough to produce a healthy growth; that the best way is to go on 'depressing,' till we reach the 'hard-pan' of a membership who are willing to work these degrees for their own intrinsic value. When we have reached that point, we should also avoid making the Council a mere appendage to some other organizations. We should apply the same rule in the selection of officers, Grand and Subordinate, that we do in electing members; we require the latter to pass through the lower bodies first; and if we take for officers the *past* officers of the lower bodies, or at any rate, those not holding office in the other bodies, we shall be likely to find those who will give due attention to the Council, and not regard it as a matter to be attended to in such intervals as their duties in the other bodies make convenient. *Live* officers in the Council and Grand Council, *who magnify their office*, will soon cause a return of the growth which we are apt to regard as *necessary* to prosperity. Let those, then, who do not believe in lowering the standard to demoralization and dissolution, close up the vacant spaces made by those falling out, and, with united effort, maintain these beautiful degrees in the organizations our fathers created and transmitted to our care."

Companion DRUMMOND's arguments seem to us to be unanswerable, and, because of his knowledge, experience, and long occupancy of high Masonic positions, they should be carefully read, and treated with all the respect they deserve.

There was no business of any especial importance transacted. The statistics show:

Subordinate Councils,	12
Received, etc.,	51
Membership,	1006
FESSENDEN I. DAY, Lewiston, G. M.	
IRA BERRY, Portland, G. R.	

MARYLAND—1876.

From Maryland also we have received no news for some years. We copy the following from Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine:

"Annual Assembly, Nov. 14, 1876; the six Councils represented; no report on Correspondence, but a committee appointed.

"The Grand Master (GEORGE L. MCCAHAN), in the absence of a Committee on Correspondence, acknowledges the receipt of the Proceedings of the various Grand Councils; gives a list of the Representatives appointed; and copies the Proceedings of the Convention at New Orleans.

"The first three Grand Officers were appointed Representatives (in person or by proxy) to the Convention at Buffalo. We regret to find no statistics in these Proceedings."

MASSACHUSETTS—1877.

The Proceedings of Massachusetts contain a fine engraving of the lamented G. M., CHARLES J. DANFORTH, whose departure from earthly scenes we noticed in our last report, occurring May 17th, 1877, in his fifty-fourth year.

"Companion DANFORTH was born in Taunton, Mass., Aug. 11th, 1823; came to Boston in early youth, entered into mercantile pursuits, and after a varied experience, including the comforts of domestic life, much business activity, the loss by the great fire of 1872, the premonitory symptoms and pains of his fatal disease, his end came, and he quietly dropped into rest, leaving a widow and four children comfortably provided for. Columbian Lodge, St. Paul's Chapter, and Boston Council of Royal and Select Masters, all of Boston, conferred upon him the degrees in the several grades they represent, the latter admitting him to membership on Jan. 26th, 1865. He assisted to organize Aberdour Lodge in 1860, and Lafayette Lodge in 1865; the former in Boston, the latter in Roxbury, now Boston, of each he became Master. Subsequently he was D. D. G. M. of the Third Masonic District four years, and was elected Junior Grand Warden in December, 1876. In 1865, he united with others to form Mt. Vernon R. A. Chapter, and was elected its High Priest in 1865. In 1871, he assisted to form Roxbury Council, and was its first Thrice Illustrious Master, so continued for three years, and was elected Most Illustrious Grand Master, in December, 1876."

"Rest from thy labor, rest,
Soul of the just, set free!
Blest be thy memory, and blest
Thy bright example be!"

The Annual Assembly was held in Boston, Dec. 12, 2877, and was opened in AMPLE FORM by Companion PHILANDER NUTTER, as M. I. G. M. Eighteen Councils were represented.

The Annual Address pays a fitting eulogy to the memory of Companion DANFORTH; it thinks that the interest in Cryptic Masonry continues, although not as vigorous as in the past; several of the Councils had resumed labor with new earnestness, and one Dispensation had been granted to form a new Council.

The report of Companion JOHN HAIGH, G. R., acknowledges the receipt of the Proceedings of twenty-four Grand Councils, including our own for 1876. He reports receipts of \$592.53 and cash on hand \$123.47. Total \$716.00.

The Committee on Ritual reported that they had corrected grammatical and clerical errors, and added a form for closing a Council of Royal Masters; and, on motion, the Ritual was placed in the keeping of the G. R.

The committee to attend the Grand Encampment made their report. The thanks of the Grand Council were returned to Companion JOHN MCCLELLAN, who for twenty years had served as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Council, and who voluntarily retired from his position.

There was no report on Foreign Correspondence, but for what reason we are unable to ascertain; but Companion DADMUN, P. G. M., was appointed such committee for next year. We hope he will magnify his office.

Subordinate Councils,	23
Membership,	2692

ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Boston, G. M.

JOHN HAIGH, Somerville, G. R.

MICHIGAN—1878.

Michigan, ever prompt, prosperous, and one of the largest jurisdictions in the Rite, sends us her Proceedings. The color we call pink, and it is found in the Michigan Proceedings only. The Annual Assembly convened in the City of Detroit, Jan. 14th, 2878. Companion J. R. EVERARD, G. M., was in the chair. Representatives from forty-four Councils answered to the roll.

The Annual Address was a good one, from which we take pleasure in making the following quotation:

"Although, as a society, we may not have added to our numerical strength as rapidly as might have been desired, we have great reason to rejoice for what we have and are to-day. If we have not built up as many new Councils as might have been wished, we have the satisfaction of believing that the structures we have erected stand upon firm foundations, and that the individual blocks composing these structures were all hewed and squared in the quarries, and were all brought up for inspection and found to be good work and square work, and such work as we are authorized to receive; and also the satisfaction of feeling that nothing has occurred to mar our harmony, or bring reproach upon or dim the lustre of our honored Order. For the general prosperity of our Rite we ought

to take courage. Perhaps there never was a time in the history of our glorious institution when the intelligence, refinement, culture and dignity of our Order was so manifest, and its signal influence so obvious as to-day; commanding as it does the respect of all good people.

"Let us, therefore, be jealous of our well acquired honors, taking special care that our Vaults and Temples are not sullied, no evil hardihood or wrong doing tolerated; purging our S. V. and Temples of all vice and immorality, so that the cavilier will search through our members in vain to find the drunkard, the profaner, the liar, seducer, debaucher, licentious, or any other wickedness within our Cryptic Rite. We cannot be too guarded in selecting the material for our symbolic temples. The applicant should be tried by the square of morality, and also by the test of truth; for a Temple sustained by a score of men of sterling integrity and virtue will possess more strength than a hundred unworthy Masons."

The financial report shows a total of \$1,195.40 and a balance on hand of \$806.40. A charter was granted to one new Council. The sum of \$3.00 was paid to each delegate.

The business was entirely routine. The Report on Foreign Correspondence occupies thirty-two pages, and, as usual in this jurisdiction, is a well written and thorough review from the pen of Companion GARA B. NOBLE, G. R. . . It reviews twenty-four Grand Councils, including the Empire State for 1876 and 1877. He gives us a fraternal notice with quotations. In conclusion he says:

"We find many reasons to be encouraged; none to be discouraged. Some are despondent and ready to give up the ghost. But we think the trouble with these may be attributed to their officers, together with a lack of energy and interest in the Order. Too many seek the offices for the name, and have no interest beyond the title of M. I. G. Master, or T. I. Master. Away with this class of what we cannot call true workmen, but drones, and place in their stead those who do not sleep on their posts—'inflict the penalty without mercy.' Mississippi and Illinois have taken measures to transfer the Council Degrees to their several Royal Arch Chapters, 'provided the General Grand Chapter will allow them to do so' We cannot see any advantage in so doing, as some are already complaining of too many degrees in the Chapter. If the Council Degrees are not worth the working as they are, give them up; disband. Do not try to foist them where they never belonged. If you give them to anybody, return them to whom we received them from—the *A. and A. Rite*. We are not aware that the Royal Arch Chapter ever had any control of them."

Subordinate Councils.....	47
Exalted.....	121
Withdrawn.....	48
Suspended.....	119
Died.....	12
Membership.....	2003

ANDREW J. UTLEY, St. Louis, G. M. .

GARRA B. NOBLE, Detroit, G. R. .

MINNESOTA—1877.

We are indebted for our report of this Grand Council to Companion HENDERSON, of Kentucky, from whose Correspondence we copy:

"The Eighth Annual Assembly met in Minneapolis, June 25th, 1877; GEO. W. COOLEY, Grand Master.

"There is quite a lengthy Address, but it is principally of interest with the jurisdiction. The Grand Master thinks that the Cryptic Degrees 'bind the grand fabric of Masonry into one complete and harmonious whole.'

"The Report on Foreign Correspondence is unusually good, and Companion GROVE B. COOLEY is hereby complimented for the same.

"We had asked him how he would like to be 'stepped over,' and he quite felicitously responds:

"We will answer you, dear brother, by saying that we would rather be cautiously 'stepped over' than be sat down upon by some of those weighty chaps that have humbled themselves only to be exalted, and would deign to come in and sup with us, not because they enjoy our repast, but only because they *must* eat of our bread and drink of our wine before they can sit at the banquet of the spurred and feathered Knights of Chivalry.

"We are firmly persuaded in our own mind that the Cryptic Degrees should be made prerequisite to the Chivalric; and we are inclined to the opinion that because of our *importance* the Grand Encampment will give us what we ask. But in case it does not, and we are to be 'stepped over' in the future as in the past, we are not among those who will suffer our indignation to cause us to commit suicide, or to allow our courage to abate in the least. If the girl we love won't have us, why, we'll live single; that's all."

Subordinate Councils..... 4
Membership..... 169.

MISSOURI—1877.

The Proceedings contain a beautiful engraving of our lamented Companion GEO FRANK GOULEY, whose loss has been so universally noticed and mourned by the Craft.

The Annual Assembly was held in St. Louis, October 5th, 2877; W. R. STUBBLEFIELD, G. M., presided. Seven Councils were represented.

The Annual Address was brief. The report of finances showed receipts amounting to \$516.35, and a balance on hand of \$209.85.

Companion J. W. LUKE, G. R., presented the Report on Foreign Correspondence, which briefly reviews twenty-six Grand Councils, including New York, for 1876. In his conclusion he thinks the Chapter "is the end of the whole matter."

Last year we were unable to give any data concerning the life of Companion GOULEY. We copy from Companion AUSTIN, of Indiana, the following, which was written by Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine, as a part of his Report on Correspondence to the Grand Lodge of Maine:

"It is with feelings of the profoundest grief that we announce the death of GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Four days ago (April 11), the telegraph brought the news of the burning of the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, and that Brother Gouley perished in the catastrophe; and while we are writing these lines, the Craft in Missouri are performing the last sad rites over his mortal remains. That despatch carried sorrow wide-spread, for in every State in this Union Brother Gouley had friends, whose hearts ache and whose tears flow on account of his sudden, sad end. It is terrible to see a strong man, in the prime of life, and in the full vigor of health, struck down instantly by the grim messenger; but how inexpressibly more terrible it must be to see such a man awaiting a certain death—before our eyes and within the sound of our voice, and we powerless to save him!

"His remains were sent to Wilmington, Delaware, for burial, and the funeral there took place Saturday, April 21. The body was received at Philadelphia by the Grand Master, ROBERT CLARK, Brothers THOMAS R. PATTON, CHARLES E. MEYER and others; a large representation of Masons from Delaware and Pennsylvania also attended the funeral.

"The following incident is related as happening at the funeral in St. Louis. When the Knights Templar were giving the grand honors over the body of their late comrade, a beautiful butterfly arose from the casket, fluttered a moment over it, and then darted into the vault and was seen no more—a striking symbol of the flight of our deceased brother's soul to the realms of immortality.

"His eulogist thus relates the manner in which the request, to which we have alluded, was made:

"Shortly after the death of our lamented brother, JOHN D. DAGGETT, late Grand Treasurer of our Grand Lodge, in company with a number of Masonic and other friends, some of whom I now see before me, and while commenting upon the loss which we had then recently sustained, Brother GOULEY spoke to this effect: 'When my time shall have come I want no long, suffering sickness, or struggle; I desire to be spared in health and usefulness to the last moment; but when I am gone—using his very gesture at the moment—I desire Missouri Lodge, No. 1, to bury me.' Then changing from the impressiveness of his manner, and pleasantly turning to me, in the freedom of personal intimacy, he added: 'JOHN, you pronounce my eulogy.' Far too lightly, my brethren, as I now think of it, I replied as we joined hands: 'Yes, FRANK, I will.' It may be that his remark as to his eulogy was not made in full earnestness; most certainly, so far as regarded myself, but little import was attached to it at the moment. But now, sir, as the recollection of that remark comes back upon me, I would be precluded from silence on this occasion, even though feeble may be the effort to comply with his request.

"We substitute the following, from the same source, for what we had written in relation to his traits of character:

"As a Masonic journalist he was among the most efficient of his day. His knowledge of Masonic Jurisprudence was varied, and erudite his interpretation of its laws: on this point his opinion was everywhere sought and respected. The high position with which he was honored by our Grand Lodge, and which by his long continuance in it he alike honored, was the best evidence of his Masonic ability, integrity and efficiency; as a general writer, while he may have lacked the pathos which would influence impulse, his mind was analytical and acute, his comprehension broad, his purposes honest and true. As a speaker he was eloquent, but it was the eloquence of intellect and of mighty will, not the persuasive tones which might stir sentiment, or touch the spring of emotion. He sought to guide the mind, not to move the heart. His speeches were logical, strong, cogent, forcible. As a debater he was a powerful adversary, but still ever was he the courteous opponent. There was no sacrifice which he would not make for a friend, yet no personal bias could swerve him from what he considered a straight line of duty. He was laudably ambitious: his every effort was made as he conceived for the greatest good of his fellow-men. He was courageously firm in the advocacy of truth, and he possessed that indomitable pluck, which would have led him to a martyr's end rather than yield his conviction of right; yet, tenacious as he was of those convictions, he never dogmatically forced them upon others. This combination of vigorous intellect, generous friendship, laudable ambition and dauntless courage which formed his character, are very rarely found united. In all these characteristics he was great; he was great in all the elements which go to make a strong, useful, honest man.

"In his death the Masonic Fraternity of Missouri have lost one of their most useful—yes, I say they have lost the most useful—of their members; for wherever the English tongue is spoken and Masonry exists, there must the impress of his labors be found in its behalf. In his demise his *confreres* have lost a good, able, loving instructor; his friends a genial companion, society a worthy member, the State a respected citizen; and although his daily labors will no longer be present with us, yet the world is better that he had lived.

"We believe this sketch of him eminently just, and not over-wrought. In the death of Brother GOULEY, the fraternity, the world over, have sustained an immense loss; and they mingle their tears with those of their brethren of Missouri. He sleeps peacefully upon the banks of the Brandywine, but he lives in the hearts of his brethren and in his deeds. Hail and Farewell."

Subordinate Councils.....	16
Passed the Circle.....	17
Membership.....	363

WM. R. PENICK, St. Joseph, G. M.:

JNO. W. LUKE, St. Louis, G. R.:

NEBRASKA—1877.

From this Grand Council we receive a circular, stating that the Annual Assembly was held in Omaha, December 20th, 2877.

The merging of the chartered Councils of Nebraska with the Royal Arch Chapters was considered, and it was ordered that the matter be submitted to the Councils for their action. Statistics (from last year.)

Subordinate Councils.....	5
Members in three Councils.....	170

ROBERT W. FURNAS, Brownville, G. M.

WILLIAM R. BOWEN, Omaha, G. R.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Since we have written the Foreign Correspondence for New York, we have had but one copy of Proceedings from the Grand Council of New Brunswick, in 1872, we think, and one letter from Companion GOODWIN, G. R.

Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine, says:

"The Grand Council of New Brunswick has not met for several years, and we fear that the recent fire in St. John has deprived it of what little life it had remaining."

That is all we can tell of New Brunswick.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

From New Hampshire we have two pamphlets, the Proceedings for two years.

1876.

The Annual Convocation was held in Concord, May 15th, 2876. OLIVER C. FISHER, G. M., presided.

Eight Councils sent delegates.

In the Annual Address we note the death of Companion THOMAS J. SANBORN, June 9th, 1875, aged 70 years. He was a P. G. M. of the Grand Council, and was Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery. Also, the death of Companion DANIEL BALCH, August 22, 1875, at the age of 84. He was made a Mason in 1818, exalted in Connecticut (date not given), and received the Cryptic Degrees in 1826. He was a P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge, and a P. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter.

The Address states that the Councils are generally prosperous; there had been no complaints; peace and harmony prevailed, and most of the Councils were doing a fair amount of work. A Dispensation had been issued to form a new Council, to which a Charter was granted. The finances show receipts of \$153.34.

It was voted that the words "Select, Royal and Super-Excellent" be stricken out wherever they appear in the Constitution, and the words "Royal

and Select" be inserted. This does away with the Super-Excellent Degree, and makes the order of the Royal and Select Degrees correspond to that usually observed in the Rite. There was no Report on Foreign Correspondence.

1877.

The Annual Assembly was held in Concord, May 14th, 2877. ANDREW J. THOMPSON, G. M., presided. Four Councils were represented.

From the Address we observe that none of the Companions had been called away; that Representatives had been appointed near the Grand Councils of New York, Florida and Mississippi. He says:

"The year just closed has been one of usual prosperity for the Order. Harmony has everywhere prevailed, and the several Subordinate Councils have done as much work as a healthy growth demands. A large increase in membership has not characterized the fraternity in any of its Bodies throughout our country. It is well it should be so. Hours for rest, days of obscured sunblaze, when vegetation halts to strengthen, years of tardy growth, are necessary for the perfection of nature's productions. We are governed by the same laws and must give our highest development in the same way. That what we have done has been well done, is all that is required."

On the subject of Ritual he remarks:

"You are aware that some alterations in the Ritual have been made, as a result of the Convocation held in New York, composed of delegates from the various Grand Councils in the United States. These alterations have been adopted by most of our neighboring Grand Councils. I have seen the work. It harmonizes some of the seeming inconsistencies of our work, and amplifies and beautifies considerably one of the degrees. Whether it is an innovation or a return to ancient usage, should, in my judgment, be the criterion in adopting it. If so judged, it should be adopted in this State; it would serve to maintain uniformity throughout the country—a very desirable blessing. If a proper Committee to consider the subject could be appointed, to report at our next Annual Meeting, full light would be thrown upon the whole subject."

But no action was taken upon this sensible recommendation, and New Hampshire remains uniform with herself.

The total of funds on hand was \$140.29. It was directed that one of the "three first" officers of the Grand Council should be required to visit each of the Subordinate Councils once during the year. There was no Report on Foreign Correspondence.

It was with grief that we received a circular from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, announcing that our Companion JOHN ATHERTON HARRIS, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and Grand Recorder of the Grand Council, was no more of earth. He died in Concord, September 3d, 1877, aged 53 years. He was buried with Masonic honors by Blazing Star Lodge, Mount Horeb Commandery acting as escort. We are without further particulars.

Thus one familiar name after another disappears. The workmen fall, but the work goes on.

"Earth's transitory things decay,
Its pomp, its pleasures pass away;
But the sweet memory of the good
Survives in the vicissitude.

"As 'mid the ever rolling sea,
The eternal isles established be;
'Gainst which the surges of the main
Fret, dash, and break themselves in vain.

"As in the heavens, the urns divine
Of golden light forever shine;
Though clouds may darken, storms may rage,
They still shine on from age to age.

"So, through the ocean-tide of years,
The memory of the just appears;
So, through the tempest and the gloom,
The good man's virtues light the tomb."

The memory of the just is blest.

Subordinate Councils.....	8
Initiations.....	40
Membership.....	710

HENRY P. GLIDDEN, Dover, G. M.

GEORGE P. CLEAVES, Concord, G. R.

NEW JERSEY—1878.

New Jersey sends us a circular, which announces that the twentieth Annual Assembly was held in Trenton, January 15th, 2878.

It was resolved to publish no Proceedings until next year.

GEORGE SCOTT, Paterson, G. M.

THOS. J. CARSON, Trenton, G. R.

OHIO—1877.

The forty-seventh Annual Assembly of this Grand Council was held in the City of Cleveland, August 29th, 2877, and presided over by Companion SAMUEL W. COURTWRIGHT, G. M. Of all the Grand Councils, Ohio now has the largest number of Subordinates. Fifty-nine Councils were represented at this Assembly, and sent up as dues \$1,403.50.

The Annual Address says:

"The new Ritual has been worked the whole year without a murmur so far as we are advised. As to the *evidences* of the work in the hands of Councils—of which so much complaint was rendered last year—all seem to be satisfied with the reference of the subject to the Committee of Past Grand Masters, whose report will doubtless be submitted to you during your present session, when, we hope, the question presented to, and considered by, your committee will be finally settled, and that the peace and harmony of the Cryptic Rite will no longer be disturbed thereby."

This committee recommended that these "*evidences*" should be returned to the G. M., and destroyed, by him as fast as collected, which was adopted.

The only question of jurisprudence which had been submitted was, whether a Council of Royal and Select Masters may receive and entertain the petition

for degrees of a non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason, which was answered in the affirmative, provided the petitioner was in good standing, and resided within the jurisdiction of the Council.

A large number of Representatives had been appointed near other Grand Councils, and the courtesy had been returned. We notice the name of Companion DARWIN E. MORGAN, of Buffalo, as Representative of Ohio near New York, and that of Companion HENRY NEWBEGIN, of Defiance, as Representative of New York near Ohio. A Dispensation had been granted to form one new Council.

The G. T. reported receipts amounting to \$2,554.83, and a balance on hand of \$929.71.

A committee of three was appointed to report on the "crudities and inconsistencies in the language, and historical inaccuracies of the Ritual," at the next Assembly.

Companion CUNNINGHAM, who for several years has written the Report on Foreign Communications, discharged the same duty this year in his usual acceptable manner. He notices the Proceedings of twenty-one Grand Councils, including ours for 1876. He gives our Proceedings a kind notice of two pages. In conclusion he remarks:

"In concluding this report, your committee would congratulate the Companions upon the *actual* prosperity of the Rite, regardless of the detractions heaped upon it by its enemies from without, and the evils attendant upon supine officials from within, in so many Subordinate Councils throughout the United States.

"Concerning the questions agitating the Rite, your committee can only reiterate views heretofore expressed. The agitation of the prerequisite question, in its *supplicatory* form, has resulted in greater evils than those ever brought about by careless officials. In one jurisdiction it has resulted in the actual surrender, by a prosperous Grand Council, of the Council Degrees to the Grand Chapter of that State; and other jurisdictions are having the 'cut off the tail behind the ears,' and 'cauterizing the trunk to stop the bleeding' process, under consideration; its advocates regarding it as a sugar-coated panacea for all the ills produced by 'apathy and want of interest.'

"A courteous demand for recognition as a *RIGHT*, and not as *abus*, would at least be less disagreeable, and be more likely to secure the desired end; although either process, in the present prosperous—so far as numbers and public display are concerned—condition of Templarism, will doubtless prevent any favorable action in this connection.

"As history is said to repeat itself, so it is to be feared that, unless a higher standard for admission to Knightly honors is prescribed than the mere possession of prerequisite grades, ability to pay fees and dues, procure a uniform, and appear in public displays, that its apparent wealth and power may again cause arrogance to be the substitute for humility; its arrogance be productive of bigotry, and bigotry result in intolerance of individual rights, Knightly courtesies, and the Masonic restraints that now surround the Order, and to which it owes the actual prosperity attendant upon the orders since their reorganization.

"The effort to be made to abrogate the Capitular prerequisite may soon be followed by an attempt to sever entirely all Masonic connection, as was once attempted in Scotland; and, whether successful or not, its mere consideration would be not only hurtful but disastrous to the best interests of Templar Masonry.

"However, let us hope that better counsels may always prevail, and that the whole Masonic family may soon be a unit in interests, courtesies, and brotherhood. This result may easily be attained by every Mason, of whatever degree, simply doing his duty, and observing the well-known teachings of our institution."

On the second day of the Assembly our G. M., Companion OSGOODBY, and P. G. M. LEE, of Connecticut, visited the Grand Council, and were received with the appropriate honors, and addressed the Grand Council.

Subordinate Councils.....	59
Advanced.....	94
Admitted.....	9
Reinstated.....	95
Admitted.....	25
Died.....	25
Membership.....	2,741

SAMUEL W. COURTWRIGHT, Circleville, G. M. .

JOHN D. CALDWELL, Cincinnati, G. R. .

ONTARIO.

From the Grand Council of Ontario we have a thick, blue pamphlet, containing the Proceedings for two years.

1876.

The first thing we notice is a portrait of G. M. DAVID McLELLAN. We wish that all our Grand Councils would embellish their Proceedings with the portraits of eminent Companions.

The Assembly for 1876 was held in Toronto, August 29th. DANIEL SPRY, G. M. ., presided, and seven Councils were represented.

Companion SPRY, in his Address, says:

"It affords me much gratification to be enabled to state that the Cryptic Rite continues steadily to advance, extending itself to all parts of the Dominion, and has even winged its flight to our prairie province, Manitoba. The Subordinate Councils are generally well conducted, and the returns, which will be laid before you, will show the steady progress which is being made. You are quite aware that I have always urged upon the attention of this Grand Council the desirability of being extremely cautious in the admission of members to our Councils, urging upon the officers of these Subordinate bodies, who are in the habit of assembling with us, the necessity of selecting with great care from among those who ask to be admitted to the secrets of the Ninth Arch, those who possess the necessary intelligence to enable them to become earnest and faithful workers in our Order. In many Councils I find that these teachings have not been without effect, and that the result of such caution has been to admit only those who have attained some position in the other grades of Masonry. Adhering to the same advice, I have not countenanced the opening of Councils in localities where I considered there did not exist a field sufficiently wide to justify me in the granting of Dispensations. The multiplication of Councils will bring no strength to the Grand Council, nor aid in the proper extension of an Order that possesses so many charms, unless the Companions selected to preside over them are possessed of ability of the highest, order to enable them to thoroughly and intelligently understand and impart the work."

Dispensations had been granted to form two new Councils.

The following will be of interest, as showing that the Grand Council of England, which was planted by us, exists and prospers:

"Although the credentials have not reached me, I am credibly informed that our esteemed friend, Colonel W. J. B. McLEOD MOORE, Grand Prior of the Great Priory of Canada, has been named as the Representative of our young sister Grand Council of England."

He thinks, with reference to the prerequisite question, that it might be well to consider and discuss the matter in the Councils, with a view to asking the Great Priory of Knights Templar to concede this point, and believes it would be of great advantage to Masonry in the Dominion. We give the following in full as of historical interest, and because many of the Companions may have no other opportunity of information on this point:

"I have also to bring under your notice the position now occupied by the Grand Council regarding the Degree of Red Cross of Babylon. You are aware that it is regularly conferred in our Councils as a portion of our system, and that Preceptors of Knights Templar Preceptories have the power of communicating the degree *in their Preceptories* on Knights Templar *only*. The Covenant General of the Order of the Temple does not consider this degree has any connection with the Templar Order, and in order that the Canadian Templars might be in possession of the degree a treaty stipulation was entered into some years ago by R. E. SIVER HUBBARD, the then Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, and the V. H. and E. Sir Knight, Colonel W. J. B. McLEOD MOORE, as the head of the Templar Order in Canada, by the terms of which, authority was given to E. Commanders of the Encampment in Canada to communicate the Order of Red Cross according to the American System or Rite, to enable Canadian Knights to visit the United States Commanderies. On the formation of the Grand Council of New Brunswick, 1871, the Grand Prior of Canada approved of the degree being adopted by that Grand Council as one of the degrees to be conferred in Councils of Royal and Select Masters, in order that it might be placed on a legitimate footing with other Canadian degrees; and on making it known to the Grand Encampment of the United States that he had done so, the subject was referred to the special committee on 'Foreign Affairs' at the Baltimore Session, held in 1871, who reported that they 'recognize the Knights of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross made in Canada, under *such authority as may be duly recognized there*.' On the formation of the Grand Council in the same year he gave Subordinate Councils full authority to confer the degree without obtaining any authority from the Grand Priory, and we were of the opinion we were justified in doing so, as our Warrants were obtained from New Brunswick. Subsequently, on my attention being directed to this omission, I addressed the Grand Priory officially, and in October, 1873, obtained his hearty approval of our proceedings, the degree by this action having been placed under the control of an 'authorized body.' I think we are now justified in asking the Great Priory of Canada to withdraw the authority given Preceptors to communicate the degree on Knights Templar, and I strongly recommend the Grand Council to enter into correspondence with the Great Priory with the view of securing this object."

At the last Assembly action had been taken to form a Grand Council of Rites for the Dominion of Canada, consisting of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, the Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, and the Grand Royal Ark Lodge, but Companion SFRY thought best to disobey the instructions of the Grand Council, fearing the action would not be understood by the other Grand Councils, and that they would withdraw their recognition. Hence he took no further action on the subject.

He also reports the work of the New York Convention as introduced into all the Councils.

The G. R. reported receipts amounting to \$310.30, and the G. T. reported a balance on hand of \$58.15.

The Grand Council endorsed the recommendations and acts of the G. M., and directed that the ranks of the Grand Council should be purged at the first possible opportunity of all members who had joined in the "clandestine and rebellious movement known by the name of the Grand Lodge of Ontario." Companion FRED J. MENET was elected G. M., and Companion JAMES B. NIXON was re-elected G. R.

1877.

The Annual Assembly, for 1877, was held in London, Ontario, August 8th. Present, M. I. G. M. FRED. J. MENET, presiding, and the Representatives of nine Councils.

The Address says:

"During the year which has now drawn to a close, the progress made by our Order in this Province has been extremely satisfactory, although no great accession has been made to our numbers and no favorable opportunity has presented itself for the formation of any new Councils. The utmost unanimity has prevailed; there have been no grievances to be redressed, appeals from decisions to be heard, or complaints of any kind to be enquired into and adjusted."

With reference to the action of the Grand Council of Mississippi, he says:

"It is much to be regretted that this action has been necessitated by the apparent languishing condition of both those bodies, as the degrees of both Orders, though having a historical connection with each other, are in all other jurisdictions governed by independent Bodies, and it is doubtful, even if—for that reason only—it will be found advantageous to have them united under one governing body."

We quote part of the conclusion:

"Masonry, as well as other Societies and Orders established with a view to the propagation of the great truths of morality and the amelioration of the wants of suffering humanity, has its periods of depression as well as its brightest days of advancement, mainly influenced by the general condition of the country in which it seeks to extend its influence.

"During the past year, which has been one of general depression, it is not to be wondered at that our Order has made comparatively little progress; but as there is every indication of a returning prosperity we can with confidence unfurl our banner, look hopefully toward the future, and cherish in our memories the pleasant recollection of days that are past."

The G. R. receipts amounted to \$128.15, and the balance in the hands of the G. T. was \$48.65.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was, as in former years, from the genial pen of Companion JAMES B. NIXON, G. R. It is full, occupying some sixty-two pages, and interesting reading. It reviews the Proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Councils, among which we note those of New York for 1875 and 1876.

Under Arkansas he uses the following truly Masonic language:

"We always feel a little disappointment when we hear of any of our sister Grand Councils refusing to adopt the uniform work, as we think it *very* desirable that the work should be the *same* throughout the world, in order to have conformity as far as possible. We have given up any preconceived idea of our own, and have adopted the uniform work, and will feel very much pleased when we can say that *all* the Councils of Royal and Select Masters work exactly the same Ritual."

Under Illinois he expresses an opinion which we have always held and advocated:

"We hold that a Companion is entitled to his dimit under any and all circumstances, he being in good standing in his Council and no charge of any kind being brought against him. We regard non-affiliation as a great evil, but we do not think the proper remedy is to refuse a Companion in good standing a dimit."

Nebraska having passed a resolution that in case, of failure of the prerequisite plan, they would make an effort to secure recognition by the A. . and A. .S. .R. .; Companion NIXON says:

"We think that would be going from bad to worse. Why the Grand Council should need recognition from such a Body as the A. . and A. . Rite is something we cannot understand. Our opinion is, that the Council Degrees here are far superior every way to those conferred by that institution, and in other respects our limited experience leads us to believe that there is no comparison whatever between the two institutions, the Council being infinitely superior to the other Body."

We think Companion NIXON must know, as we observe that he writes "30" after his name in one place.

He gives New York a fraternal notice of over eight pages. He quotes largely from the Address of 1875, and from our report, saying that altogether it is more full and complete than any it had been his pleasure to read. He also makes copious quotations from our Proceedings for 1876. Although we have occupied much space already with the review of Ontario, we think we must make one more quotation, which is from his conclusion, referring to the prerequisite question:

"How much interest will the members be likely to take in an institution that they must go through in order to get at something which they deem more desirable? We believe that the only thing wanting to make the Cryptic Order as great a success or greater than the Knights Templar, is zeal for the institution and energy and perseverance in working it out in our own jurisdiction.

"We mistake the spirit of our members if they would seriously consider for one moment the idea of petitioning the Great Priory of Knights Templar to make the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters a prerequisite to that institution. Our Grand Council is young, and has not been able to make as great progress as we would have desired, but all our members seem to be greatly attached to the institution, and believe it to be quite as worthy of a good maintenance as either of the other Bodies; and from present indications we have every reason to believe that before two years we will have as many flourishing Subordinate Councils under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Ontario, as the Great Priory of the Dominion of Canada has Subordinate Preceptories. We feel inclined to look with more favor on the idea of a General Grand Council, but as *foreigners* perhaps that concerns us very little."

We always report the Proceedings of Ontario with great interest, and from their perusal we rise with the wish that all the pamphlets we have to read were as interesting, and as full of evidences of fervency and zeal.

Subordinate Councils.....	14.
Membership.....	314

DAVID McLELLAN, Hamilton, G. .M. .

JAMES B. NIXON, Toronto, G. .R. .

PENNSYLVANIA—1878.

The Proceedings from Pennsylvania are the handsomest we have ever received from that Grand Council. Color of wrapper purple, with gold title, printed on tinted paper with good clear type; they are in all respects a pleasure to the eye.

This Grand Council of Royal, Super-Excellent, and Select Masters assembled for the thirty-second time, in Allegheny City, February 20th, 1878.

Representatives were present from ten Councils.

The Annual Address of G. M. GETER C. SHIDLE was very brief, relating to domestic matters only. We make one quotation:

"The long continuance of the almost paralyzing financial condition of the country, and the unfortunate riots in our own State, have prevented the ring of the trowel to be heard in our Arches as of old. The past year has been one of supreme trial to every interest of our State and nation, but we trust the gloomy night has passed away, and that a brighter day awaits us all, and especially Cryptic Masonry; and we hope and trust the day is not far distant when these beautiful and impressive degrees of our Order will be fully appreciated."

The finances were prosperous, the report of the G. T. showing funds amounting to \$2,435.04, with a balance on hand of \$1,855 24.

For some time there has been a committee appointed on Clothing, Jewels, &c., which reported, and the report was adopted. Although a little long we think best to give the report for your information, for we think the surroundings have much to do with the impressiveness and solemnity of any degrees:

"1. *Aprons.*—The aprons of the officers of the Grand Council shall be of white lamb-skin, sixteen inches wide and fourteen inches deep, with a royal purple and gold-colored silk binding two inches wide; the purple occupying the middle, the gold color placed on either side; the border of the flap to be of the same description, one inch wide. In the centre of the flap shall be a triangle of purple silk surrounded with a gilt or gold embroidered border; within the triangle a tripple fan [tan?] of the same material; two gilt flat seven bouillon tassels to be suspended by tabs of purple and gold-colored silk. On the area of the apron shall be embroidered a representation of the 'jewel of the officer, a circle, triangle, and emblem, on a ground of purple silk, three and a half inches in diameter. The apron of the members of the Grand Council shall be the same in all respects as those worn by the Grand Officers, omitting the embroidery on the area of the apron. The apron of the officers of a Subordinate Council shall be the same in all respects as those worn by the officers of the Grand Council, excepting that the circle on representation of jewel on the area shall be omitted.

"The apron of the members of a Subordinate Council shall be from twelve to fourteen inches deep, and from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, with the number of the Council printed or embroidered in a triangle on the flap; bordering of purple and gold-colored worsted or silk, binding of the same description and same width as worn by the officers of a Council.

"2. *Collars.*—The collar of the officers of the Grand Council shall be royal purple and gold-colored moire antique silk, or silk velvet, three and a half inches wide, narrowing towards the neck, and twenty-four inches long; purple to be one-half the width of the collar, and gold-color on either side, ornamented with gilt or gold embroidered stars on each side, graduated in number according to rank, viz: For Past Grand and M. P. Grand Master, nine stars; for R. P. D. G. Master, R. P. I. G. Master, R. P. G. C. of Work, seven stars; for R. P. G. Treasurer, and R. P. G. Recorder, five stars; for all appointed officers, three stars.

"The collar for officers of a Subordinate Council shall be of the same description as those worn by the Grand Officers in all respects, excepting that the stars shall be omitted.

"3. *Jewels.*—The jewels of the officers of the Grand Council shall be respectively as follows:

"A gilt or gold circle one-half an inch in width, and three and one-half inches in diameter, with a triangle and the appropriate emblem placed therein, viz:

"M. P. G. Master, a royal crown and square.

"R. P. D. G. Master, a royal crown and level.

"R. P. I. G. Master, a turban, crown and plumb.

"R. P. G. P. C. of Work, a trowel and gavel.

"R. P. G. Treasurer, crossed keys.

"R. P. G. Recorder, crossed pens.

"R. P. G. Marshal, crossed batons.

"R. P. G. Sentinel, cross curved swords.

"R. P. G. C. of the Guard, crossed straight swords.

"The jewels of the officers of a Subordinate Council shall be the same in all respects as those worn by the Grand Officers, excepting that the circle shall be omitted. The aprons, collars and jewels to be worn outside of, and over, the robes.

"4. *Robes.*—The proper robes and emblems of office shall be as follows, viz:
 "For the M. P. Grand Master, the R. P. D. Grand Master, the R. P. Ill. Grand Master, royal robes, with royal crowns and crowned sceptres. For the R. P. G. P. C. of the Work, a blue robe, with turban and gavel. The R. P. G. C. of the Guard may wear a suit of armor.

"For the officers of Subordinate Councils, the same as for corresponding officers of the Grand Council.

"5. *Furniture.*—The minimum amount of furniture for a Subordinate Council shall be as follows:

"An Altar, with Holy Bible, and Compass, Square, and Trowel. Three triangular tables, covered or painted purple, with gilt triangular plate on centre of top.

"A gilt Ark, a Keystone, a Purple Veil.

"Three Gilt Squares.

"Twenty-seven Trowels.

"Nine Arches of any suitable material, or representation of the same.

"Nine Gilt or Brass Candlesticks."

Previous to the election a remarkable but praiseworthy thing occurred. A letter was read from Ill. Companion H. STANLEY GOODWIN, R. P. G. P. C. of Work, declining advancement on account of business engagements.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was by Companion CHARLES E. MEYER, G. R. It does not review the Grand Councils separately, but gives items of general interest, and is principally occupied with the acts of the consolidators. In conclusion, Companion MEYER says:

"We very much regret the foregoing action taken by the Grand Councils of Mississippi and Illinois, as in our opinion it is suicidal. It is the sundering of ties which for many years have united the Grand Council of Pennsylvania with the Cryptic Masons of these jurisdictions. We cannot acknowledge that the Council Degrees can be lawfully conferred in the present day under any other authority than that of a Grand Council. We do not understand how Grand Chapters, their Constitutions, or their Ritual, can recognize these degrees, or have any knowledge of them. As well might the Grand Lodges of this country confer the Mark Master's Degree because it is a part of the Fellowcraft. As well might the Grand Chapters confer the Red Cross Order, because the legends on which it is founded are so intimately connected with the Royal Arch. With regret we offer the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Grand Council of Pennsylvania declares that the Royal and Select Masters Degrees cannot be lawfully conferred by, or under the sanction of, the warrant of Royal Arch Chapters. That Cryptic Masons so made cannot visit Councils in this jurisdiction, or be recognized in any manner whatever."

This resolution was unanimously adopted. We hope, Companions, that you by your votes will make a similar declaration on the part of the Grand Council of New York, and refuse to recognize all such Royal and Select Masters.

The place for the next Assembly was fixed at Bethlehem.

Subordinate Councils.....	25
Received.....	77
Admitted.....	7
Died.....	16
Withdrawn.....	15
Suspensions.....	116
Expulsions.....	3
Total Membership.....	2,012

MARK RICHARDS MUCKLE, Philadelphia, G. M.

CHARLES E. MEYER, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, G. R.

RHODE ISLAND—1878.

Rhode Island sends a circular this year, stating that the eighteenth Annual Convocation was held in Providence, March 11, 2878. No statistics are given. Companion JOHN F. ADAMS, of Pawtucket, was elected G. M., and Companion WM. R. GREENE, of Providence, was elected G. R.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1878.

We have received a communication from Companion A. LINDSTROM, informing us that the Proceedings for 1877-8 have not yet been printed; that the Assemblies had been held; and that the work was progressing slowly.

Z. DAVIS, Charleston, G. R.

TENNESSEE—1877.

The twenty-eighth Annual Assembly was held in the City of Nashville, November 15th, 2877. BENJAMIN F. HALLER, G. M., presiding.

Twenty-four Councils out of forty-five were represented. The Address was quite brief, with nothing in it of especial interest. We notice the death of Companion THOMAS B. FIRTH, P. G. P. C. of W., aged 73 years.

The financial report showed receipts amounting to \$995.05, and a balance on hand of \$258.90.

No business of any importance was transacted, and there was no report on Foreign Correspondence.

Subordinate Councils.....	45
Degrees Conferred.....	24
Membership.....	1,312

BRADFORD NICHOL, Nashville, G. M.

JOHN FRIZZELL, Nashville, G. R.

VERMONT—1878.

We have a note from Companion W. H. S. WHITCOMB, G. R., saying that the Proceedings for 1878 are not yet out, and will not be in time for us to notice them. We quote:

"We did well last year. Indeed, we never did so well—chartered three new Councils. Success."

WISCONSIN—1878.

The Grand Council of Wisconsin is defunct. Its members have been smitten with the panic that prevails among a few of the Western Grand Councils, and have ingloriously followed in the wake of Mississippi and Illinois, and have

retreated behind the tents of the Grand Chapter. We hadn't expected this of the Companions of Wisconsin. We thought them made of better stuff. But we were mistaken. As we have read their Proceedings in past years, their instructive Addresses, and the ably written Reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we thought Wisconsin would be the last to abandon the Crypt, and ask others to do their work for them.

But we are astonished to find that such is the case. We had heard no word from this jurisdiction, and, wondering thereat, we wrote for information and received in reply the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter and the Grand Council of Wisconsin printed together, which announced that the Grand Council had transferred all its authority over the degrees to the Grand Chapter.

The Annual Assembly was held at Milwaukee, February 18th, 2878, and was opened in Ample Form by DAVID H. WRIGHT, D. G. M., and the Representatives of eight Subordinate Councils.

The Address of the G. M., Companion JAMES L. BRIDGE, was read by the G. R. The Address is overwhelmed at the refusal of the Grand Encampment to make the Cryptic Degrees a prerequisite for Knighthood, and thinks there could be no possibility of preserving the degrees, except by the assistance of the Grand Chapter, although they had survived, we observe, for several years without Capitular pap.

It recommends the appointment of committees to confer with the Grand Chapter.

In accordance with this recommendation such a committee was appointed.

The Financial reports showed receipts amounting to \$176.50, and a balance in the hands of the G. T. of \$44.49; total, \$220.99.

The Committee of Conference with the Grand Chapter reported that that Body would receive the Grand Council upon its capacious bosom. The necessary amendments were made to the Constitution, and the marriage was consummated, and the Grand Council ceased to exist.

The plan is similar to that adopted in Mississippi, and we give its several details:

"*First.* Each Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction shall open a Council of Royal and Select Masters, and confer the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Masters, subsequent to the Degree of Royal Arch Mason.

"*Second.* All Royal Arch Masons, members of Chapters in good standing at the date of the consummation of this transfer, shall receive the degrees without charge.

"*Third.* In Chapters where there are not a sufficient number of Royal and Select Masters to open a Council, a competent Companion may, by request of the High Priest of the Chapter, communicate the degrees to a sufficient number of Companions to open a Council, but thereafter the degrees must be properly and fully conferred.

"*Fourth.* Each Council, on receipt of these instructions, shall properly balance its books, and forward them with all their papers and the Charter to the Grand Secretary for safe keeping. Paraphernalia for working the degrees shall become the property of the Chapter where the Councils are located.

"*Fifth.* No Companion, who has been suspended for non-payment of dues to his Council, shall be permitted to sit in a Council until his dues are paid or remitted by the Chapter of which he is a member.

"*Sixth.* The Grand Secretary will publish with the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter, a list of all Royal and Select Masters in good standing; and, after the books of the several

Councils are placed in his hands, he will, on application, certify to the Secretary of any Chapter the amount due from Companions, members of his Chapter who have been suspended; and when the dues are paid or remitted, the Secretary of the Chapter shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary, and he shall balance the books accordingly.

"*Seventh.* Royal Arch Masons from other jurisdictions, who have not received the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Master, may, after becoming affiliated, receive the degrees without charge. This rule to be in effect one year from the date hereof, and no longer.

"*Eighth.* The Ritual for these degrees shall be used as adopted by the Grand Council of this jurisdiction; and no changes whatever, except such as are made permissible by the Ritual itself, shall be tolerated.

"*Ninth.* The Monitor of Cryptic Masonry, by JACKSON H. CHASE, shall be used in conferring these degrees until otherwise ordered by competent authority."

An Explanatory Circular:

"*First.* The transfer of the Councils to the control of the Chapters does not place the Degrees of Royal and Select Master in the Chapters, but simply authorizes the officers of the Chapters to open a Council and confer these degrees on Royal Arch Masons. The Councils are merely appendant to the Chapters and under control of the Grand Chapter, instead of under the control of a separate Grand organization as heretofore. A Council should not, therefore, be 'opened in the Chapter,' but the Chapter, if open, must be closed previous to the opening of a Council.

"*Second.* The records of the Council must be kept by the Recorder separate from the Chapter Minutes, and should be in a separate book. He should also keep an alphabetical list of names of Royal and Select Masters, and be enabled to report to the Grand Secretary when called upon: ("1st), the names of all Royal and Select Masters members of his Chapter; (2d), all who have received the Degree of Royal Master; and (3d), all who have received the Degree of Select Master, with the dates at which each was promoted to these degrees * * * *"

"*Fourth.* Companion Royal Arch Masons, members of Chapters in and residents of this State, residing for the time being in the jurisdiction of a Chapter other than that in which they hold membership, may be promoted to the Council degrees *only* under the following restrictions:

"1st. The High Priest and Companions must have satisfactory evidence that the applicant is a Royal Arch Mason and member in good standing of a Chapter in this state.

"2d. The Secretary must immediately notify the Chapter of which the Companion is member of the fact that he has received the Council Degrees. * * * *"

"*Sixth.* Royal Arch Masons, members of Chapters in other States, cannot receive the Council Degrees in this State without permission from the Council in the jurisdiction of which they hold Chapter membership; *i. e.*, a Royal Arch Mason, resident of Wisconsin, holding Chapter membership in Illinois, cannot receive the degrees in this State without permission from the Council appendant to the Chapter where he holds membership.

"*Seventh.* Your committee are of the opinion:

"1st. That under the peculiar phase of circumstances attending the transfer of the control of the Councils to the Chapters, an 'objection' to the reception of these degrees lodged against a Companion Royal Arch Mason in good standing in his Chapter will have no preventive effect.

"2d. This does not apply to candidates who are passing through the grades of the Chapter."

We find that the Grand Council had nine Subordinate Councils, and a membership of 399, including 30 suspended for non-payment of dues.

Farewell, Wisconsin; we regret your action, and would have had more respect for you, if you had disbanded.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion; Companions, after thoroughly reviewing the situation and weighing all we have read and heard, we think the condition of Cryptic Masonry is not so very bad, and, on the whole, is improving. We think the worst is past, and from this time we can look for better days.

2 The different jurisdictions are settling down to work. They begin to realize that there is nothing to hope for from outside aid, such as the Encamp-

ment, and that whatever is accomplished must be done at home. There are many chronic grumblers, it is true, who have always lamented and suggested ever since we began to write Reports. Some jurisdictions are feeble and depressed, but the majority are doing as well as can be hoped in these times of general depression, and are looking up, and doing more work, or, at least, their fair proportion, and forming a few new Councils. There is none of this unhealthy and unnatural growth that there was several years ago. Such growth as there is we think is good and reliable, and will be of permanent benefit to the Rite.

The example of Mississippi has been rather infectious. Several Grand Councils have been utterly discouraged by the decision of the Grand Encampment at Cleveland, and have transferred their authority to the Grand Chapter. In a majority of the cases, it seems to us, there was no need whatever for this step. The following Grand Councils have transferred their authority, viz: Mississippi, Illinois, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. North Carolina was always very small and weak, but the others had a large number of Councils and large membership, and were doing a fair per cent of work. But the counsels of the Companions, who had this peculiar idea on the brain, has prevailed.

Iowa, Arkansas, and Kentucky have appointed committees to confer with like committees from their Grand Chapters, but we have not as yet heard their reports. Nebraska has submitted the question to the several Subordinate Councils for their decision. California has memorialized the General Grand Chapter to permit such action.

This makes nine Grand Councils in all who have taken such action, and who have either accomplished such transfer, or will soon consummate it. We think this will be the extent of the panic.

You will observe that they are all situated in the West, where the financial depression has been the greatest, and the majority of them have always been few in numbers and languishing.

We are glad to say that in the remainder of the Grand Councils there is no manifest disposition to take this step.

Now that the prerequisite proposition and that of a General Grand Council are practically abandoned, the great question of interest in the Rite is this one of transfer of authority over the degrees to the Grand Chapter, so as to make the Council Degrees appendant to the Chapter—a sort of side degree, in fact.

We are of the opinion that at the next Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, at Detroit, in 1880, there will be a very vigorous effort made by these above mentioned jurisdictions to have their action fully endorsed by the General Grand Chapter, and allowed by that Body.

We have read the Proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at Buffalo, and we find that no definite action was taken upon the subject at that time.

The report of the committee was decidedly adverse to any such step; but the report was laid on the table until the next Triennial Convention. We are convinced, we say, that there will be a most vigorous action at that time to allow this action, and that it is the greatest danger that at present threatens the Cryptic Rite.

We think that you should take some action *now* to avert any such result, and memorialize the General Grand Chapter not to sanction or permit any such transfer of authority to its subordinates.

Let the Cryptic Rite be shut up to its own resources. Just so long as there is a prospect of any outside assistance, there will be suggestions, debates, wranglings and lack of true prosperity. When the Grand Councils are obliged to settle back on the conclusion that they must stand or fall by themselves, they will buckle down to the work, and develop their resources and powers. We have no fear for the result. If any are not able to go on, we say let them disband honorably, and the future will produce those who can and will sustain the degrees. We believe in the survival of the fittest, and we would rather have only half a dozen good Grand Councils than a multitude of poor, halting, surrendering ones. Let us hold fast and be content to be such as we are, and do as well as we can.

We think any transfer of authority to the Grand Chapters is directly opposed to all the best interests of the Cryptic Rite. The Chapters have enough degrees now. It is difficult to find competent officers to work them now, and it will not lessen the difficulty to add two degrees more. It reduces the Council Degrees to the level of side degrees, which will be neglected, poorly conferred, if not murdered. It will lead to complications and difficulties, as see our extract from the Annual Address of the Grand High Priest of Texas under our review of Maine. It will be but a few years before the Chapters will become weary of the degrees, and will throw them aside, or relinquish authority over them, as was done in Maryland.

There will be no advantage in a less number of meetings and a less consumption of the time of the Companions.

Many of the Grand Chapters are themselves in a feeble condition, languishing and feeling the general depression. Many of them are in but a little better condition than the Grand Councils. To go to them is like the sick seeking health of the sick, or the poor asking alms of the poverty stricken, or the blind trusting in the guidance of those who cannot see. The whole idea we believe is fallacious and utterly mistaken.

Another question is as to the status of Companions who receive the degrees in such appendant Councils. In Pennsylvania a resolution was adopted forbidding any Cryptic communication with such persons, in fact declaring them clandestine. Your committee fail to see how they can be admitted to our Councils, or recognized in any way whatever.

We recommend some action upon this subject.

We especially desire that you would read the remarks of Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine, quoted in our review of that jurisdiction.

We, too, have been and are of the opinion that Masonry shares in the general condition of the country. When finances are depressed, we cannot expect many candidates. The only thing for us to do, is to act as we do in business matters, hold fast, and wait for better times. Reactions always follow. The flood tide succeeds the ebb. Adversity gives way to prosperity. The worst, we say again, is past, and better days will be ours, if the Companions will only be content to wait, and drop this endless suggestion of change. Grand Officers will discharge their full duty, even if they do not originate some new idea, or lead on some peculiar crochet.

The sooner we realize that the Council can never become as large as the Lodge or Chapter the better. We don't want a flood of candidates. We want quality rather than quantity, sound growth rather than unsound. We begin to think the refusal of the Grand Encampment to place the Council in the regular line is a blessing—in disguise, perhaps, but yet a blessing.

If our request had been granted, we should have been overrun with a flood of candidates, who would have used us as a stepping-stone only, and never cared for us afterwards, or come near us. Now we know that such as do join us, do so from a true desire for Masonic light and information.

Don't be afraid, Companions, to speak for the Council and let its merits be known. The Masonic world at large knows too little of us. As we say so little about it, the idea goes abroad that the degrees are of little worth and of little importance. It is not realized that they are the summit and perfection of Masonry.

But we will not weary you with further remarks. We rejoice that the past year has been one of prosperity with the Grand Council of New York. We trust the future of the Cryptic Rite with us will be as brilliant as the past, and that zealous officers and true prosperity will always be ours.

CHARLES G. HUDSON,

Chairman, for the Committee.

The following letter was received from Ill.: OWEN WILLIAMS, Grand Steward, and ordered to be printed in the Transactions:

ROCHESTER, N. Y., SEPT. 2d, 1878.

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,

M. I. GRAND MASTER,

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION: I have sent by express, addressed to you, and to the care of D. B. HOWELL & Co., the Apron and Jewel which was en-

trusted to me by the Grand Council. I am very sorry that I cannot meet with the Grand Council this year, but business engagements prevent my so doing.

I cannot leave the Grand Council without thanking you, and the Officers of the Grand Council, for many acts of kindness. My heart and soul have been with the Cryptic Rite for years, and I am pleased to say that the Rite in the State of New York was never more prosperous than while under your care. I shall, whenever in my power, do what I can to promote the interests of the Cryptic Rite, and M. I. Sir, I close these few lines with a "God bless you" in your noble and glorious work.

I remain, Yours Fraternaly,

OWEN WILLIAMS.

The standard work of this jurisdiction was exemplified under the direction of the Grand Lecturer.

R. I. P. W. VERHOEVEN offered the following amendment to Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution.

That the words in parenthesis, "the style of all of whom is Right Illustrious," immediately follow the words Grand Steward, instead of preceding them, as at present, (which will have the effect of giving to that officer the title of R. I.) which amendment was received, and referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws.

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

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M'S.
OF THE STATE OF N. Y.:

Your committee having carefully examined and considered the petitions referred to them, and the documents submitted therewith, respectfully beg leave to report.

The applications of Addison and Nepperhan Councils have been examined and found regular in form as required by the Constitution of the Grand Council. Therefore your committee would recommend the following:

Resolved, That Warrants be granted to Addison Council, to be located at Addison, Steuben County, and to Nepperhan Council, to be located at Yonkers, Westchester County, and State of New York.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN G. BARKER,
JESSE B. ANTHONY,
JOHN N. MACOMB, JR. } Committee.

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

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M's.
OF THE STATE OF N. Y.:

The Special Committee, to which was referred so much of the Annual Address of the Grand Master as refers to the Fraternal Dead, Respectfully report, that concurring most fully in the tender and affectionate words of the Grand Master, they find it difficult, if not impossible, to add thereto. With him, we acknowledge the awful dispensation before which we must bow, and while we tender to those most nearly touched by the sad events our warmest and most fraternal sympathies, we look forward with them to the time when we shall emerge from beneath the arches of earthly toil and sorrow, to rejoin those who have gone before, in the true life, where sorrow and tears are not.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in token of our kindly remembrance of the deceased Companions named by our M. L. Grand Master, the Grand Recorder be requested to set apart in our printed transactions memorial pages in their honor.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN W. SIMONS, }
S. D. WADHAM, } Committee.
EDWARD B. CASH, }

On motion of R. L. A. B. KING, the election of officers for the ensuing year was made the special order for to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals offered the following report, which was, on motion, received and adopted.

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M's.
OF THE STATE OF N. Y.:

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals take great pleasure in reporting that harmony prevails among the Cryptic workmen throughout this jurisdiction, no grievances having been presented for our consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. STURGES, }
CHARLES H. THOMSON, } Committee.
CHARLES E. HEQUEMBOURG, }

The Grand Council was then called from Labor until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Sept. 4th, 1878, 10 o'clock.

The Grand Council resumed its session.

Officers and Representatives as before, except that R. I. CLAUDIUS F. BEATTY, Grand C. of the G., was at his station.

The minutes of the afternoon session of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws presented the following report, which was, on motion, received, and their recommendation adopted:

TO THE M. P. GRAND COUNCIL OF R. AND S. M'S.
OF THE STATE OF N. Y. :

Your Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, after careful consideration of the several subjects referred to them, respectfully report the following resolutions and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, That the M. I. Grand Master shall, at his discretion and for the ensuing year only, have full power to compromise and settle with all such as are now dormant and delinquent Councils.

Your committee also recommend that the following amendment to Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution,—That the words in parenthesis, "The style of all of whom is Right Illustrious," immediately follow the words Grand Steward, instead of preceding them as at present, (which will have the effect of giving to that officer the title of R. I.) be adopted, so far as it can be at this Assembly.

Resolved, That so much as refers to the granting of Dispensations for the elections of officers, in the report of the Grand Master, be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. BROTHERS, }
JOHN J. MARTIN, } Committee.
JOHN C. COATES. }

The Committee on Unfinished Business offered the following report, which was, on motion, received.

TO THE M.:P.: GRAND COUNCIL OF R.: AND S.:M's.:
OF THE STATE OF N. Y.:

The Committee on Unfinished Business most respectfully report, That they have carefully examined the Transactions, and do not find any business unfinished, which in their judgment requires action by this Grand Body.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL SICKELS,
ISAAC TERWILLIGER, } Committee.
JASON COLLIER,

On motion of M.:I.: JOHN HOOLE, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Assembly of this Grand Council shall be held in the City of New York on the first Tuesday in September, 1879, (Sept. 2d, 1879) at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Committee on Merging the Degrees of the Cryptic Rite with the Chapter Degrees offered the following report, which was, on motion, received, and their recommendations adopted :

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

Your committee, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as alludes to the condition of the Cryptic Rite, and the efforts being made in other jurisdictions to transfer the rights and prerogatives over the Cryptic Degrees into other hands, thereby surrendering and abandoning their several Grand Councils, respectfully report, That they have given a careful examination to the subject in all its bearings, and unanimously conclude to endorse the remarks, statements, and recommendations of the Grand Master.

Your committee, therefore, offer the following resolutions for the consideration of this Grand Council, and urge their adoption:

1st, *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be authorized to revoke the commissions of its present Representatives to such Grand Councils as have taken action with a view to surrendering their power over the Cryptic Degrees into the hands of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

2d, *Resolved*, That this Grand Council hereby refuses to recognize, as a lawfully entitled Representative, any Companion with a commission issued by a Grand Royal Arch Chapter claiming authority over the Cryptic Degrees.

3d, *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to protect the interests and rights of Cryptic Masonry against the encroachments now threatening the disruption of many Grand Councils, by an usurpation of authority,

coupled with an assumption of power not contemplated by the constitutions and usages of Cryptic Masonry.

4th, *Resolved*, That this Grand Council unequivocally condemns the action of any of our sister jurisdictions favoring the so-called Mississippi plan, and declares that the successful advocacy of such a policy will be fatal to the perpetuation of these degrees in their purity and sublimity, wherever such plan be adopted.

5th, *Resolved*, That all delegates to the contemplated National Convention of Royal and Select Masters, in the city of Detroit, in August, 1880, be respectfully urged to organize a concerted plan of action for the United States, with a view to perpetuate the Cryptic Rite in its purity, and also to establish uniformity in the Ritual of the degrees. And this Grand Council hereby requests the Chairman of the National Convention held at Buffalo, in August, 1877, to call a meeting of Representatives of the several Grand Councils who shall not have adopted the Mississippi plan, to be held at Detroit, in August, 1880, for a free interchange of opinions and action thereon.

6th, *Resolved*, That this Grand Council hereby enters its solemn protest against the merging of the Cryptic Degrees into the hands of any Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and also hereby declares that any person who receives the Cryptic Degrees under such authority, are clandestinely made, and as such, cannot be received with fraternal greeting within this jurisdiction, neither as visitors or as applicants for affiliation.

Fraternally submitted,

THOMAS GLIDDON,	} Committee.
R. C. CHRISTIANCE,	
JOHN L. BROTHERS,	

The Grand Master appointed as Tellers Companions JOHN N. MACOMB, JR., and CHAS. E. HEQUEMBOURG, and the Grand Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:

GEORGE M. OSGOODBY,	re-elected M. I. Grand Master.
CHARLES W. BROWN,	“ “ R. I. Dep. Grand Master.
CHARLES NORMAN,	“ “ Grand P. C. of W.
DAVID B. HOWELL,	“ “ “ Treasurer.
GEORGE VAN VLIET,	“ “ “ Recorder.

M. I. Companions ARTHUR R. BLAKESLEE, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Connecticut, and GEORGE SCOTT, Grand

Master of the Grand Council of New Jersey, were announced, received and greeted in accordance with the honors due their exalted station.

The Grand Master reiterated his remarks of last year in reference to the officers doing their duties, &c., before making the appointments, and then announced the following Companions as appointed to the several offices:

THOMAS H. FLOYD.....	Grand C. of the G
DARWIN E. MORGAN.....	" C. of the C.
PETER W. VERHOEVEN.....	" Marshal.
REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER.....	" Chaplain.
JOHN J. MARTIN.....	" Lecturer.
ALBERT E. LEACH.....	" Steward.
JOHNSON FOUNTAIN.....	" Sentinel.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Companions CHARLES G. HUDSON, THOS. GLIDDON,
JOHN G. BARKER.

The officers elected and appointed were then installed by G. M. BLAKESLEE (of Conn.), assisted by M. I. Companion JNO. HOOLE.

On motion of Companion R. C. CHRISTIANCE, the Grand Master was requested to apportion the jurisdiction to the several Grand Officers for visitation.

Companion R. C. CHRISTIANCE offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Recorder be directed to procure the portrait of our Grand Master, for publication in the Proceedings, which was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion the following named Companions were constituted the committee recommended to be appointed to further the interests of the Cryptic Rite by opposing its being merged with the Chapter:

GEO. M. OSGOODBY, JOHN B. SACKETT,
DARIUS B. OGDEN.

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

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

Your committee respectfully report that they have carefully examined the Reports, Books and Vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and find them correct.

The committee have audited the following, and recommend their payment:

Grand Recorder's Salary.....	\$250.00
“ “ Expenses for Postage, &c.,.....	27.35
Grand Master's “ “ “.....	23.54
Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence.....	50.00
Grand Sentinel, for Services at this Assembly.....	10.00
Rent of Room and Safe.....	35.00
Grand Lecturer, for Incidental Expenses.....	25.00
Pay of Representatives.....	474.10
Total.....	<u>\$894.99</u>

Your committee also recommend an appropriation of a sum not exceeding Fifty (50) dollars, from the funds of this Grand Council, for the purpose of procuring the portrait of our Grand Master, for publication in the Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILANDER REED, }
D. E. MORGAN, } Committee.
O. C. PARKER, }

The Grand Master respectfully declined to furnish a photograph from which his portrait could be engraved, for the present, stating that he thought better use might be made of the funds of the Grand Council during the present crisis.

The Representatives of sister jurisdictions (as enumerated in the early part of our Proceedings) were cordially greeted, and a hearty welcome extended them.

T..I.. Companion JESSE B. ANTHONY offered the following preamble and resolution, which was, on motion, unanimously adopted:

¶ *Whereas*, Intelligence having reached us, through the Public Press, of the suffering in the South, thereby arousing our sympathies and impelling us to do "with our might while the day lasts," therefore be it

Resolved, That the Grand Master of this Grand Council express to the Grand Masters of the Grand Councils of Mississippi, Tennessee and Louisiana, the sympathy of this Grand Council in the calamity which has befallen the members of the Craft, by the ravages of the Yellow Fever now prevalent in their jurisdictions, and assure them that the members of this Grand Council will, on their return to their homes, use their utmost endeavors in the various Masonic Bodies, to further the raising of moneys to be transmitted to them, to aid in a small degree in the alleviation of their distress.

No further business offering, these minutes were read and approved, and the Grand Council closed in AMPLE FORM.

GEO. VAN VLIET,

Grand Recorder.

The next Annual Assembly will be held in the City of New York on Tuesday, September 2d, 1879.

JOHN ATHERTON HARRIS

REPRESENTATIVE OF

GRAND COUNCIL OF NEW YORK

NEAR

GRAND COUNCIL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

DIED SEPTEMBER 3, 1877.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE.

FREDERICK F. DRIGGS,

PAST R. I. D. G. MASTER

GRAND COUNCIL OF NEW YORK,

DIED APRIL 24, 1878.

HE HAS PASSED TO HIS REWARD.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTERS AND GRAND RECORDERS

OF THE SEVERAL GRAND COUNCILS.

STATE.	ORGANIZED.	DATE OF LAST REPORT.	GRAND MASTER.	ADDRESS.	GRAND RECORDER.	ADDRESS
ALABAMA.....	1828	Dec. 5, 1877	James Milton.	Eufaula.	Daniel Sayre.	Montgomery.
ARKANSAS.....	1860	Oct. 6, 1877	J. P. McCown.	Magnolia.	L. E. Barber.	Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA.....	1839				Charles L. Wiggan.	San Francisco.
CONNECTICUT.....	1819	May 6, 1878	Arthur R. Blakeslee.	Derby.	Joseph K. Wheeler.	Hartford.
FLORIDA.....	1853	June 4, 1878	Geo. S. Hallmark.	Warrington.	John Carlovitz.	Milton.
GEORGIA.....	1825	April 24, 1878	Charles R. Armstrong.	Macon.	Andrew M. Wollihin.	Albany.
ILLINOIS.....	1853	Oct. 24, 1877	Jonathan L. French.	Chicago.	Gil. W. Barnard.	Chicago. (182 Clark St.)
INDIANA.....	1855	Oct. 16, 1877	Charles H. Butterfield.	Evansville.	John M. Bramwell.	Indianapolis.
IOWA.....	1837	Oct. 2, 1877	Daniel B. Shelly.	Davenport.	Wm. B. Langridge.	Muscataine.
KANSAS.....	1827	Oct. 17, 1877	William J. Cochran.	Atchison.	John H. Brown.	Wyandotte.
KENTUCKY.....	1827	Oct. 17, 1877	W. Larne Thomas.	Danville.	A. G. Hodges.	Louisville.
LOUISIANA.....	1856	Feb. 14, 1878	Geo. J. Pinckard.	New Orleans.	Richard Lambert.	N. Orleans. (P. O. draw. 872)
MAINE.....	1855	May 2, 1877	Fessenden L. Day.	Lewiston.	Ira Berry.	Portland.
MARYLAND.....	1874	Nov. 14, 1877	Edwin L. Parker.	Mt. Savage.	William A. Wentz.	Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS.....	1826	Dec. 12, 1877	Alfred F. Chapman.	Boston.	John Haigh.	Somerville.
MICHIGAN.....	1858	Jan. 14, 1878	Andrew J. Utley.	St. Louis.	Garra B. Noble.	Detroit. (359 E. Larned St.)
MINNESOTA.....	1870	Oct. 7, 1877	Geo. W. Cooley.	Minneapolis.		
MISSOURI.....	1864	Oct. 5, 1877	Wm. R. Penick.	St. Joseph.		
NEBRASKA.....	1872	Dec. 20, 1877	Robert W. Furnas.	Brownville.		
NEW BRUNSWICK (CANADA)	1867				John W. Luke.	St. Louis.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	1862	May 13, 1878	Henry P. Glidden.	Dover.	William R. Bowen.	Omaha.
NEW JERSEY.....	1860	Jan. 15, 1878	George Scott.	Paterson.	A. D. Goodwin.	St. Johns.
NEW YORK.....	1809				George P. Cleaves.	Concord (P. O. Box 214.)
NORTH CAROLINA.....	1860	June 6, 1877	Geo. M. Osgoodby.	Buffalo.	Thomas J. Corson.	Trenton.
OHIO.....	1859	Aug. 29, 1877	C. M. Van Orsdell.	Wilmingon.	George Van Vliet.	New York. (Mas'ic Temp.)
ONTARIO (CANADA)	1871	Aug. 8, 1877	Saml. W. Courtwright.	Circleville.	Donald W. Bain.	Raleigh.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	1847	Feb. 20, 1878	David McLellan.	Hamilton.	John D. Caldwell.	Cincinnati.
RHODE ISLAND.....	1847	Feb. 20, 1878	Mark Richards Muckle.	Philadelphia.	James B. Nixon.	Toronto.
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	1860	Feb. 11, 1878	John F. Adams.	Fawtucket.	Chas. E. Meyer.	Phila. (Masonic Temple.)
TENNESSEE.....	1860				William R. Greene.	Providence.
VERMONT.....	1847	Nov. 17, 1877	Bradford Nichol.	Nashville.	Z. Davis.	Charleston.
VERMONT.....	1845	June 14, 1876	Albert C. Hubbell.	Bennington.	John Frizzell.	Nashville.
WISCONSIN.....	1857				W. H. S. Whitcomb.	Burlington.
			James L. Bridge.	Berlin.	John W. Woodhull.	Milwaukee.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS.

NAME.	No.	MASTER.	DEPUTY MASTER.	P. C. OF W.	RECORDER.	WHERE LOCATED.	COUNTY.	DATE OF MEETING.
COLUMBIAN	1	John G. Barker.	W. F. J. Thiers.	T. Cunningham.	P. W. Verhoeven	New York.	New York.	
UNION	2	Philander Reid.	J. M. Layman.	J. V. B. Green.	T. Pyterman.	New York.	New York.	4th Saturday.
BROOKLYN	4	Albert E. Leach.	J. Waring Eames.	Benj. F. Adams.	Chas. P. Marat.	Brooklyn.	Kings.	
ADELPHIC	7	Horace Metcalf.	Royal E. Deane.	John H. Colgate.	E. W. Tuthill.	New York.	New York.	2d Saturday.
BLOSS	14	Jesse B. Anthony.	P. F. Vanderheyden	W. R. Hyde.	W. F. Robertson	Troy.	Rensselaer.	1st Friday.
BRUCE	15	Charles Craig.	Jason Collier.	Perry Stowell.	V. N. Douglas.	Lockport.	Niagara.	1st and 3d Wednesday.
SOUTHERN TIER.	16	Saml. D. Wadham.	C. H. Richards.	F. E. Cleaveland.	W. H. Browne.	Elmira.	Chemung.	3d Monday.
BUFFALO	17	Henry Waters.	C. H. Rathbun.	B. Spencer Jr.	S. M. Evry.	Buffalo.	Erie.	2d Thursday.
DORIC	19	Charles Norman.	Jno. W. Merriam.	Wm. S. Bradt.	Jno. Alexander.	Rochester.	Monroe.	1st and 3d Wednesdays
KEYSTONE	20	John L. Brothers.	J. M. Henderson.	Christ. G. Fox.	Jno. H. Boshier	Buffalo.	Erie.	3d Saturday.
DE WITT CLINTON	22	John J. Martin.	Wm. H. Whish.	H. J. Herschberg	J. E. Allanson.	Albany.	Albany.	3d Thursday.
ONTARIO	23	J. N. Macomb, Jr.	John T. Scoon.	Wm. E. Hayes.	.....	Geneva.	Ontario.	
DUNKIRK	25	C. E. Hequemburg.	E. Harris.	W. T. Lunt.	R. J. Gross.	Dunkirk.	Chautauqua.	1st Wednesday.
PALMYRA	26	John C. Coates.	M. C. Finley.	J. J. White.	E. W. Cumings.	Palmyra.	Wayne.	2d Monday.
BATAVIA	27	Horace M. Warren.	D. W. Tomlinson.	Geo. W. Griffis.	A. N. Cowdin.	Batavia.	Genesee.	1st and 3d Friday.
UTICA	28	Edward B. Cash.	Edward Lawson.	A. I. Simmons.	J. F. Schrader.	Utica.	Oneida.	
OWEGO	30	James H. Coppins.	Alex. D. Ellis.	Watson F. Paine.	G. W. Buffum.	Owego.	Tioga.	{ 1st and 3d Thursday af- ter 1st Monday.
KING SOLOMON ..	31	Chas. Estabrook.	John D. Mailler.	James E. Horton.	C. H. Halstead.	Newburgh.	Orange.	2d Monday.
PENTALPHA	32	Thomas Darling.	A. J. Wilkinson.	Charles W. Brown	W. L. Seaman.	Flushing.	Queens.	2d Friday.
CRYPTIC	37	Chas. H. Sturges.	R. C. McEwen.	G. H. Gillis.	L. R. Cushing.	Saratoga Spgs.	Saratoga.	2d and 4th Friday.
KONHOCTON	40	Isaac J. Merrill.	Wm. H. Shepard.	O. West Lackey.	V. Brother.	Bath.	Steuben.	4th Friday.
GENESSEE VALLEY	41	H. Sinclair.	H. D. Fage.	L. H. Brace.	A. C. Scott.	Nunda.	Livirgston.	1st and 3d Friday.
CORNING	53	C. H. Thomson.	A. D. Robbins.	P. S. Pritchard.	Edw. Clisdell.	Corning.	Steuben.	
PEEKSKILL	65	David Griffin.	John Ombony.	Robert Brown.	T. J. Hodgkins.	Peekskill.	Westchester.	2d Monday.
HUDSON	62	Wm. H. Scovill.	Wm. Bostwick.	Henry Kertz.	Henry Miller.	Hudson.	Columbia.	
SING SING	64	Isaac Terwilliger.	Peter J. Keenan.	Ebenezer Fowler.	E. M. Collyer.	Sing Sing.	Westchester.	1st and 3d Friday.
NORWICH	67	Isaac W. Baker.	E. Gage Berry.	James K. Benway	C. L. Ferry.	Norwich.	Chenango.	
ITHACA	68	R. C. Christiance.	Fred. C. Sherman.	J. M. Kimball.	A. B. Wood.	Ithaca.	Tompkins.	2d Monday.
ADDISON	69	Saml. A. Bailey.	J. L. Wombough.	Lorin Aldrich.	.....	Addison.	Steuben.	
NEPPERHAN	70	Ralph E. Prime.	Lyman Cobb, Jr.	Wm. Aug. Gibson	Jno. E. Murphy.	Yonkers.	Westchester.	

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

ALABAMA,.....	Thomas H. Floyd,.....	Utica.
CALIFORNIA,.....	Charles Roome,.....	New York.
CONNECTICUT,.....	G. Fred. Wiltsie,.....	"
FLORIDA,.....	John F. Baldwin,.....	"
GEORGIA,.....	P. W. Verhoeven,.....	"
INDIANA,.....	Hawley Klein,.....	Buffalo.
ILLINOIS,.....	Frank L. Stowell,.....	Olean.
IOWA,.....	H. F. L. Bunting,.....	New York.
KANSAS,.....	John D. Williams,.....	Elmira.
LOUISIANA,.....	Philander Reed,.....	New York.
MAINE,.....	G. Fred. Wiltsie,.....	"
MASSACHUSETTS,.....	John J. Martin,.....	Albany.
MICHIGAN,.....	John Hoole,.....	New York.
MINNESOTA,.....	Alex. B. King,.....	Troy.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,.....	Geo. Van Vliet,.....	New York.
NEW BRUNSWICK, (Can.),.....	G. Fred. Wiltsie,.....	"
NEW JERSEY,.....	"	"
OHIO,.....	Darwin E. Morgan,.....	Buffalo.
ONTARIO, (Can.),.....	James McCredie,.....	"
PENNSYLVANIA,.....	Robert Macoy,.....	New York.
RHODE ISLAND,.....	Charles W. Brown,.....	Flushing.
SOUTH CAROLINA,.....	John R. Wiltsie,.....	Newburgh.
VERMONT,.....	Charles Craig,.....	Lockport.
WISCONSIN,.....	Geo. M. Osgoodby,.....	Nunda.

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

ALABAMA,.....	Benjamin F. Pope,.....	Mobile.
CONNECTICUT,.....	James S. Gould,.....	Bridgeport.
FLORIDA,.....	William Morrill,.....	Milton.
GEORGIA,.....	R. W. Smith,.....	Athens.
INDIANA,.....	Luciene A. Foote,.....	Crawfordsville.
ILLINOIS,.....	Jerome B. Gorin,.....	Mound City.
KANSAS,.....	David Brockway,.....	Topeka.
LOUISIANA,.....	Rev. Thos. D. Lawson,.....	Bastross.
MAINE,.....	Josiah H. Drummond,.....	Portland.
MASSACHUSETTS,.....	Wm. Porter Anderson,.....	Boston.
MICHIGAN,.....	Rev. Levi H. Corson,.....	Jonesville.
MINNESOTA,.....	George W. Cooley,.....	Minneapolis.
NEW BRUNSWICK, (Can.).....	D. R. Munro,.....	St. Johns.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,.....	H. P. Glidden,.....	Dover.
NEW JERSEY,.....	Marcus Higginbotham,.....	Jersey City.
OHIO,.....	Henry Bewbegin,.....	Circleville.
ONTARIO, (Can.).....	Daniel Spry,.....	Toronto.
RHODE ISLAND,.....	A. H. Cushman,.....	Providence.
SOUTH CAROLINA,.....	Wilmot G. De Saussure,.....	Charleston.
VERMONT,.....	George H. Bigelow,.....	Burlington.
WISCONSIN,.....	J. P. C. Cottrill,.....	Milwaukee.

RECEIPTS AT ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, 1878.

From Columbian Council, No. 1, for dues to August 1st, 1878,.....	\$	32.00
“ Union “ “ 2, “ “ “ “		39.00
“ Brooklyn “ “ 4, “ “ “ “		47.50
“ Adelpic “ “ 7, account “ “		30.00
“ Bloss “ “ 14, for dues “ “		136.50
“ Bruce “ “ 15, “ “ “ “		21.00
“ Southern Tier “ “ 16, “ “ “ “		45.50
“ Doric “ “ 19, “ “ “ “		132.50
“ Keystone “ “ 20, “ “ “ “		81.50
“ Ontario “ “ 23, account “ “		30.00
“ Dunkirk “ “ 25, for dues “ “		35.00
“ Palmyra “ “ 26, “ “ “ “		24.00
“ Batavia “ “ 27, “ “ “ “		15.50
“ Utica “ “ 28, “ “ “ “		67.50
“ King Solomon “ “ 31, “ “ “ “		46.50
“ Pentalpha “ “ 36, “ “ “ “		12.00
“ Cryptic “ “ 37, “ “ “ “		30.00
“ Konhocton “ “ 40, “ “ “ “		23.50
“ Corning “ “ 53, “ “ “ “		51.00
“ Peekskill “ “ 55, “ “ “ “		15.00
“ Hudson “ “ 62, “ “ “ “		31.50
“ Sing Sing “ “ 64, “ “ “ “		19.50
“ Norwich “ “ 67, “ “ “ August 1st, 1877.....		10.50
“ Ithaca “ “ 68, “ “ “ “ 1st, 1878.....		21.00
“ Nepperhan “ “ 70, “ “ “ “		1.00
“ “ “ “ 70, for balance for Warrant.....		10.00
Total,.....	\$	999.00

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

Elected September 4th, 1878.

M. I.:	GEO. M. OSGOODBY, of BUFFALO.....	Grand Master.
R. I.:	CHARLES W. BROWN, of FLUSHING.....	Dep. Grand Master.
" "	CHARLES NORMAN, of ROCHESTER.....	Grand P. C. of W.
" "	DAVID B. HOWELL, of NEW YORK.....	" Treasurer.
" "	GEO. VAN VLIET, ".....	" Recorder.
" "	THOMAS H. FLOYD, of UTICA.....	" C. of the G.
" "	DARWIN E. MORGAN, of BUFFALO.....	" C. of the C.
" "	PETER W. VERHOEVEN, of NEW YORK.....	" Marshal.
" "	REV. JOHN G. WEBSTER, of PALMYRA.....	" Chaplain.
" "	JOHN J. MARTIN, of ALBANY.....	" Lecturer.
" "	ALBERT E. LEACH, of BROOKLYN.....	" Steward.
" "	JOHNSON FOUNTAIN, of NEW YORK.....	" Sentinel.

Grand Master's address—No. 345 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

" Recorder's " —"Masonic Temple,"—cor. 6th Ave. and 23d St., N. Y

(Next Annual Assembly, September 2d, 1879.)

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" "	CHARLES NORMAN, of ROCHESTER.....	Grand P. C. of W.
" "	DAVID B. HOWELL, of NEW YORK.....	" Treasurer.
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