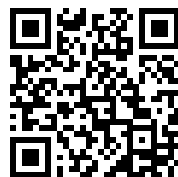
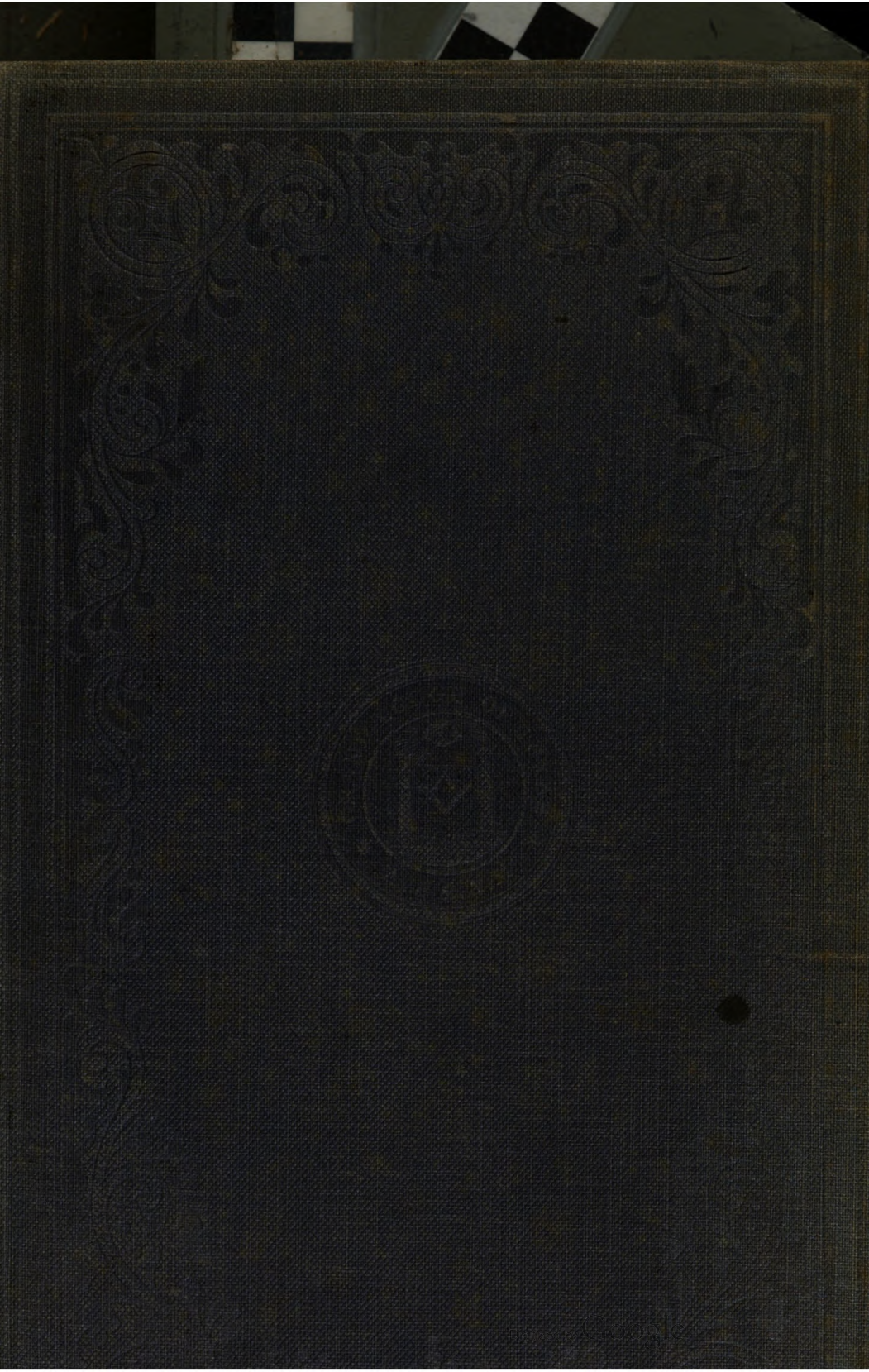

This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

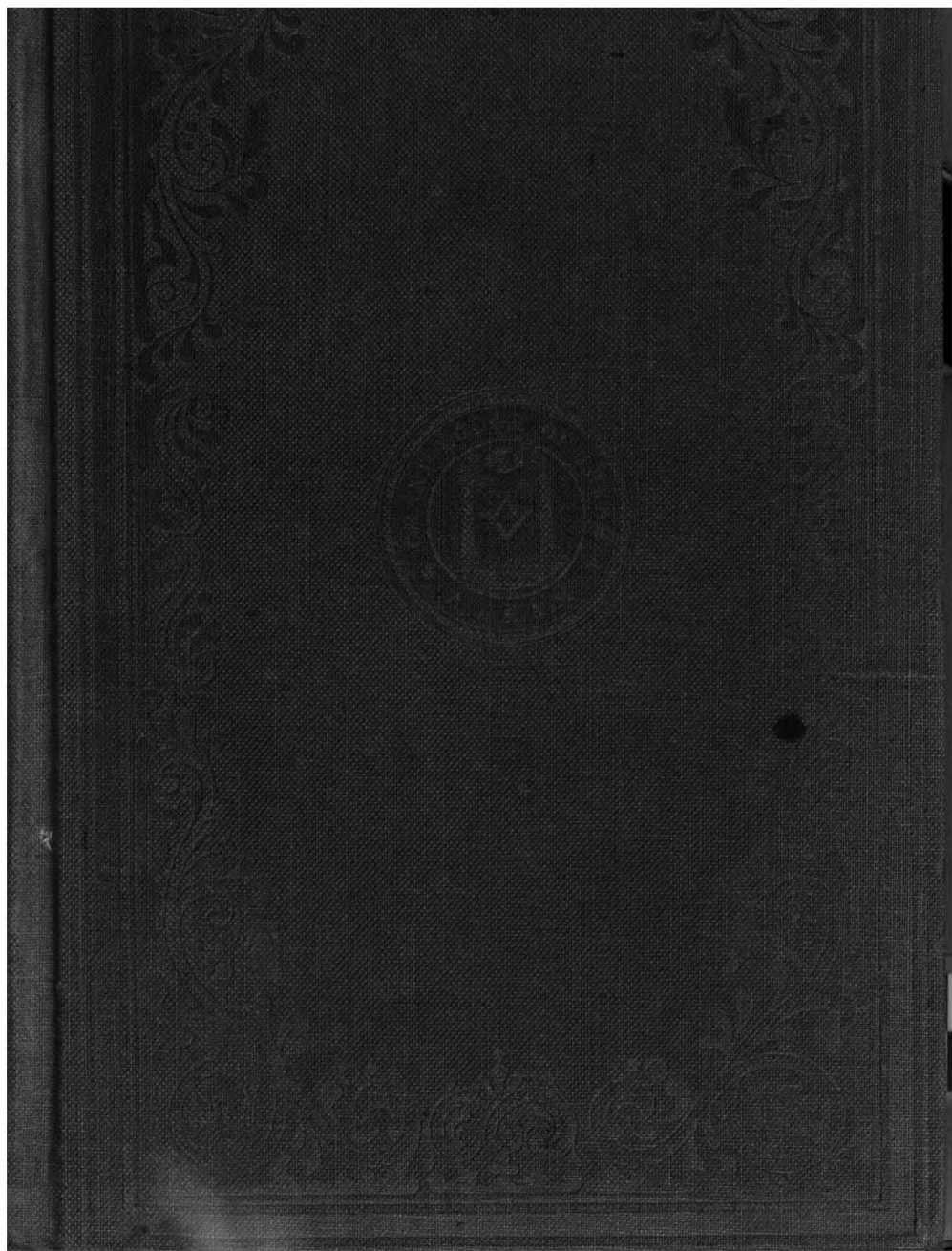
Google™ books

<https://books.google.com>





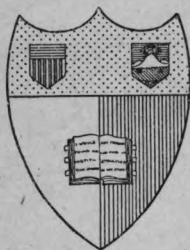




ANNEX
LIBRARY

B

047476



Cornell University Library

Ithaca, New York

FROM THE

BENNO LOEWY LIBRARY

COLLECTED BY

BENNO LOEWY

1854-1919

BEQUEATHED TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Digitized by Google

All books are subject to recall after two weeks
Olin/Kroch Library

ANNEX DATE DUE ANNEX

GAYLORD			PRINTED IN U.S.A.

HS 537
T4A2
v.1

OLIN AMBER



2 vols
swy

PROCEEDINGS
OF
The Grand Lodge of Texas,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN THE CITY OF HOUSTON,

DEC. A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837,

TO THE CLOSE OF

THE GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

HELD AT

PALESTINE, JANUARY 19, A.D. 1857, A.L. 5857.

By A. S. RUTHVEN,

GRAND SECRETARY, AND PAST GRAND MASTER.

COMPILED FROM THE ORIGINAL RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS NOW IN POSSESSION
OF THE GRAND LODGE, TOGETHER WITH THE CONSTITUTIONS WHICH
HAVE BEEN SEVERALLY ADOPTED UP TO THE PRESENT TIME;
ALSO, AN INTERESTING HISTORY OF THE

Origin, Rise and Progress of the Masonic Order in Texas.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF M. W. WM. STEDMAN, G. MASTER.

GALVESTON:

RICHARDSON & CO., NEWS OFFICE.

1857.

MS 537
T 4 A 2: 1

TO THE

Masonic Fraternity

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS,

THESE VOLUMES ARE FRATEERNALLY

DEDICATED.

GALVESTON, February 9, 1857.

WM. STEDMAN, ESQ., *Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—It is my intention, during the course of the coming summer, to prepare for publication the entire proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, from the commencement to the present time, and to do so you must be aware it will be a work of no ordinary labor and much expense: I shall therefore look to the interest which the Craft may manifest by the number of copies they subscribe for.

It will comprise two good-sized volumes, but in due time I will send a circular to all the Lodges, setting forth the object, price, &c.

I want, however, to have from you, as Grand Master of Texas, your sanction and approval of the undertaking, provided you think it will be for the benefit of our Order in general; also any other suggestion which may occur to your mind on the subject. Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours fraternally,

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Sec. G. L. of T.

HENDERSON, February 19, 1857.

A. S. RUTHVEN, ESQ.

R. W. SIR AND BROTHER:—I have received yours, informing me of your intention, during the approaching summer, to prepare for the republication of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas from its origin to the present time, and asking my opinion of the enterprise.

I assure you that I regard it as a work of much interest and importance to the Craft in Texas, and think that it should, and have no doubt that it will, receive a prompt endorsement and liberal support at the hands of the Lodges and Brethren within our jurisdiction. The perpetuation of the action and adjudication of our Grand Lodge, upon the many important questions that have at one time and another been before it, is much to be desired, for the reason that they are not only interesting as forming a part of our Masonic history, but are indispensable to the proper understanding and enforcement of Masonic law in our midst. The copies of the earlier proceedings are becoming extremely rare, and it will not be long before

they will be lost to us forever unless their preservation is secured in some such manner as that proposed by you. Many of our older sister Grand Lodges failed to adopt timely means of preserving the records of their proceedings, and now experience much disadvantage and inconvenience as the result of their neglect and inattention, and are devoting much labor and expense to the (in some instances) fruitless task of bringing to light the transactions of their Masonic fathers and an integral portion of their Masonic history. Let us therefore, by a fraternal and liberal encouragement of your undertaking, profit by their error and avoid the difficulties under which they labor. You will excuse me for suggesting the importance of accompanying the publication with copies of the various Constitutions that have been in force in our jurisdiction. The necessity of this arises from the fact, that what was declared to be the rule under one Constitution might be rendered inoperative or inapplicable under a change of that instrument. I also think it would be useful to append a complete set of the forms in use among us, as it would prevent many errors of frequent occurrence, and enhance the value of the work to the subordinate Lodges and their officers. I trust, therefore, that you will persevere in your purpose until its completion, and thus bestow upon your Brethren in Texas an additional benefit to the many which they have already received at your hands.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

WILLIAM STEDMAN,
Grand Master.

PREFACE

IN presenting these volumes to my Masonic Brethren, I have been induced to embark in the undertaking from the very many and repeated solicitations made by a large number of members of the various Lodges throughout our jurisdiction, being desirous of having in their possession the entire proceedings from the first organization in the early days of Texas to the present time, so that they might in future follow it up from year to year, adding volume to volume.

This, it is true, is interesting to none but Masons, and to those of our own jurisdiction it is particularly so; but, as Masonry has now taken such a strong hold on the reading-portion of the world, judging from the number of Masonic magazines and periodicals which are monthly and weekly sent broadcast over our land, these records may not be uninteresting to some of our sister Grand Lodges, if only as a matter of Masonic history and record from a younger State.

As already stated, the inducement has been the repeated request for back numbers, which it was impossible to comply with, in consequence of the destruction of a large portion of the archives of the Grand Lodge by fire, at Austin, some years since; but by patience and perseverance I have been enabled to place before the fraternity a full and complete record of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge from its birth to the year of its majority, and, now that it has attained the age of "manhood," may its course be onward and upward, ever leading its followers in the paths of rectitude and justice!

The time and labor which have been devoted to this undertaking have been great,—more so than was anticipated at the commencement; but should it prove useful to the Craft, or in any way add to their information as Lodges or as Brethren, my end will have been accomplished.

I have with great care collected all the old records which have come under my notice, and compiled them in such a manner as I think will be most useful and interesting; and as it is well known to all with whom I have been in the habit of meeting, that I am more practical than eloquent, more given to labor than to flowery language, I shall close these prefatory remarks by adding a short history of the creation, I may say, of Masonry in Texas, from the pen of a very distinguished Brother of our Order.

“Free Masonry in Texas:—A Reminiscence of its early History.

“As I took an active part in laying the first foundations of Free Masonry in this country, originated, and was personally present at, the first meeting ever held here, and cognizant of the earliest steps taken for the organization of a Lodge, I place upon record the following facts, which may be of interest perhaps to the fraternity hereafter, and would otherwise be lost, as I am now the only one living of the five Brethren who originated Holland Lodge.

“In the winter of 1834–5, five Master Masons, who had made themselves known to each other, consulted among themselves, and, after various interviews and much deliberation, resolved to take measures to establish a Lodge of their Order in Texas. This resolution was not formed without a full appreciation of its consequences to the individuals concerned. Every movement in Texas was watched at that time with jealousy and distrust by the Mexican Government, and already had its spies and emissaries denounced some of our best citizens as factionists and disaffected persons; already were the future intended victims of a despotic power being selected. It was well known that Free Masonry was particularly odious to the Catholic priesthood, whose influence in the country at the time was all-powerful. The dangers, therefore, attendant upon an organization of Masons, at this time which was ‘trying men’s souls,’ were neither few nor unimportant. But zeal for a beloved Institution, a belief that it would be beneficial at a period when society seemed *especially* to need some fraternal bonds to unite them together, predominated; all fears of personal consequences were thrown aside, and the resolution to establish a Lodge, as above mentioned, was adopted. The five Brethren were John H. Wharton, Asa Brigham, James A. E. Phelps, Alexander Russell and Anson Jones, and they appointed

a time and place of meeting to concert measures to carry their resolution into effect. In the mean time another Master Mason came into their plans, —Bro. J. P. Caldwell. The place of meeting was back of the town of Brazoria, near the place known as General John Austin's, in a little grove of wild peach or laurel, and which had been selected as a family burying-ground by that distinguished soldier and citizen. The spot was secluded and out of the way of 'cowans and eavesdroppers,' and they felt they were *alone*. Here, and under such circumstances, at 10 o'clock in the morning of a day in March, 1835, was held the first formal Masonic meeting in Texas as connected with the establishment and continuance of Masonry in this country. The six Brethren I have mentioned were all present there; and it was concluded to apply to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for a *Dispensation* to form and open a Lodge, to be called Holland Lodge, in honor to the then M. W. G. Master of that body, J. H. Holland. The funds were raised by a contribution to defray the expenses, to which each contributed as he felt willing and able. A petition was in due time drawn up and signed by them, which was forwarded to New Orleans, having been previously signed by another Master Mason, Bro. W. D. C. Hall, and perhaps one or two more; but of this I do not recollect. The officers named in the petition were—For W. M., Anson Jones, S. W., Asa Brigham, J. W., J. P. Caldwell, who filled those offices respectively until the close of 1837. The Dispensation was granted, after some delay, to these Brethren, and Holland Lodge, No. 36, U. D., was instituted and opened at Brazoria, on the 27th of December, 1835. Bro. Phelps was chosen treasurer, and M. C. Patton, secretary; the other officers I do not recollect. The Lodge held its meeting at Brazoria, in the second story of the old court-house, which room was afterwards occupied by St. John's Lodge, No. 5. About this time the difficulties with Mexico broke out into open hostilities, and our work was very much retarded by that circumstance, and by the members having to be absent in the service of the country. Still, there were a few others from time to time introduced into the Order, either by receiving the Degrees or by affiliation. The Lodge struggled on until February, 1836, when I presided over its last meeting at Brazoria. I well recollect the night, and the fact that Bro. Fannin, who one month after became so celebrated for his misfortunes and those of his unfortunate party at Goliad, acted as Senior Deacon. It seemed indeed that the gloom which prevailed in the Lodge that night was a foreshadowing of its and their unhappy fate, which was so soon to overtake both.

"In March Brazoria was abandoned. URREA soon after took possession of the place at the head of a detachment of the Mexican army, and the records, books, jewels, and every thing belonging to the Lodge, were utterly destroyed by them, and our members were scattered in every direction. Bros. Wharton, Phelps and myself joined the Texian troops on the Colorado, about the 18th of March. In the mean time, the Grand Lodge of

Louisiana had issued a Charter for Holland Lodge, No. 36, and it was brought over to Texas by Bro. John M. Allen. This, together with some letters from the Grand Secretary, was handed to me by Bro. Allen, on the prairie between Groce's and San Jacinto, while we were on the march, and carried by me in my saddle-bags to the encampment of the army on Buffalo Bayou, at Lynchburg. Had we been beaten here, Santa Anna would have captured the *Charter* of Holland Lodge at San Jacinto, as Urrea had the *Dispensation* for it at Brazoria. Such an event, however, was impossible. The Charter and papers were taken safely to Brazoria; but, as the members had been lessened in numbers by death, or scattered in the army and elsewhere in the service of the country, no attempt was ever made to revive the work of the Lodge at that place.

"In October, 1837, however, it was reopened by myself and others, at the City of Houston, having then been in existence about two years.

"In the mean time two other Lodges, with Charters from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, were established in Texas,—Milam, at Nacogdoches, and McFarlane, at San Augustine. Delegates from these, and from Holland Lodge, met in Convention at Houston in the winter of 1837-38, and the Grand Lodge of the Republic was formed. By advice and direction of this body, the three subordinate Lodges transferred their allegiance from Louisiana to their own Grand Lodge, surrendered their Charters to Louisiana, and received others from Texas; and Holland Lodge, No. 36, under the former, became Holland Lodge, No. 1, under the Grand Lodge of the Lone Star Republic. By this course, the causes of the many difficulties which have afflicted so many of the Grand Lodges of the United States were considered and obviated in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

"Holland Lodge, No. 36, was the only one established in Texas prior to the Revolution which separated her from Mexico.

"Such is a brief but faithful sketch of the first establishment of Free Masonry in Texas. It was founded, like our political institutions, amid the stern concomitants of adversity and war, but its foundations were laid broad and deep; and upon them has been raised a superstructure of strength and beauty, symmetrical in its proportions and vast in its dimensions, which I trust will rise '*usque ad astra*,' and continue as a beacon to guide and cheer worthy Masons on their journey of life, and against which the wasting storms of time shall beat in vain, and the restless waves of persecution dash themselves to destruction in angry foam; while the presiding genius of the Institution, from its lofty walls, shall ever continue to exclaim in emphatic tones, to be heard by all,—East, West, North and South,—

"*"Procul! O procul! este profani!" "Tu que invade viam." "Fare hence, ye profane! Welcome, ye initiated, to these glorious courts! Tread ye them aright!"*

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS,

CITY OF HOUSTON, December 20, A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837.

CONVENTION OF MASTER MASONS.

IN pursuance of an invitation from Holland Lodge, No. 36, of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, held at the city of Houston, by virtue of a Charter from the Most W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, addressed to the different Lodges in the Republic of Texas, a Convention of Masons was held in the Senate Chamber this day at three o'clock P.M.

On motion, Brother Sam. Houston was called to the chair, and Bro. Anson Jones appointed Secretary.

The following delegates presented their credentials and took their seats:—

From Holland Lodge, No. 36, held at the city of Houston,—Bros. Sam. Houston, Anson Jones, Jeff. Wright, and Thos. G. Western.

From Milam Lodge, No. 40, held at the town of Nacogdoches,—Bros. Thos. J. Rusk, I. W. Burton, Chas. S. Taylor, Adolphus Sterne, and K. H. Douglass.

From McFarland Lodge, No. 41, held at the town of St. Augustine, a verbal communication was received through Bro. Sterne, authorizing the Convention, when met, to appoint a delegate from that Lodge. Brother Winchell was accordingly appointed, who appeared and took his seat.

On motion of Bro. Anson Jones, it was

Resolved, That the several Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the Republic of Texas, now represented in General Convention by Delegates properly authorized, consider it a matter of right, and for the general benefit of the Order, that they should form and organize themselves into a Grand Lodge within the said Republic, and that they now proceed to organize themselves into a Grand Lodge accordingly, by the name of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging.

On motion of Bro. A. Sterne, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons present, who are members of regular Lodges, be, and they are hereby, constituted members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The following Brethren, in addition to the Delegates, being present, were accordingly constituted members of the Grand Lodge:—

Bros. A. S. Thruston, Jno. S. Black, Wm. G. Cooke, Andrew Neill, and John Shea.

On further motion, duly seconded, the following Brethren were also constituted members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas:—

Bros. Henry Matthews,	Lytleton Fowler,
Ben Miller,	Christopher Dart,
Hy. Millard,	W. R. Underwood,
E. Tucker,	Asa Brigham,
T. J. Hardeman,	D. T. Fitchett,
W. F. Gray,	Thos. J. Gazley.

On motion of Bro. A. Sterne, it was

Resolved, That we now proceed to organize the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas by the election of a M. W. Grand Master, Rt. W. D. Grand Master, Rt. W. Sen. Grand Warden, Rt. W. Jun. Grand Warden, Rt. W. Grand Treasurer, Rt. W. Grand Secretary, and that the other Grand Officers be appointed at the first meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The Convention then proceeded to an election for officers of the Grand Lodge, when the following Brethren were duly chosen:—

Bro. ANSON JONES, M. W. Grand Master.
 ADOLPHUS STERNE, Rt. W. D. Grand Master.
 JEFFERSON WRIGHT, Rt. W. Sen. Grand Warden.
 CHRISTOPHER DART, Rt. W. Jun. Grand Warden.
 G. H. WINCHELL, Rt. W. Grand Secretary.
 THOS. G. WESTERN, Rt. W. Grand Treasurer.

On motion of Bro. J. Wright, it was

Resolved, That, for the present government of this Grand Lodge, we adopt the Constitution and general regulations of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana so far as it is applicable to our situation.

On motion of Bro. Anson Jones, it was

Resolved, That a committee of six be appointed to draft a form of Constitution for this Grand Lodge.

The President then appointed the following Brethren to compose said Committee:—

Bros. Jefferson Wright and A. S. Thruston, of Holland Lodge.
 Bros. I. W. Burton and K. H. Douglass, of Milam Lodge.
 Bros. G. H. Winchell and Christopher Dart, of McFarland Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Anson Jones, it was

Resolved, That the first meeting of this Grand Lodge shall be held at the city of Houston, on the third Monday in April next.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That an extract of the proceedings of this Convention be published in the "Telegraph."

On motion of Bro. A. S. Thruston, the Convention then adjourned
sine die.

ANSON JONES,

SAM. HOUSTON,
President.

Secretary of the Convention.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas met on the third Monday of April, (16th,) in the year of our Lord 1838, A.L. 5838, agreeably to previous notice published in the "Telegraph," in conformity to the resolution of the Convention held on the 20th day of December, A.D. 1837, A.L. 5837.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Anson Jones,	M. W. Grand Master.
Jefferson Wright,	Rt. W. D. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
Thos. J. Gazley,	" Sen. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
Wm. G. Cooke,	" Jun. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
Wm. M. Shepherd,	" Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
Thos. G. Western,	" Grand Treasurer.
A. S. Thruston,	" Sen. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
Richard Bache,	" Jun. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>

and various members.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with prayer from Bro. L. Fowler. After the reading of the minutes of the Convention, the M. W. Grand Master pronounced the Grand Lodge open for the despatch of business.

On motion of Bro. Grand Treasurer, time was granted to the Committee appointed to form a Constitution for the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following officers:—

Bro. Lytleton Fowler,	Rt. W. Grand Chaplain.
" Wm. G. Cooke,	" Grand Sen. Deacon.
" Jno. S. Black,	" Grand Jun. Deacon.
" Richard Bache,	" Grand Sword Bearer.
" Thos. J. Rusk,	" Grand Marshal.
" A. S. Thruston,	" Grand Pursuivant.
" G. W. Fulton,	" Grand Stewards.
" Jas. McGee,	
" John Shea,	W. Grand Tyler.

On motion, Bro. Wm. F. Gray was elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until Saturday next, the 24th instant; at eight o'clock P.M.

WM. M. SHEPHERD,
Grand Secretary.

ANSON JONES,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

April 24, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Anson Jones,	Grand Master.
Rt. W. Jeff. Wright,	Dep. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>

Rt. W.	Wm. G. Cooke,	Sen. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	T. J. Hardeman,	Jun. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	Wm. F. Gray,	Grand Secretary.
"	E. Tucker,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	G. W. Fulton,	Sen. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	I. N. Moreland,	Jun. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	John Shea,	Grand Tyler,
	and various brethren.	

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and the minutes of the preceding Communication were read and adopted.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Constitution for the government of this Grand Lodge reported the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, which they requested might be adopted by this Grand Lodge. The Constitution having been read, it was

Resolved, That the same be adopted with such changes in its regulations and phraseology as will adapt it to the local condition and wants of this Grand Lodge.

And it was recommitted to the Committee that reported it, for the purpose of making the requisite alteration.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees,—to wit:

On Correspondence,—Bros. Thruston, Rusk, and Gray.

On By-Laws,—Bros. Gazley, Bache, and Cooke.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master for the purpose of procuring a seal, blank charters, furniture, jewels, working-tools, and eligible apartments for holding the Communications of the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Fisher, Western, and Cooke, Committee.

Brother W. F. Gray tendered his resignation of the office of Grand Secretary, which was accepted.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of a Grand Secretary to supply the vacancy, and Brother Geo. Fisher, being declared a member of this Grand Lodge, was unanimously elected.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form until Monday evening, May 7, 5838.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

ANSON JONES,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

At a Grand Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, convened in the Senate Chamber in the city of Houston, May 7, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Anson Jones,	Grand Master.
Rt. W. A. Sterne,	Dep. Grand Master.

Rt. W. Jeff. Wright,	Sen. Grand Warden.
" Richard Bache,	Jun. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Geo. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" Geo. W. Fulton,	Sen. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Thruston,	Jun. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
Bro. Watkins,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>
and various members and visitors.	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form,—the minutes of the preceding Communication having been read and adopted. The Committee appointed to prepare a Constitution of this Grand Lodge made a report by presenting a Constitution, which was read, section by section, discussed, amended and laid over.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening at seven o'clock P.M.

GEO. FISHER, *Grand Secretary.*

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

May 8, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

Assembled in the Senate Chamber at seven o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Anson Jones,	Grand Master.
Rt. W. Adolphus Sterne,	Dep. Grand Master.
" Wm. G. Cooke,	Sen. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" T. J. Hardeman,	Jun. Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" Geo. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" S. A. Thruston,	Sen. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" G. W. Fulton,	Jun. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Jno. Shea,	Grand Tyler,
and various members.	

The Constitution prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose was taken up, and, after further discussion and amendment, was deferred for its adoption for further time.

On motion, a Committee of five was appointed, consisting of the following Brethren,—viz.: Bros. Sterne, Dart, Wright, Hardeman and Fisher, to examine the Constitution as amended, and to prepare By-Laws for the government of this Grand Lodge, and to report the same on Thursday evening, the 10th inst. The hour being advanced to eleven o'clock, the Grand Lodge was again called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening at eight o'clock.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

May 10, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838, at 8 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, and the Constitution presented by the Committee, with IV. chapters, embracing 44 sections, as amended, was finally discussed and unanimously adopted as the Constitution for the government of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, dispensing with the adoption of any By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION

Of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas of Free and Accepted Masons, adopted at the Grand Communication held in the City of Houston, on the 10th day of May, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE GRAND LODGE, ITS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Sen. and Jun. Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Sen. and Jun. Grand Deacons, Grand Chaplain, Grand Sword-Bearer, Grand Marshal, two Grand Stewards, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Tyler, and also the Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, Past Sen. and Jun. Grand Wardens, and Past Masters of regular Lodges, while members of regular Lodges under its jurisdiction, and the Masters and Wardens of regular Lodges which are subordinate to the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 2. The Grand Lodge shall be held once in each year, at the seat of government of this Republic, which meeting shall take place on the second Monday of November, and shall be called the Grand Annual Communication, at which the Grand Officers shall be elected and appointed as prescribed by this Constitution; and special Grand Lodges shall be held as the Grand Master shall appoint.

SECT. 3. In all cases where special representatives shall not be appointed by any subordinate Lodge, and the Master and Warden cannot personally attend the Grand Lodge, they shall have the privilege of constituting a proxy, and such proxy shall be a Master Mason and member of some Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and he or they shall be entitled to the same number of votes as his or their constituents.

SECT. 4. No Mason shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge unless he has passed the Chair in some regular Lodge, except it be in case of emergency.

SECT. 5. A Grand Master shall be chosen at the Grand Annual Communications, but no person shall be eligible to the office more than two years in succession.

SECT. 6. The election of Grand Master shall be by ballot; the last Grand Master shall, if eligible, be among the number of candidates, but no vote shall be given for any Brother who may not be in nomination, nor shall any nomination be considered as good unless it be seconded. When the ballot is closed, the Deputy Grand Master shall count out the votes, and shall declare him who has the majority of the whole number present duly elected; and the Grand Master so elected shall be installed, according to ancient usages, at the session he is elected.

SECT. 7. In case of sickness or necessary absence, the Grand Master, or any other officer, may be installed by proxy; but whoever represents them must have sustained the office to which such absent officer is to be installed, or such office as might have entitled him to fill the Chair in the absence of the Grand Master.

SECT. 8. In case of death, resignation, or removal from office, the Chair of the Grand Lodge should become vacated, it is to be filled by the Deputy Grand Master, with authority to appoint his Deputy Grand Master, who shall serve until the next Grand Annual Communication.

SECT. 9. The Grand Master shall appoint his Deputy under the seal of the Grand Lodge, and he shall also appoint and declare the Grand Deacons, the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Sword-Bearer, the Grand Marshal, the Grand Stewards, the Grand Pursuivant, and the Grand Tyler, which appointments shall be entered on the minutes of the Grand Lodge; and in case any other office should become vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Grand Master for the time-being shall fill such office or vacancy by his appointment.

SECT. 10. The Grand Master, when present, shall indispensably fill the Chair; in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master; in the absence of both, the Sen. Grand Warden; in the absence of these, the Jun. Grand Warden; in case of absence of all these officers, the oldest Grand Officer in the Lodge is to fill the Chair. And that the Grand Lodge may always appear in due form, the presiding officer shall wear the jewel of the Grand Master; and all others, the jewels of the officers they respectively represent.

SECT. 11. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Wardens, shall severally, at the time of their installation, make the following declaration: "I, A. B., do solemnly promise, on the honor of a Mason, that in the office of — I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all other ancient Masonic usages."

SECT. 12. The Grand Master, with his Deputy Grand Wardens, Treasurer, or Secretary, shall, if convenient, during the term of his office, visit the several Lodges under his jurisdiction, and see that no innovation be committed in any of them, first giving such Lodges timely notice of his approach. But in case it should not be convenient for the Grand Master or his officers to attend as herein required, then and in that case the Grand Master is authorized to appoint a skilful and confidential Brother for this purpose.

SECT. 13. The Grand Master has full right and authority to preside in every Lodge under his jurisdiction, with the Master of the Lodge on his left hand, and to summon his Grand Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary to attend him, who are to act in their several capacities whenever the Grand Master takes the Chair.

SECT. 14. The Grand Master shall have power to grant dispensations upon proper petition, that the Brethren to whom such dispensation shall be granted make application to the Grand Lodge at the Grand Annual Communication for a Charter. And if such application shall not be made, or such Charter not granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such dispensation shall be deemed dissolved.

SECT. 15. The Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer shall be elected in the same manner as the Master, and installed at the same time according to the usages of Masonry.

SECT. 16. The Grand Treasurer must be a Brother of good worldly substance, and to him shall be committed the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge. He shall always keep a fair record of his accounts and transactions, and the uses to which the moneys are appropriated, and shall lay the same, when registered, before the Grand Lodge, and account for the moneys as may be directed, for which he shall be compensated as the Lodge may direct.

SECT. 17. The Grand Secretary must be a Brother who can write a fair hand, and shall keep accurate records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He

shall present all votes and orders of the Grand Lodge, after they are entered, to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature, and shall attest them. He shall issue summonses, as the Grand Master may direct, and shall give a seasonable notice, in at least one public newspaper, of every stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, and shall be rewarded for his services from time to time as the Grand Lodge may direct.

SECT. 18. The Grand Stewards shall attend in preparing the feasts on a regular summons for that purpose, and they shall always see that the tables are regularly and Masonically spread.

Marshal. The Grand Marshal shall attend the Grand Feast, and assist the Grand Master in the order and arrangement of the day; and the Grand Sword-Bearer shall attend on all public occasions.

SECT. 19. The Grand Tyler shall attend every call of the Grand Master, and be present at every Lodge, for which services he shall be rewarded from time to time according to his merit.

SECT. 20. The Grand Lodge shall have power to make such laws for their own government as they shall think proper.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGES.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge shall have power, by Charter under their seal, to constitute new Lodges, to establish a uniform mode of working in all the Lodges within this Republic, and to superintend and regulate the general police of Masonry, according to the ancient usages and customs of Masons, carefully regarding the ancient landmarks, which are on no account to be moved or defaced.

SECT. 2. The Grand Lodge, on granting a Charter to a newly-constituted Lodge, shall demand such fees as may be hereinafter established.

SECT. 3. The Grand Lodge shall have power to call on the several Lodges under its jurisdiction for the annual customary dues.

SECT. 4. The Grand Lodge shall have power to establish a uniform rule, as to the sums to be paid, in the several Lodges within its jurisdiction, for entering, passing, and raising a Brother.

SECT. 5. No new Charter shall be granted but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons; nor shall a new warrant issue to any number of Masons residing within less than ten miles of the usual place of meeting of any regularly-constituted Lodge, unless by special dispensation of the Grand Lodge; and the petition shall contain the causes which render it expedient that such Charter should be granted, with the nomination of Master and Wardens, and shall be approved by some regularly-constituted Lodge in the vicinity of the petitioners.

SECT. 6. Each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall, once in every year, transmit to the Grand Lodge, by the second Monday in November, the names of their officers, and the names of their Brethren who have been initiated, passed, raised, affiliated, demitted, suspended, expelled, reinstated, or deceased, also of the candidates rejected, in order that the same may be duly noticed in the Grand Lodge, under the penalty of a fine of seventy-five dollars for the first and of forfeiture of the Charter for the second delinquency.

SECT. 7. Upon the demise of any Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the last Secretary and Treasurer of said Lodge shall, within three months afterward, surrender to the Grand Secretary the books, papers, jewels, funds, and furniture of said Lodge so demised.

SECT. 8. Every Brother present at a Grand Feast shall be controlled by the Grand Master in every thing that pertains to the decency and decorum of his conduct.

SECT. 9. Every Brother who is a member of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall continue to be a member of the same, he paying his dues, as prescribed by the laws of this Grand Lodge.

SECT. 10. No Lodge of ancient York Masons in this Republic shall be recognised as a regular Lodge, unless it holds its Charter from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, after the next Grand Annual Communication of the said Grand Lodge, to be held on the second Monday in November next.

SECT. 11. The subordinate Lodges shall each submit their By-laws, at the first Grand Annual Communication, after Dispensation or Charter is obtained, to the Grand Lodge for its ratification; and no By-laws shall be adopted, by any subordinate Lodge, which are not in strict conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. Every newly-organized Lodge shall adopt the By-laws of the nearest Lodge for their government until their own By-laws be ratified by the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 12. All new Lodges shall be installed by the Grand Master, or his Deputy, and the two Wardens; and if they cannot attend to this work, the Grand Master shall appoint one or more proxies to perform the same.

SECT. 13. It shall be the duty of every subordinate Lodge to communicate to the several Lodges, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, immediately, the rejection of an applicant, the suspension, expulsion, or reinstatement of a Brother, with all the necessary information to identify the individual intended to be designated.

SECT. 14. All petitions for initiation shall be presented by a Master Mason, and shall be recommended by two Master Masons in a regular meeting of the Lodge, which petition shall lie over until the next regular meeting of the Lodge, when, if the committee appointed for that purpose should make a favorable report thereupon, the ballot shall be taken, and if *unanimous* in its favor, the petition shall be granted, and the applicant initiated as soon as convenient. No initiation, passing or raising, to take place on regular meetings, unless in a case of absolute emergency, which shall be determined by a vote of the Lodge.

SECT. 15. Every newly-initiated Brother shall serve as Entered Apprentice at least one month before passing to the more honorable degree of Fellow-Craft; and every Fellow-Craft labor at least one month before being raised to the degree of Master Mason, unless it be in case of absolute emergency, which shall be determined by a majority of two-thirds of the Lodge of the proper degree.

SECT. 16. No Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall confer any degree of Masonry upon any Brother who may be a member of any other Lodge, without their knowledge and consent.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE FINANCES.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge shall collect from each subordinate Lodge the following fees and contributions,—viz.: For each Dispensation, fifty dollars; for each Charter granted by the Grand Lodge, seventy dollars, to be enclosed in the petition when application is made, and if the petition should not be granted, the same shall be returned to the petitioners; for each degree conferred, and each affiliation, two dollars; for each member annually, two dollars; for each Diploma, five dollars.

SECT. 2. In case a Charter be granted by the Grand Lodge to a newly-constituted Lodge, which was working under a Dispensation or Warrant from the Grand Master, the fee of seventy dollars shall be completed on the fifty dollars, already paid into the Grand Treasury, at the time of paying for said Dispensation or Warrant.

SECT. 3. The Grand Lodge shall collect, for the benefit of the Grand Secretary,
VOL. I.—2

the following fees,—viz.: For attesting every Dispensation, three dollars; for every Charter, five dollars; for every Diploma, three dollars; for each Certificate, with the Seal of the Grand Lodge, two dollars.

SECT. 4. The Grand Secretary shall, over and above the perquisites granted to him in the preceding section, receive from the Grand Lodge such compensation for his services as the Grand Lodge may, from time to time, establish, which is to be adopted at the Grand Annual Communication.

CHAPTER IV.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 1. No vote of the Grand Lodge shall be reconsidered by a less number of members than were present at the passing of the same.

SECT. 2. In the adoption of this Constitution and all amendments hereafter made, and in the election of Officers, the votes shall be taken according to the rights of the several Lodges, and members of the Grand Lodge; that is to say, every Lodge present, by its representatives, shall be entitled to three votes, whether represented by one or more Brethren, and every member of the Grand Lodge, otherwise entitled than by being the representative of a subordinate Lodge, shall have one vote. All other matters in the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present, and the Brother in the Chair shall have the casting vote.

SECT. 3. All amendments to this Constitution shall be made at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, which shall be presented on three successive days, and the concurrence of a majority of two-thirds of the votes of the subordinate Lodges represented shall be necessary to make it a part of this Constitution.

SECT. 4. All propositions made in the Grand Lodge shall be made by the proponent in writing, and read by the Grand Secretary, before offering the same for discussion and adoption.

Adopted May 10, 1838.

(Attest,) GEO. FISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. of T.

ANSON JONES,

Grand Master.

On motion of Brother Sam. Houston, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report to the Grand Lodge a list of the members present at the Grand Convention who were constituted as such.

Bros. Shea, Thruston and Tucker were accordingly appointed a Committee.

On motion of Brother Fisher, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary call upon all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, for an immediate return to the Grand Secretary, of a list of the names of their members, with the dates of their initiation, passing, raising and affiliation, also of the dates of their Charters, and a list of the names of the original members at the formation of said Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bro. Adolphus Sterne Deputy Grand Master, in accordance with the 9th Section, 1st Chapter of the Constitution. The petition of several Master Masons, praying for a Charter to constitute a new Lodge in the city of Houston, by the name of Temple Lodge, No. 4, was read, and the prayer granted.

The hour of the evening having advanced, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

GEO. FISHER, *Grand Secretary.*

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

May 11, 1838, A.L. 5838, at 8 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion of Brother Bache, it was

Resolved, That each member of this Grand Lodge shall pay, annually, twelve dollars for dues, until further ordained by this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Houston, it was

Resolved, That no vote upon any application for initiation, passing, raising, or affiliation, and upon all other questions, shall be reconsidered, at any subsequent meeting of any subordinate Lodge, when a less number of members are present than when the vote was first taken in the Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Fisher, the following Preamble and Resolution was read and unanimously adopted.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas, the public morals of the people of Texas, as a nation, have, on many occasions, been unjustly traduced in public prints by the enemies of our common country in foreign countries, and whereas, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the conduct and comportment of the members of the Masonic Fraternity, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, have been more or less embraced in the aforesaid calumny, and whereas the duty of this Grand Lodge is to support and sustain, by all just and honorable means, the good name and reputation of the Craft, and to cherish the fraternal feelings, and to cultivate brotherly love and friendship with all worthy Brother Masons dispersed over the superficies of the globe: therefore,

Be it Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas in Grand Communication convened, That the Grand Secretary give information, by suitable and appropriate letters circular under the Seal of this Grand Lodge, of the organization of this Grand Lodge, to the various Grand Lodges of Ancient York Masons in the United States of America, the British Possessions in North America, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Central America, and the South American Republics,—also to the Grand Lodges of the various nations in Europe,—affixing the signatures of the M. W. Grand and R. W. Deputy Grand Masters, and the R. W. Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and Grand Treasurer, thereto, accompanying the same with a copy of this resolution and a copy of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and craving from the said Grand Lodges the circulation of this information to their subordinate Lodges for the general benefit of the Craft.

On motion of Bro. Fisher, a committee of three was appointed to draft a suitable letter circular contemplated by the resolution upon this subject, to be circulated by the Grand Secretary to the several Grand Lodges of the civilized nations. Bros. Houston, Thruston and Fisher were appointed that Committee.

On motion of the same Brother, a committee of three was appointed to provide for the printing of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and the necessary number of copies of letters circular contemplated by the resolution upon the subject; also the necessary number of

copies of said resolutions, and to provide for the defraying of the expenses incurred for the printing.

Bros. Cooke, Fisher and Black were appointed that Committee. The report of the Committee appointed to present a list of the names of the members present at the Grand Convention who were constituted as members of the Grand Lodge was received, read and adopted.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee, appointed to report the names of the original members of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that, at the date of the Convention held at the City of Houston on the 20th December, 1837,

Bros. Sam. Houston, Anson Jones, Jefferson Wright, Thos. G. Western, Thos. J. Rusk, I. W. Burton, Chas. S. Taylor, Adolphus Sterne, A. S. Thruston, John S. Black, Wm. G. Cooke, A. Neil, John Shea, Geo. Fisher, Alex. Ewing, Richard Bache, Henry Matthews, Lytleton Fowler, Benjamin Miller, Christopher Dart, H. Millard, W. R. Underwood, E. Tucker, K. H. Douglass, D. T. Fitchett, W. F. Gray, Darius Gregg, Thos. J. Hardeman and James H. Winchell, were, by the Convention, received as members of the Grand Lodge, and that no subsequent action of the Grand Lodge can deprive them of membership. The Convention take precedence of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, inasmuch as the latter is the creature of, and brought into existence by, the former. They further report that Bro. Gray has declined visiting the Lodge, and, as informed, has or will demit, and that he is not a member of any subordinate Lodge of this Republic. They further report that James H. Winchell has been expelled from Holland Lodge and is unworthy of membership in the Grand Lodge. They have the honor to be,

JOHN SHEA,
E. TUCKER,
A. S. THRUSTON, } *Committee.*

On motion of Bro. Fulton, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers, which ceremony was performed with all due solemnity by Bro. Sam. Houston, the President of the Convention, who was unanimously elected to install them according to the ancient usages of the Order. No further business appearing before this Grand Lodge, it was closed in ample form until the next Grand Annual Communication, of which the Grand Secretary is required to give due notice through the public papers printed in this city.

Attest,

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

ANSON JONES,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF HOUSTON, May 18, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838

The Grand Lodge met in special Communication at the call of the M. W. Grand Master for the purpose of making the Grand Annual Visitation to the W. Holland Lodge, No. 36, in the City of Houston.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Anson Jones,	Grand Master.
R. W. Adolphus Sterne,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Jefferson Wright,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Christopher Dart,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
“ George Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ Wm. G. Cooke,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ John S. Black,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ Geo. W. Fulton,	} Grand Stewards.
“ James McGee,	
“ Richard Bache,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
“ A. S. Thruston,	Grand Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
W. John Shea,	Grand Tyler,
and various members.	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form in a suitable apartment convenient to the Holland Lodge Room, and, after due notice of said Holland Lodge being prepared to receive the Grand Visitation, the Grand Lodge, preceded by the Grand Tyler and directed by the Grand Marshal, entered Holland Lodge, No. 36, and were received with the Grand honors according to ancient usages and customs of the Craft. The Grand Officers having taken their seats, the M. W. Grand Master, stating the object of the Grand Visitation, delivered an appropriate address; after which the Grand Lodge withdrew to the place of their meeting. On motion, it was

Resolved, That three hundred copies of the address delivered this evening by the M. W. Grand Master before Holland Lodge, No. 36, be printed and circulated by the Grand Secretary to the Foreign Grand Lodges and the Lodges subordinate to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

No further business appearing before the Grand Lodge, it was closed in ample form at 11 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

ANSON JONES,
Grand Master.

HOUSTON, May 18, 1838.

BRETHREN:—In pursuance of the duty prescribed in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, the Grand Master and his officers have this evening the pleasure of making their first annual visitation to this worshipful and respectable Lodge. We are both proud and happy, Brethren, to be able on this occasion to congratulate you on the prosperous and successful situation and progress of Masonry in Texas. But a few months have elapsed since the re-establishment of this Lodge and the establishment of those in Nacogdoches and St. Augustine, and the Order already boasts of near two hundred Masons in full communication, which number is now rapidly increasing by the accession of new and worthy members. The recent establishment of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, by the unanimous consent and concurrence of the three Lodges existing by virtue of Charters from our elder sister, the Grand Lodge of

Louisiana, is an era in our institution which, binding us all together in one friendly union, promises to our future welfare the happiest results. Union is one of the great principles of our Order, and ever has been and still is our best guarantee for prosperity and strength. The bond, now so fortunately existing, we doubt not it will ever be your wish, as it is your interest and that of the fraternity in general, to preserve and defend.

Holland Lodge has arrived at its present state of prosperity and usefulness through many and various difficulties. Originally established at Brazoria, it had but begun to shed its benign influence over a small band of devoted Brethren, when the Revolution commenced. By this disastrous event its members were scattered and dispersed, and for near two years its labor was interrupted. The unfortunate Fannin—one of these—was murdered on the Plains of Goliad by the tyrant who oppressed our country, and some others died in its defence. The temple consecrated to your labors was ravaged by the enemy, and its records, jewels and furniture destroyed. The scattered fragments which desolation had spared were gathered together in this city in October last, and, by the aid of a few Brethren, a new Lodge has arisen, like the fabled Phoenix, from her ashes, and, as if purified by the fire through which she has been doomed to pass, now shines with a brighter lustre, and promises long to continue a light and a beacon to the hearts of those who worship at the altars of Masonry in Texas. It has the high honor now of numbering among its members men who are alike an ornament to society and to Masonry; men who have gallantly sustained the cause of human liberty on our fields of glory and in the councils of the nation, and more especially one, who, like our immortal Brother George Washington, has ever been "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

With such materials, and such skill to use them as you possess, we have the utmost confidence that the work intrusted to your care will be properly executed, and the prosperity of Masonry be still promoted by your united and harmonious labors.

Intimately connected with the prosperity and respectability of the subordinate Lodges and of Masonry in Texas is that general policy which it is the province of the Grand Lodge to define and establish. Previous to any remarks upon this, however, it becomes my duty to say a few words upon the subject of the creation of the Grand Lodge, the manner and objects of its Constitution, and the useful purposes which it is intended to subserve.

The history of Masonry in the United States, which has been the guide in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Texas, clearly demonstrates the right which three or more Lodges inherently possess, when they exist in an independent State, of renouncing the allegiance which they owe to the Grand Lodges from whom they derive their powers, and of forming for themselves a separate and distinct Grand Lodge coextensive with the municipal government in which they are established, to the support of which they will contribute and the authority of which they acknowledge and obey. This transfer of allegiance and subordination finds precedents in the examples of every State government in the United States, and Grand Lodges have thus been formed in all of them by the free and voluntary consent of the subordinate Lodges, who, sensible of the necessity of a government of their own, which was composed of representatives chosen by themselves, have in every instance resorted to their inherent right of establishing such a government for their particular control. In this manner, and for these purposes, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas has been established. Its objects are to give union, strength and harmony to the different Lodges in the Republic; to be the arbiter in all cases of doubt or difficulty, and to determine questions which concern the general welfare and common good. The great and rapid increase of the Order in Texas requires that it should have a common head and a separate government, from the establishment of which many useful purposes will be accomplished. Instead of being governed by a

foreign and distant power, where it is not personally represented by individuals belonging to the respective Lodges, who are always best acquainted with its true wants and interests, it now has a government of its own, with which it is identified, and whose intelligent course it is justly to be presumed will always be such as will most conduce to the promotion of the general good.

The three Lodges which composed and constituted the Grand Lodge of Texas date their independence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana from the 12th of December last. Though they still continue to work under the warrants of Masonic power which they received from the latter Grand Lodge, yet, from the time above specified, they voluntarily transferred their allegiance—as they had an inherent right to do—to the Grand Lodge of Texas. All dues, therefore, which accrued from this Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana up to the 20th of December last it is proper should be paid agreeably to the regulations of that body. Since that period, however, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas has been organized in conformity with the ancient customs and usages of Masonry, and from that date is entitled to receive the established dues. So soon as it is convenient, it will be proper for this Lodge to surrender the Charter which it now holds as its authority for working, and to receive from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas a Dispensation or Charter in the place thereof. This course, adopted by all the Lodges, will place the Order upon a uniform and harmonious footing, and relieve us from all those differences of views and opinions which might arise from a conflict of Masonic jurisdiction purporting, as now, to be held over the same extent of country.

All the Lodges in the Republic of Texas owe allegiance and due subordination to the Grand Lodge of the same, and should all derive their power and authority from one and the same source. By this means it is hoped that uniformity may be established in our labors, union and harmony in our councils, and strength and stability given to our institution, throughout this whole Republic. Order is nature's first great law, and has been established in Masonry since the time when the Almighty Architect first brought system out of chaos, and light out of darkness, and it is now an essential principle of Masonry, without which it could not exist. No Masonic temple can ever be raised without it.

The Constitution and laws adopted by the Grand Lodge will be furnished you by our Grand Secretary so soon as the same can be published. I need not enforce the propriety of a strict conformity to the same upon the minds of this intelligent and respectable Lodge, for you, Brethren, are already aware of it.

Masonry is yet in its infancy in Texas. Many of its members are young, and those who are older, having been brought together from different and distant States, where some difference of Masonic forms and regulations exist, necessarily differ in opinion on many points not vitally essential, and, in proportion as we mingle together, will wear away and finally disappear, and it is confidently hoped that at no distant day we shall all harmonize in one uniform system throughout the Republic. The general policy of the Grand Lodge has been framed and adapted to this great and desirable purpose.

Before leaving you, I embrace this opportunity of returning my thanks to the members of Holland Lodge for the many proofs they have given of their zeal and devotion to the cause of Masonry. While I also acknowledge the many assurances they have given me of their confidence and regard displayed toward myself, I have to regret that my constant occupations in the House have prevented me from devoting that time and attention which a proper and faithful discharge of the important duties of Grand Master requires. Fortunately, however, I have had the able assistance of the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, some of whom have come from a distance to assist in laying the foundation and cornerstone of the temple of Masonry in Texas. By their valuable aid this has now been happily accomplished, and it is ardently hoped that the superstructure which time will see raised thereon may long adorn our institution.

W. Master, Officers and Brethren of Holland Lodge, go on as you have begun, and each succeeding year, when the Grand Master shall make his annual visitation, may he find you happy, prosperous and useful, as now, in your labors for your own welfare and that of the human family in general. And may heaven, from its endless goodness, ever continue to prosper and to bless you individually as Masons, and collectively as a Lodge.

ANSON JONES,

Grand Master.

(Attest,) GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. of Texas.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF HOUSTON, 12th November, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

In accordance to the 2d section of the 1st chapter of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and previous notice being given by the Grand Secretary in the newspapers of this city, Matagorda and San Augustine, the Grand Lodge met in Grand Annual Communication, in the Masonic Hall of this city, this day, at seven o'clock P.M.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Richard Bache,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Jefferson Wright,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Christopher Dart,	Junior Grand Warden.
• " George Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" John Shea,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Geo. W. Poe,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" John N. Seguin,	Grand Sword-Bearer <i>p. t.</i>
W. John Chenoweth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES.

From Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, H. Kendrick.

VISITORS.

Bro. J. G. Welschmeyer,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1.
" N. Lynch,	
" James McGee,	
" Isaac Campbell,	McFarlane Lodge, No. 2.
" J. A. Greer,	Constantine Lodge, No. 64, Tennessee.
" Anthony Butler,	Grand Lodge, Kentucky.
" Jacob Matossy,	Washington Chapter, No. 7, New Orleans.
" — Rice,	Apollo Lodge, No. 49, Troy, New York.
" A. Seezer,	Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

By the direction of the R. W. D. G. Master, the Grand Secretary proceeded to read the minutes of the Convention, and the last Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary then proceeded to read the address delivered by the M. W. Grand Master, Anson Jones, Esq., before Holland Lodge, No. 36, on the 18th May last, in Grand Annual Visitation.

The Committee appointed to address a Circular to the Foreign Grand Lodges reported that they had performed that duty, and had transmitted a copy of the same to New York, for the purpose of having it printed, together with the address delivered by the M. W. G. Master before Holland Lodge, No. 36, in May last, also a copy of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, in accordance with previous resolutions.

The minutes were adopted.

The Grand Secretary presented orders from the M. W. Grand and R. W. Deputy Grand Masters, instructing the Grand Secretary to issue and forward Warrants of Dispensation to

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine.

St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria and Columbia.

Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, Matagorda.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, Washington.

Which duty the Secretary performed.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, 18th November, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838, 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor again.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Bro. Richard Bache,	Dep. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" " Jefferson Wright,	Sen. Grand Warden.
" " Christopher Dart,	Jun. Grand Warden.
" " Geo. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" " Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" " G. W. Fulton,	Sen. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " E. Tucker, Jun.,	Jun. Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " A. S. Thruston,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. " John Chenoweth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Bro. Harvey Kendrick, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

" E. Mabrey, (by proxy,) Wm. G. Cooke, Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.

MEMBERS.

Bros. Sam. Houston, Darius Gregg.

VISITORS.

A. Ewing, Robert Barr, J. G. Wilkerson, N. Lynch, James Izod, E. Morehouse, S. H. Everett, John N. Seguin, H. Kesler, A. C. Hinton, G. W. Sinks, John Black,—all from Holland Lodge, No. 1.

J. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

J. A. Greer, Constantine Lodge, No. 64, Tennessee.

John M. Hansford, Allen Lodge, No. 24, Kentucky.

Wm. Anderson, St. John's Lodge, No. —, Newbern, North Carolina.

Isaiah Call, Walcott Lodge, No. 4, Connecticut.

Isaac Campbell, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine

J. A. Navarro, American Virtue Lodge, No. 10, Saltillo, Mexico.

The minutes of the previous evening were read, and the petitions from subordinate Lodges were taken up and read.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, and seconded, it was

Resolved, That Representatives for W. Milam Lodge, No. 2, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and St. John's Lodge, No. 5, be appointed by this Grand Lodge.

Thereupon the R. W. D. G. Master appointed the following Representatives :—

For Milam Lodge, No. 2, Bro. Thomas G. Western, of Holland Lodge, No. 1.

For McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Bro. Isaac Campbell, of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.

For St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Bro. E. Tucker, of Holland Lodge, No. 1.

The petitions of subordinate Lodges were taken up in numerical order and read.

From Holland Lodge, No. 1, with the annual Report.

From Milam Lodge, No. 2, no Communications or Reports received.

From McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, a Communication was read, embracing sundry inquiries in regard to the relative position in which said Lodge stands to this Grand Lodge, also the Grand Secretary's answer thereto.

From Temple Lodge, No. 4, Communications and Report received.

From St. John's Lodge, No. 5, no Communication or Report was received.

From Harmony Lodge, No. 6, no Communication or Report was received, in consequence of not having been installed, as reported by Bro. Wm. G. Cooke, who was duly qualified to install the same.

From Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, Communication and Report were received.

From Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, Communications and Report were received.

On motion of Bro. Tucker, and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the papers on the table be read by caption, and referred to a select committee of three. Bros. Fisher, Tucker and Moreland were appointed that Committee.

The proceedings of Temple Lodge, No. 4, in regard to the funeral ceremony over the remains of our Bro. James Collinsworth, were read and approved.

The petition of Thos. Wm. Ward for initiation into Holland Lodge, No. 1, with the report of the Committee thereon, was read, and, after being discussed, was referred to the Committee on Communications.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That Charters be granted to Holland Lodge, No. 1, at the City of Houston; Milam Lodge, No. 2, at the town of Nacogdoches; McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, at the town of San Augustine; St. John's Lodge, No. 5, at the town of Brazoria or Columbia; Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, at the city of Matagorda; Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, at the town of Washington; and the Grand Secretary is hereby required to forward the Charters to said Lodges, upon the payment of the fees in accordance to the 1st section of the 3d chapter of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Milam Lodge, No. 2, and McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, being Lodges which were at the formation of this Grand Lodge, be, and they are hereby, exempt from the payment of the said fees, and to pay only the actual expense of printing or writing said charters, and the Grand Secretary's fee.

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, No. 5, at Brazoria, being composed in its majority of the original members to whom the Charter of Holland Lodge was originally granted by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, be also exempt from the payment of the aforesaid fees on the same conditions as Milam and McFarlane Lodges.

Resolved, That, until the Charters are duly executed and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to the several Lodges subordinate to this jurisdiction, and existing by virtue of Dispensation granted by our M. W. Grand and R. W. D. Grand Masters during the recess of this Grand Lodge up to the present Grand Annual Communication, the said Dispensations shall be revalidated by an endorsement of this Resolution on their reverse, signed by the M. W. Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary, and shall have full force and effect for the time-being as the said Charters which are hereby contemplated to supersede them.

The above Resolutions were read and referred to the Committee on Communications to report thereon as early as practicable.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

SUNDAY, November 24, A.D. 1888, A.L. 5888, at 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Jefferson Wright,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Branch T. Archer,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" I. N. Moreland,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" George Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" John Shea,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" E. Tucker,	Junior Grand Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
W. John Chenoweth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Jefferson Wright,	}	Holland Lodge, No. 1.
Thomas J. Gazley,		
Wm. G. Cooke,		
Thomas G. Western,		Milam Lodge, No. 2.
Isaac Campbell,		McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
George Fisher,	}	Temple Lodge, No. 4.
George W. Fulton,		
Isaac N. Moreland,		
Branch T. Archer,	}	St. John's Lodge, No. 5.
Thos. F. L. Parrott,		
William G. Cooke,		Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.

MEMBERS.

Asa Brigham.

VISITING BRETHREN.

John M. White,		Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.
— Walton,	}	McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, St. Augustine.
James Perkins,		
— McGee,	}	St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.
James Henderson,		
Wm. H. Murch,		Clinton Lodge, No. 16, Miss.
Joseph L. Bennett,		Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Fenton M. Gibson,	}	Holland Lodge, No. 1.
Edward Morehouse,		
Charles Mason,		
I. G. Wilkinson,		
Wm. Thos. Brannum,		
George W. Poe,		
Nicholas Lynch,		
William Lawrence,		

The minutes of the preceding day having been read and approved, the Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, to whom was referred the providing a Seal, Blank Charters, Dispensations, and Diplomas, also the printing of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and sundry other printing, and procuring Stationery and Record and other Blank Books for the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Offices, made a partial report, and beg leave for further time to make a full report and an appropriation of \$500 to defray the expenses of their contract entered into with M. Bankroft, of the City of New York, which report was received and approved, and the appropriation of \$500 granted. The Committee to whom was referred the subject of contracting for a Seal for the Grand Lodge, Blank Charters, Dispensations and Diplomas, also the printing of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the address of the M. W. Grand Master

delivered before Holland Lodge, No. 1, the Circulars to be forwarded to the Foreign Grand Lodges, and sundry other blank forms and printing for the use of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report

That they entered into a contract with Monson Bankroft in June last to procure the same in the City of New York, the work to be executed under the superintendence of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, and to have them forwarded on or before the first day of September then next ensuing. But, owing to some unforeseen circumstances unknown to your Committee, said contract has not been complied with as yet, but your Committee are daily expecting their arrival, when the money for the same will be due and owing. Therefore your Committee would beg leave to suggest the propriety of making an appropriation of \$500, to be placed at the disposal of the Committee, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the same in due time. Your Committee deem this appropriation necessary to be made at this time, because there will be no other Grand Communication after the close of the present one for the term of twelve months. Your Committee would moreover beg leave for further time to report in full; at which time they hope to present a statement of the amount and the manner in which the appropriation contemplated by your Committee has been invested.

GEO. FISHER,
WM. G. COOKE, } Committee.
J. S. BLACK,

MASONIC HALL, CITY OF HOUSTON, November 24, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

The Committee on By-laws made a partial report of the progress of their labor in examining the By-laws of the subordinate Lodges, and begged leave for further time to report in full. Further time was granted to the Committee.

The majority of the Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, to whom was referred the subject of providing suitable apartments for the use of the Grand Lodge, also the procuring of jewels, working-tools, furniture, and implements, made a partial report of the progress they had made in complying with the duties imposed upon them by the Resolution creating the appointment of said Committee, which was read and recommitted to the said Committee.

The Grand Secretary read a communication from Holland Lodge, No. 1, embracing a Resolution of said Lodge requiring the Secretary of Holland Lodge to return to the Grand Secretary the Circular of the Grand Lodge issued on the 13th June last, marked No. 1 and directed to Holland Lodge, No. 36, as being informal, requiring the Grand Secretary to address said Lodge as No. 1, and not No. 36. The subject-matter in controversy having been discussed, and the sense of the Grand Lodge having been taken, it was approved that the Grand Secretary addressed the communication in due form, Holland Lodge having then worked under the Masonic Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, registered No. 36, which number she retained until the 14th July last, when the Dispensation from our M. W. Grand Master, Anson Jones, was granted in ample form.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday, 2d December next, at 10 o'clock A.M.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

SUNDAY, December 2, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

At 10 o'clock A.M. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Jefferson Wright,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Daniel T. Fitchett,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Christopher Dart,	Junior Grand Warden.
" Thomas G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" George Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" I. N. Moreland,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Isaac Campbell,	Grand Steward <i>p. t.</i>
W. John Chenoweth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Bro. Jefferson Wright,	}	Holland Lodge, No. 1.
" Thomas J. Gazley,		
" Thomas G. Western,	}	Milam Lodge, No. 2.
" Isaac Campbell,		McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
" George Fisher,	}	Temple Lodge, No. 4.
" George W. Fulton,		
" I. N. Moreland,		
" Daniel T. Fitchett,		St. John's Lodge, No. 5.

MEMBERS.

James McGee.

VISITORS.

A. Gazley,	}	Holland Lodge, No. 1.
N. Lynch,		
T. J. Golightly,		
E. Morehouse,		
John N. Seguin,		
Roberts,	}	Milam Lodge, No. 2.
White,		
Martin,	}	McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
Lewis,		
Clarke,		

J. W. Moody, Temple Lodge, No. 4.
 J. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
 Isaiah Call, Walcott Lodge, No. 4, Connecticut.
 Gibson, }
 Bowyer, } Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.
 Wilson, }

The minutes of the preceding day were read and adopted.

A communication from St. John's Lodge, No. 5, at Brazoria, accompanying the By-laws of said Lodge, was read and referred to the Committee on By-laws.

A communication from the same Lodge was also received, accompanying the annual returns of the proceedings of said Lodge and a list of their members; which were referred to the Committee on Communications.

The Committee on Communications made a report in relation to the annual returns made to this Grand Lodge by Holland Lodge, No. 1; which report was read and adopted, and is as follows:—

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Your Committee, consisting of Bro. Geo. Fisher, G. S. G. L. Republic of Texas, E. Tucker, and I. N. Moreland, to whom was referred the communications of, and from, the different Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report,

That, among the communications and papers sent up to this Grand Annual Communication from Holland Lodge, No. 1, we find the petition of Holland Lodge, then No. 36, Louisiana, dated July 14, 1838, and signed by seven Master Masons, members of Holland Lodge, No. 36, stating that they had demitted from under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and in behalf of the officers and members of that Lodge praying a Dispensation under the name and title of Holland Lodge, No. 1, in order that they might continue their labors until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; which petition for a Dispensation was granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, on the same day, and Warrant of Dispensation issued accordingly by the Grand Secretary; of which petition and action thereon your Committee would respectfully suggest the approval by this Grand Annual Communication. Also, the petition of Nicholas Lynch, praying a Dispensation in his favor, whereby he might be entered, passed and raised on one and the same evening; which was granted May 12, 1838. Your Committee would also suggest that this act should meet the approbation of this Grand Communication.

The annual report of Holland Lodge, including a list of all its officers and members from the time of its original foundation at Brazoria, as also all who have been affiliated, entered, passed and raised, dead, expelled, suspended, or demitted, from the 29th January, 1836, up to the 12th November, 1838, which report your Committee have carefully examined, and respectfully recommend its adoption and approval by this Grand Communication.

Their report at large is herewith submitted.

The Committee to whom the petition of Thomas W. Ward to Holland Lodge, No. 1, for initiation, and the report of the Committee appointed by the same Lodge on the same petition, was referred, reported unfa-

vorably; which report, after being read and amended, was adopted, the report being as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of Holland Lodge, No. 1, enclosing the petition of T. W. Ward for initiation in that Lodge, as also the report of the Committee made thereon, beg leave to report: that it is the opinion of your Committee that the petition of Colonel Thos. W. Ward cannot be granted consistently with the Constitution of Masonry; that though we are compelled to report unfavorably upon the petition above named, yet we sincerely regret the necessity of so doing, and sincerely sympathize with the petitioner on account of the misfortunes which force us to recommend the rejection of his application for membership in our ancient fraternity.

(Signed,)

GEO. FISHER,
I. N. MORELAND, } *Committee.*

The same Committee, to whom the resolutions offered by the Grand Secretary, on the 24th ult., in relation to granting Charters to subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, were referred, reported favorably; which report and resolutions, after being read, were adopted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to carry them into effect as soon as practicable; their report being as follows:—

The Committee to whom the foregoing resolutions were referred beg leave respectfully to report the adoption of the same.

Signed,)

GEO. FISHER,
I. N. MORELAND, } *Committee.*

The Committee on By-laws have reported favorably on the By-laws of Holland Lodge, No. 1, Temple Lodge, No. 4, St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, and Phoenix Lodge, No. 8; which report was read and adopted, and the By-laws of said Lodges ratified.

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the By-laws from four subordinate Lodges report that the transcripts have been carefully examined, and your Committee ask leave to recommend the ratification of the several codes which are returned to the Grand Secretary with this report, suggesting at the same time the propriety of communicating with all the subordinate Lodges by circular, recommending a uniform tariff or list of fees for conferring degrees &c. &c. All of which your Committee submit for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

(Signed,)

THOS. J. GAZLEY.

The Grand Secretary suggested for the consideration of the Grand Lodge the necessity of establishing a uniform system of work among the Lodges subordinate to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and the expediency of appointing a Grand Lecturer to attain that object; whereupon Brother Thos. J. Gazley offered a resolution in relation thereto, which, after having been read, was referred to a committee of

three, which committee was appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, consisting of Bros. Fisher, Dart and Fitchet. The resolution being as follows:—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report an additional article to the Constitution to provide for a uniform system of work among the subordinate Lodges of the Republic of Texas.

A verbal communication from the W. Master of Milam Lodge, No. 2, at Nacogdoches, was received, through Bro. Golightly, stating that he had no communications nor the annual returns to make at this time, in consequence of the disturbed state of that county, which compelled them for the time-being to suspend the Masonic labors of the Brethren of that Lodge.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge go into the election of the Grand Officers for the next ensuing year on Sunday next, 9th inst., and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to summon the officers and members of this Grand Lodge, and the representatives of subordinate Lodges, for the punctual attendance in due time.

The Grand Lodge was then called off from labor to refreshment, until next Sunday, 9th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

SUNDAY, December 9, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

The Grand Lodge met at the Masonic Hall this day, at 10 o'clock A.M.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Jefferson Wright, M. W. Grand Master *p. t.*
 “ D. T. Fitchett, R. W. Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 “ Christopher Dart, R. W. Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 “ George Fisher, R. W. Grand Secretary.
 “ W. T. Brannum, R. W. Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
 “ James M. McGee, R. W. Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 “ Charles Mason, R. W. Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 “ Alexander Russell, R. W. Grand Steward *p. t.*
 “ John Chenoweth, W. Grand Tyler *p. t.*

VISITORS.

Bro. J. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
 “ Edwin Waller, St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.

The Grand Annual Communication was called from refreshment to labor, and, there being no quorum of members present, the same was called again from labor to refreshment, until early candlelight this evening.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

SUNDAY, December 9, A.D. 1888, A.L. 5888.

At half-past 8 o'clock the Grand Annual Communication was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Jefferson Wright, M. W. Grand Master *p. t.*
 " Christopher Dart, R. W. Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " I. N. Moreland, R. W. Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " George Fisher, R. W. Grand Secretary.
 " Thos. G. Western, R. W. Grand Treasurer.
 " Wm. G. Cooke, R. W. Senior Grand Deacon.
 " John S. Black, R. W. Junior Grand Deacon.
 " John Chenoweth, W. Grand Tyler *p. t.*

MEMBERS.

Sam. Houston,
 Thomas J. Gazley,
 Daniel T. Fitchett,
 E. P. Tucker,
 John Shea.
 Adolphus Sterne, Deputy Grand Master.
 H. Kendrick, Representative, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.
 John S. Roberts, Representative, Milam Lodge, No. 2.
 Isaac Campbell, Representative, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
 James McGee.

VISITORS.

Bros. Thomas J. Golightly, Wm. T. Brannum, G. W. Sinks, James Izod, E. T. Branch, William Lawrence, George W. Poe, Robert Barr, Wm. M. Shepherd, Nicholas Lynch, Addison C. Hinton, John Jarman, Stephen McLaughlin, A. Lewis, John Clarke, Edward Burleson, A. S. Thruston, S. L. B. Jasper, George M. Patrick, J. W. Moody, Edwin Waller, Alexander Russell, ——— McGehee, James A. Phelps.

G. F. Laurence, Lafayette Lodge, New York.

P. Caldwell, Phoenix Lodge, Iredell county, North Carolina.

Isaiah Call, Walcott Lodge, No. 42, Connecticut.

J. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

John M. Hansford, Allen Lodge, No. 4, Kentucky.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Officers. Brother Branch T. Archer and Anthony Butler were nominated for the office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The ballot having been taken, and upon counting the votes, it appeared that Bro. Branch T. Archer had a majority of all the votes present, and was declared duly elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas for the next ensuing year of A.D. 1889, A.L. 5889. The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of a Grand Senior Warden: Brother

Anthony Butler having been put in nomination, and there being no other nomination, Bro. Anthony Butler was declared duly elected Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of a Grand Junior Warden. Bro. C. Dart having been nominated, and there being no other nomination, Bro. C. Dart was declared duly elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of a Treasurer. Bro. Thomas G. Western having been nominated, and there being no other nomination, Bro. Thomas G. Western was declared duly elected Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of a Grand Secretary. Bros. George Fisher, R. Bache, and James M. McGee were nominated. The ballot was taken, and, upon counting the votes, it appeared that Bro. George Fisher received a majority of all the votes present, and was declared duly elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On motion, the By-laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 5, at Brazoria, were ratified.

On motion, the communications of the subordinate Lodges were received, and ordered to be filed in the Archives of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee to whom was referred the provision of jewels, furniture, working-tools, also suitable apartments for the holding of the Grand Annual Communications of this Grand Lodge, whose report was recommitted, made a report, which after reading was adopted, and the appropriation therein solicited for defraying the expenses in carrying out their duties was granted.

The Committee upon whom was imposed the duty of procuring jewels, furniture, working-tools and suitable apartments preparatory to the holding of the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, beg leave to report:—

That, in accordance with the duties devolving upon them, they have entered into a contract, together with Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, to fit up and put in order the upper room of the house now owned and occupied by T. J. Thiel, in the City of Houston, in manner and form following, viz.: T. J. Thiel rents to Holland Lodge, No. 1, the room above referred to, for the sum of six hundred dollars per annum. The room to be completed at the expense of the Lodge; the money so expended to be credited in the rents of said room. *Provided*, That if at the time the Lodge should wish to abandon the room, then and in that case, T. J. Thiel agrees and binds himself to refund whatever amount of money might have been expended in fitting up the room, over and above the amount of rent due for the same.

Your Committee, deeming this a favorable arrangement for all parties, agreed to and with Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, to bear an equal portion of the expense, and to enjoy an equal portion of the profits and advantages to be derived therefrom. Agreed to pay on the part of the Grand Lodge the sum of two hundred dollars for that purpose, and have acted accordingly. Having since ascertained that the advance of two hundred dollars is insufficient to complete the room as at first contemplated, your Committee would

recommend that an appropriation of the sum of five hundred dollars be made, so as to make the outlay of each institution equal.

As to the duties imposed upon the Committee, viz. : the procuring the jewels, furniture, working-tools, and all other apparatus necessary for the use of the Grand Lodge, your Committee beg leave to report, that they have entered into a contract with Mr. Manson Bankroft to procure the same in the City of New York, and that the same, according to the expectation of your Committee, are now in progress, and expect their arrival daily. Your Committee, however, beg further time in which to report in full, and respectfully suggest the necessity of an appropriation of five hundred dollars, to be made and be placed at the disposal of the Committee, to meet their engagements in due time.

WM. G. COOKE,
GEO. FISHER,
THOS. G. WESTERN, } Committee.

MASONIC HALL, CITY OF HOUSTON, Nov. 24, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

The Committee to whom was referred the expediency of annexing an additional section to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, made a report, and on motion the same was recommitted to the same Committee.

Bro. George Fisher presented a resolution to establish a uniform system of charges among the different subordinate Lodges, for conferring degrees upon candidates, which on motion was referred to a committee of three : Bros. Fisher, Gazley and Jasper were appointed that committee.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, by virtue of authority vested in her by the 4th Section of the second Chapter of the Constitution, do now establish the following rates of fees to be charged and collected by the subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction, and no more nor less :—

For Initiation of an Entered Apprentice,	\$
“ Passing a Fellow-Craft,	\$
“ Raising a Master Mason,	\$
“ Affiliation to Membership,	\$

The report of the Committee on the funeral service performed by Temple Lodge, No. 4, over the remains of our departed Brother, James Collinsworth, was adopted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to circulate the same among the subordinate Lodges, the report being as follows :—

The Committee on Communications of subordinate Lodges, having examined the annexed letter from the W. Temple Lodge, No. 4, which was referred to them, beg leave to report the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the proceedings of Temple Lodge, No. 4, relative to the funeral services performed over the remains of our deceased worthy Brother, James Collinsworth, meet the approbation of this Grand Lodge, and that copies of the same be furnished the different subordinate Lodges of this Republic, for their information on this subject.

I. N. MORELAND, } Committee.
GEORGE FISHER, }

HOUSTON, October 27, 1838.

To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

BROTHER :—The Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge having requested the Secretary of that Lodge to furnish the Grand Lodge with a copy of the proceedings in relation to the funeral of our departed Brother, James Collinsworth, of Holland Lodge, No. 1, in compliance with that request they are furnished below.

Yours fraternally;

R. BACHE,

Secretary of Temple Lodge, No. 4.

At a special meeting of Temple Lodge, No. 4, Ancient York Masons, held at the Senate Chamber, in the City of Houston, on Sunday morning, the 22d July, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

PRESENT.

Bro. Geo. Fisher,	Worshipful Master.
“ J. W. Moody,	Senior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Thruston,	Junior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ R. Bache,	Secretary.
“ A. Brigham,	Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ C. Mason,	Senior Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ F. R. Lubbock,	Junior Deacon.
“ Chas. Chamberlain,	Tyler.

VISITORS.

Bros. Wm. G. Cooke, T. G. Western, G. W. Poe, John Shea, A. Ewing, Watkins, Kesler, J. G. Welschmeyer, James Izod, M. Perry, Chronician, W. F. Gray, Porter,	} Holland Lodge.
--	------------------

The Lodge was opened in the Master Mason's Degree, in due and ancient form. The object of the meeting was stated by the Worshipful Master to be, to pay the funeral Masonic honors over the remains of our worthy and beloved Brother, James Collinsworth. Bro. Collinsworth, at the time of his decease, was Chief-Justice of the Republic of Texas, and a member of Holland Lodge. He was a native of the State of Tennessee, and died at thirty-five years of age. The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment on Tuesday, the 24th of July, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838. At 10 A.M. the Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. The Lodge was organized in ancient and solemn form, to perform the last honors over the remains of our worthy departed Brother of Holland Lodge, No. 1. The procession having been formed, the Brethren were joined in the adjoining chamber by the Fellow-Crafts, Entered Apprentices, and Visiting Brethren, and proceeded to the court-house, where the Vice-President and other officers (civil and military) of the Republic, together with a large concourse of the citizens, had formed in procession. The fraternity then moved with the procession to the Capitol, (where the corpse was deposited,) and listened to an eloquent eulogy pronounced by our worthy fellow-citizen, A. M. Tompkins, Esq., preceded by a few pertinent remarks from Bro. Lawrence, officer of the day. The procession was again formed, and proceeded to the graveyard of the City of Houston, where the remains of Bro. Collinsworth were deposited with solemn and Masonic prayers, ceremonies and honors. The fraternity then re-

turned in procession to the Lodge Room, where the Lodge was closed in harmony at 1 o'clock P.M., in due and ancient form.

RICHARD BACHE,
Secretary.

(A true copy from the minutes.)

R. BACHE,
Secretary T. L.

The following communication from Temple Lodge, No. 4, was received and read:—

At a called meeting of Temple Lodge, No. 4, at the Lodge Room, City of Houston, December 8, A.D. 1888, A.L. 5828, for the purpose of initiating Messrs. Coffee and Cullen, the Lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the Entered Apprentice's Degree.

PRESENT.

Bro. George Fisher,	Worshipful Master.
" George W. Fulton,	Senior Warden.
" L. N. Moreland,	Junior Warden.
" J. W. Moody,	Secretary p. 4.
" A. S. Thurston,	Treasurer.
" S. L. B. Jasper,	Senior Deacon.
" Edward Burleson,	Junior Deacon.
" John Chenoweth,	Tyler.
" George M. Patrick.	

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bro. John Jarman,	McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine.
" Daniel T. Fitchett,	St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.
" William Lawrence,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
" F. M. Gibson,	
" A. H. Osburn,	
" Adolphus Sterne,	Millam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.
" Juan N. Seguin,	Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
" Isaac Campbell,	McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine.
" S. H. Everett,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
" John Shea,	
" James M. McGee,	
" Charles Mason,	
" Antonio Manchaca,	
" J. G. Welschmeyer,	
" Alexander Russell,	St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.

There being no work in this Degree, the Lodge opened in the Fellow-Craft's Degree in due and ancient form. There being no work in this Degree, the Lodge opened in the sublime Degree of Master Mason.

On motion of Bro. Fulton, the following was referred to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge:—

"Has a subordinate Lodge a right to receive the application of a person living in the immediate vicinity of another Lodge, without the permission of that Lodge?" And, the motion being seconded, the question was taken, and the matter was referred to the M. W. Grand Lodge.

I certify that the foregoing is a true transcript of the records of Temple Lodge, No. 4.

J. W. MOODY,
Secretary pro. tem.

The following resolution was thereupon adopted :—

Resolved, That no subordinate Lodge shall have power to initiate any person who resides in the neighborhood of another Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on the subject of the Grand Lecturer be recommitted to the same Committee, and that they be instructed to report a resolution establishing the salary of the Grand Lecturer and the means of compensating him for his services.

Bro. George Fisher tendered his resignation as Grand Secretary elect, which was not accepted; and, on motion of Bro. Black, Bros. Black, Moreland and Butler were appointed a Committee to ascertain the cause that induced Bro. Fisher to tender his resignation as Grand Secretary.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Officers elect be installed on Sunday next, the 16th inst.

There being no further labor before the Grand Lodge, it was called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock A.M., on Sunday the 16th inst.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, December 16, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838, at 12 Meridian.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the Grand Lodge not having met, and there being no Brethren present, the installation of the Grand Officers elect, which was to take effect to-day, remains, as a matter of course, postponed until Sunday, 23d inst.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, December 23, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838. ♦

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, at 11 o'clock A.M.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Jefferson Wright, M. W. Grand Master *p. t.*
“ C. Dart, R. W. Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*

Bro. I. N. Moreland,	R. W. Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ George Fisher,	“ Grand Secretary.
“ Thomas G. Western,	“ Grand Treasurer.
“ Wm. G. Cooke,	“ Senior Grand Deacon.
“ Wm. T. Brannum,	“ Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ John Chenoweth,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

MEMBER.

Bro. John Shea.

VISITORS.

Bro. J. W. Moody,	Temple Lodge, No. 4, Houston.
“ Isaiah Call,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
“ Chas. Mason,	
“ S. H. Everett,	

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to wait on the Grand Officers elect and inform them of their election; also, that the installation of the Grand Officers will take place on Tuesday, 25th inst.

Resolved, That Bro. Anthony Butler be, and he is hereby, nominated to install the Grand Officers on the 25th inst.; and that a committee be appointed to wait on him and inform him of his nomination, and request his compliance with this resolution.

The Committee appointed to discharge the duties embraced in the two preceding resolutions consists of the following Brethren:—Bros. Western, Moreland and Shea.

There being no further labor before the Grand Lodge, it was called from labor to refreshment, until Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock A.M., 25th inst.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Tuesday, December 25, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838.

At 10 o'clock A.M. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Anthony Butler,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
“ Geo. W. Fulton,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. G. Cooke,	“ Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Thos. G. Western,	“ Grand Treasurer.
“ George Fisher,	“ Grand Secretary.
“ John Shea,	“ Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>

Bro. E. Tucker,	R. W. Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Asa Brigham,	" Grand Steward <i>p. t.</i>
" John Chenoweth,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

From Holland Lodge, No. 1, Wm. G. Cooke.
 " Temple Lodge, No. 4, Geo. Fisher and G. W. Fulton.
 " St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Branch T. Archer.
 " Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, Josiah J. Crosby, W. M.
 " McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Isaac Campbell.

VISITORS.

Bros. John N. Seguin, Wm. M. Shepherd, S. H. Everett, M. Sevey, A. Ewing, W. T. Brannum, N. Lynch, Chas. Mason, Robert Barr, J. G. Welschmeyer, G. W. Sinks, Holland Lodge, No 1.

Bros. J. W. Moody, S. L. B. Jasper, G. M. Patrick, Temple Lodge, No. 4.

Bro. Kerr, ——— Lodge, No. —

The minutes of the preceding day having been read, and the Committee appointed to inform the Grand Officers elect of their election, and to wait on Bro. Anthony Butler to install the Grand Officers, made a report of having discharged their duties, the M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* proceeded to install the Grand Master elect—Bro. Branch T. Archer—in ample form.

Bro. A. Butler tendered his resignation of the office of Senior Grand Warden, to which he was elected on the day of general election.

On motion of Bro. Fisher, the resignation was accepted.

Bro. Butler nominated Bro. Crosby, W. M. of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, as Senior Grand Warden; and, there being no other nomination, Bro. Crosby was declared duly elected Senior Grand Warden, and was installed in ample form.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary elect being the same Brothers who filled those offices during the last year, and having been once installed, their reinstallation be dispensed with on the present occasion.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Thursday next, 27th inst., at 4 o'clock P.M.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Thursday, December 27, A.D. 1838, A.L. 5838, at 4 o'clock P.M.

There not being a sufficient number of persons present, the labors have not been resumed, and the Grand Lodge remains, as a matter of

course, at refreshment until a future day, at the will of the M. W. Grand Master, of which due notice will be given by summons, or otherwise.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, December 30, A.D. 1888, A.L. 5838.

At 8 o'clock P.M. the Grand Lodge met at the Masonic Hall, in pursuance to previous summons by the M. W. Grand Master.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Branch T. Archer,	M. W. Grand Master.
“ Jefferson Wright,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ C. Dart,	“ Junior Grand Warden.
“ Thomas G. Western,	“ Grand Treasurer.
“ George Fisher,	“ Grand Secretary.
“ Wm. G. Cooke,	“ Senior Grand Deacon.
“ I. N. Moreland,	“ Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Asa Brigham,	“ Grand Steward <i>p. t.</i>
“ John Chenoweth,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1, John Shea.

Temple Lodge, No. 4, I. N. Moreland, S. L. B. Jasper and J. W. Moody.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Richard Bache and Geo. W. Fulton, Temple Lodge, No. 4.

Bro. John M. McGee,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1.
“ Thos. J. Gazley,	
“ Isaiah Call,	

VISITORS.

Bro. G. M. Patrick,	} Temple Lodge, No. 4, Houston.
“ E. Burleson,	
“ G. W. Poe, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.	
“ R. M. Desha, Louisiana Lodge, No. 32.	
“ Benjamin Clark, Milam Lodge, No. 2.	
“ ——— Shelby, Solomon Lodge, No. 29, Mississippi.	

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and the M. W. Grand Master proceeded to the appointment of the following Grand-Officers,—viz.:

Bro. Wm. G. Cooke, of Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Dep. Grand Master.
“ Daniel T. Fitchett, St. John's Lodge, No. 5,	Grand Lecturer.
“ Adolphus Sterne, Milam Lodge, No. 2,	Grand Marshal.
“ Seth Ingram, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	Grand Sword-Bearer.

Bro. G. W. Fulton, Temple Lodge, No. 4,	Grand Pursuivant.
" Asa Brigham, Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" Isaac Campbell, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	} Grand Stewards.
" I. W. Burton, Milam Lodge, No. 2,	
" Asa Mitchell, Phoenix Lodge, No. 8,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" Charles Chamberlain, Temple Lodge, No. 4,	Grand Tyler.
Rev. Lytleton Fowler, D. D., Itinerant,	Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Fisher introduced the following resolutions :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to call forthwith on all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, for a return of their officers elect, and, upon receipt thereof, to form a "Masonic Almanac" for the year 1839, commencing with the Officers of this Grand Lodge, and enumerating the subordinate Lodges in numerical order, and cause two hundred and fifty copies thereof to be printed on a large sheet, and distribute the same among the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge; also, among the Foreign Grand Lodges.

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be, and they are hereby, authorized to defray the expenses of printing the said Masonic Almanac.

Which resolutions, on motion, were adopted.

On motion, the resolution providing for the establishment of a uniform system of fees to be charged by subordinate Lodges for conferring Degrees was passed to a Committee composed of Bros. Fisher, Gazley and Jasper.

Bro. G. W. Fulton was appointed to convene a Lodge of Past Masters, to confer that Degree upon the newly-appointed Grand Officers, who have not received the same as yet, having been declared an emergency.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, it was closed in ample form, to meet on Sunday next, January 6, 1839.

WM. G. COOKE,

Deputy Grand Master.

GEO. FISHER,

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, January 6, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 10 o'clock A.M.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the Grand Lodge did not convene, and remains closed until a future day, of which due notice will be given by summons.

GEO. FISHER,

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, January 20, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839.

At 10 o'clock A.M. the Grand Lodge met in course, according to summons.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Jefferson Wright, M. W.	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" William G. Cooke, R. W.	Dep. Grand Master.
" John Shea,	Senior Grand Warden.
" I. N. Moreland,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" G. W. Fulton,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" G. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" I. W. Moody,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" James Izod,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Daniel T. Fitchett,	Grand Lecturer.
" Isaac Campbell,	Grand Steward.
" Seth Ingram,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" H. Kesler,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

- From Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bros. Shea, Izod and Sinks.
 " McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Bro. Isaac Campbell.
 " Temple Lodge, No. 4, Bros. Moreland, Moody and Jasper.

VISITORS.

Bro. William Lawrence,	} Holland Lodge, No. 1.
" Nicholas Lynch,	
" Charles Mason,	
" E. T. Branch,	
" Robert Barr,	
" Edward Phelan,	
" J. G. Wilkinson,	

- Bro. H. J. Nicholson, Clinton Lodge, No. 16, Mississippi.
 " J. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
 " J. W. Breeden, Clark Lodge, No. 51, Louisville, Kentucky.
 " F. M. Gibson, Milledgeville Lodge, No. 6, Georgia.
 " J. M. Allen, Louisiana Lodge, No. 32, New Orleans.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* announced the object of the meeting to be the installation of the Grand Officers appointed by the M. W. Grand Master elect.

The following Grand Officers were installed,—viz. :

Bro. William G. Cooke, R. W.	Dep. Grand Master.
" Daniel T. Fitchett,	Grand Lecturer.
" Seth Ingram,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" G. W. Fulton,	Grand Pursuivant.
" Isaac Campbell,	Grand Steward.

Communications from Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine, and Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, Brazoria,—also a paragraph of a letter from Bro. Adolphus Sterne to Bro. George Fisher,—were read, upon which an action was taken.

Bro. Jasper offered the following preamble and resolution :—

Whereas, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas adopted a resolution in the following words: That no subordinate Lodge shall have power to initiate any person who resides in the neighborhood of any other Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and whereas Temple Lodge, at the Lodge Room in the City of Houston, on application of Mr. Cullen, ballotted for him, and, according to the By-laws of that Lodge, and the By-laws and the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and ancient principles of Masonry, was declared duly elected, and a proper person to receive the first Degree of Masonry. Now, be it *Resolved*, by the Grand Lodge, that the above-cited resolution of the Grand Lodge of the 9th December last shall not have any retrospective effect upon the action of Temple Lodge; and be it further *Resolved*, That Temple Lodge may, at her discretion, go on and give the Degree to Mr. Cullen. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Temple Lodge, No. 4, be authorized to dispose of the petition of Mr. E. W. Cullen at their option, and that the resolution of 9th December, 1838, does not embrace the same.

On motion of Bro. Fisher, a committee of three was appointed upon unfinished business. Bros. Moreland, Moody and Fisher were appointed said Committee. On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Sunday, 4 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met; but, there not being a sufficient number of members present to open the Grand Lodge, it was deferred until another day.

GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Houston, Tuesday, January 22, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 8 o'clock P.M.

Convened by the special order of the M. W. Grand Master, Branch T. Archer.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Branch T. Archer,	M. W. Grand Master.
" Seth Ingram,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" J. W. Moody,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Neil,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" George Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" Isaiah Call,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" S. L. B. Jasper,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. M. McGee,	" Grand Steward <i>p. t.</i>
" C. Chamberlain,	W. Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Temple Lodge, No. 4, Bros. Moody and Jasper.
McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Isaac Campbell.

VISITORS.

Bro. E. T. Branch,	}	Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
" W. T. Brannum,		
" Charles Mason,		
" Edward Linn,		
" S. H. Everett,		
" ——— Richardson,		Middlebury Lodge, No. 5, Vermont.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The Grand Secretary stated the object of this Communication, when, after considerable deliberation, it was closed in peace and harmony at 11 o'clock.

Attest,
GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary.

B. T. ARCHER,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF HOUSTON, July 7, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839.

An extra Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge met this day, in pursuance to orders from the M. W. Grand Master, and published in the Telegraph and Intelligencer of this city, to convene on the 24th of June last.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. W. G. Cooke,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Seth Ingram,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" John Shea,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Thos. G. Western,	" Grand Treasurer.
" Geo. Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" G. W. Sinks,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. Izod,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" James McGee,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Anson Jones, Past Grand Master, and W. F. Gray.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES:

Bros. Shea and Izod, from Holland Lodge, No. 1.
" Cooke and Western, from McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.

VISITORS.

Bros. Davis and Burney, from Temple Lodge, No. 4.
" Page, Golightly and Lawrence, from Holland Lodge, No. 1.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

The minutes of the preceding Grand Annual Communication were read. The Grand Secretary stated the object of the Extra Grand Communication, and, there not being a majority of the Representatives of the subordinate Lodges, the Grand Lodge was closed until the next Grand Annual Communication, in November next.

Attest, GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, December 8, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Grand Lodge met in Special Grand Communication by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. B. T. Archer,	M. W. Grand Master.
" Wm. G. Cooke,	R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
" Anson Jones,	" Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Alex. Russell,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Geo. Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" T. G. Western,	" Grand Treasurer.
" Jos. L. Bennett,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" James Izod,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bro. Anson Jones, P. M. of said Lodge.
Temple Lodge, No. 4, " Geo. Fisher, P. M. of said Lodge.
Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Alex. Russell, James Izod and C. Mason.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Wm. Lawrence, John H. Harry, Hugh McLeod, J. C. P. Kennymore, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Bros. Wm. H. Murrah, G. D. Biggar, Jas. F. Johnson, Thos. Bryson, Joseph Waples, J. Y. Burney, Aug. Seezer, Chas. Mason, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin City.

A quorum being present, and three Lodges constitutionally represented, the Grand Lodge opened in ample form. The Secretary read the Credential of the Representatives from Milam Lodge, No. 2, at Nacogdoches, which is in the words following,—viz.:

NACOGDOCHES, October 31, A.D. 1839, and A.L. 5839.

To Bros. I. W. Burton, Kindred H. Muse and D. S. Kaufman, Master Masons.

BRETHREN:—At a regular Communication of Milam Lodge, No. 2, it was unanimously resolved that you represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge of

the Republic, to be holden in November next at the seat of government of this Republic, that all your acts you may be called upon to do, in accordance with the ancient established rules and regulations of Ancient Free Masonry, are hereby sanctioned by this Lodge. (Signed,) ADOLPHUS STERNÉ,

(Signed,) Attest, J. STEPHEN THORN, K. G. S. S. RA. KH. 32d Degree,
Secretary M. Lodge. No. 2. W. M. Milam Lodge. No. 2.

and they being found correct, the M. W. G. Master pronounced said Brethren as the Representatives of the said Lodge.

The G. Secretary read the Credential of Bro. S. M. Williams as Representative of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston, which is in the words following,—viz.:

To the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Harmony Lodge, No. 6, being duly assembled and opened in due form, do hereby appoint Bro. S. M. Williams to represent said Lodge in the Grand Lodge at their regular Annual Communication, at Austin, in November, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839.

In testimony of which, we do hereby certify this to be a true copy of the minutes.

(Signed,) C. WEMAYNE,
Secretary pro tem.

(Signed,) JNO. H. WALTON,
W. Master.

Which being found correct, the M. W. G. Master pronounced Bro. Williams as the Representative of the said Lodge.

The following Brethren were appointed as Representatives of the subordinate Lodges not represented,—viz.:

For Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston, Bro. Anson Jones, P. Master,
Bro. Thos. G. Western, Treasurer,
“ Asa Brigham, P. J. Warden of said Lodge.
For McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, at San Augustine, Bro. R. Scurry.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge proceed to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, on Sunday next, the 15th instant, at 11 o'clock A.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until Sunday next, 15th instant, at 11 o'clock A.M.

Attest, GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

B. T. ARCHER,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, December 15, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 11 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge met in Special Grand Communication, by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. B. T. Archer,	M. W. Grand Master.
“ Anson Jones,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>

Bro. Alexander Russell, R. W. Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*

" George Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" Thos. G. Western,	" Grand Treasurer.
" Geo. D. Bizzar,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Chas. Mason,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Bros. T. G. Western and A. Brigham, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
 " Muse and Kaufman, Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.
 " R. Scurry, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine.
 " Geo. Fisher, Temple Lodge, No. 4, Houston.
 " B. T. Archer, St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.
 " S. M. Williams, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.
 " A. Russell, James Izod and Chas. Mason, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Jos. Waples, Jas. Burke, Wm. H. Murrah, Wm. H. H. Johnston, Geo. W. Sinks, J. Y. Burney, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin City.
 Bro. S. H. Everett, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
 " John M. Hansford, Allen Lodge, No. 24, Glasgow.
 Rev. Bro. Amos Rourk, Denmark Lodge, Tennessee.
 " — Greer, Constantine Lodge, No. 64, Tennessee.
 " S. W. Pipkin, Clinton Lodge, No. 54, Louisiana.

Seven Lodges being duly represented, the Craft was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That this M. W. Grand Lodge now proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

Whereupon the following Brethren were on motion nominated and seconded for the office of Grand Master:—The M. W. Grand Master, B. T. Archer, constitutionally, and the W. S. M. Williams, Junior Warden of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston. The ballot having been received and counted, it resulted in the election of Bro. S. M. Williams, he having received 24 votes.

On motion duly made and seconded, the following Brethren were nominated to the following Grand Offices,—viz.:

For Senior Grand Warden,—Bro. Adolphus Sterne, W. M. of Milam Lodge, No. 2; Wm. G. Cooke, of Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Dep. G. M.

For Junior Grand Warden,—Bros. Alex'r Russell, W. M. of Austin Lodge, No. 12; Josiah J. Crosby, of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8; Isaac N. Moreland, W. M. of Temple Lodge, No. 4.

For Grand Treasurer,—Bro. Thos. G. Western, Treasurer of Holland Lodge, No. 1.

VOL. I.—4

For Grand Secretary,—Bro. Geo. Fisher, Past Master and Treasurer of Temple Lodge, No. 4.

The ballots having been received severally and counted, the result was as follows:—

For R. W. Senior Grand Warden,—Bro. Sterne, 25 votes.
 “ Wm. G. Cooke, 3 “

Whereupon Bro. Sterne was elected constitutionally, and declared as Senior Grand Warden.

For R. W. Junior Grand Warden,—Bro. Russell, 21 votes.
 “ Crosby, 4 “
 “ Moreland, 3 “

Whereupon Bro. Russell was declared constitutionally elected Junior Grand Warden.

For Grand Treasurer,—Bro. T. G. Western, 27 votes.

Whereupon Bro. Western was declared constitutionally elected Grand Treasurer.

For Grand Secretary,—Bro. George Fisher, 24 votes.
 “ Blank, 4 “

Whereupon Bro. Fisher was declared constitutionally elected Grand Secretary.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Officers now elect be installed this afternoon.

And the hour of the day being advanced, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 4 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
 GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

B. T. ARCHER,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, December 15, A.D. 1889, A.L. 5839, at 4 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment of this morning.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. B. T. Archer, M. W. Grand Master, in Chair.
 The other Grand Officers same as this morning.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bro. S. H. Everett, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
 “ Jos. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

A quorum being present, and seven Lodges represented, the Craft was called from refreshment to labor. The M. W. Grand Master

announced the installation of Bro. Sam'l M. Williams as M. W. Grand Master, and surrendered to him the Chair and the Gavel.

Bro. S. M. Williams, M. W. Grand Master in Chair, proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers elect. Bro. Adolphus Sterne was by proxy installed Senior Grand Warden, and Bro. Alexander Russell was installed in person as Junior Grand Warden; Bro. Thos. G. Western was in person installed Grand Treasurer; Bro. Geo. Fisher was in person installed Grand Secretary. Which officers, after having been duly installed, were proclaimed by the Grand Marshal *pro tem.* as such.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the other Grand Officers be appointed on Sunday next, the 22d instant.

There being no other business before the Grand Lodge of urgent notice, it was closed in ample form, at 5 o'clock P.M., in peace and harmony, to meet again on Sunday next, 22d instant, at 10 A.M.

Attest,

GEORGE FISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

B. T. ARCHER,

P. G. M.

SAML. M. WILLIAMS,

Grand Master.

CIRCULAR

The Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, of Free and Accepted Masons, to the Masonic Fraternity, dispersed over the Superficies of the Globe, send Greeting, Health, Peace, Union.

BRETHREN:—The Grand Architect of the Universe, at the creation of the world, said, "Let there be light: and there was light," a physical, and a moral and intellectual light. The physical light was produced by the appearance of that great luminary which travels from the East to the West, "the majestic Sun," the sublime body of physical creation. Moral and intellectual light has its origin based on the same principles: it originated with the creation of man in the garden of Eden in the East, and progressed by propagation, by the sons of Noah, from Mount Ararat to Tyre, Sidon, to the quarries of Zeredatha and the plains of Lebanon, and to Jerusalem, in the West; Egypt, Ethiopia, and the Delta of the Nile, in the South; from whence, carried to Europe by the Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans, disseminated among the Teutons, the Gauls and the Britons; from thence it took its flight over to our Western Hemisphere, extending from the Eastern shores of the United States, its illuminating rays pierced through the dark and dense forests, the wide plains and the lofty mountains of the Far West and the scorching South, establishing on its onward march the altars dedicated to *Virtue, Friendship* and *Order* on the summits of the Green Mountains, Blue Ridge, and the Alleghanies in the East, the plains of the Ohio and the Missouri in the West, branching out to the Deltas of the Mississippi and the La Platas, the plains of Tenoxtitlan, Nicaragua and Arequipa, and to the summits of the Andes in the South.

The rapid progress it is making through the instrumentality of the descendants of the tribe of Judah, the disciples of the Widow's Son, and the pupils of Pythagoras, are such that the time is not far distant when its benign influence will dispel darkness, idolatry and superstition from the face of the yet by barbarian

tribes inhabited and by the laws and customs of the dark ages governed portions of our Western Hemisphere; and the altars erecting, as living monuments of the Grand Architect's wisdom and beneficence to man, will supersede and drive from the face of the earth the sacrificial altars, yet visible beacons of barbarism, on the heights and cliffs of the lofty Popocatepetl, the Chimborazo, and the Pichincha, as they did from Horeb, Zion and the Himalaya.

To test the probability of the premises above cited, let us recur to the history of the times and the countries, and more especially to our own, the analysis of which is the object of the present communication. In the address of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, copy of which hereby accompanies, you will see it fully developing, for which reason we abstain any further investigation of the merits of the case, and we would, in addition thereto, only observe that the object of this Grand Lodge is, in virtue of the annexed resolution, to inform the fraternity at large that "The light shineth in the darkness, in this new-born Republic, and that the darkness comprehendeth it not." That the principles of the fraternity are cultivated and their practices inculcated, and are propagated by worthy craftsmen, within the bounds of our ancient landmarks, and that this Grand Lodge desires that the labors of the Craft within this Republic be crowned with success, producing an abundant harvest of rich and wholesome fruit for the moral, intellectual and physical benefit of worthy Brother sojourners who may come among us, either to visit or remain permanently with us, or whom the chances of war may carry among us into Babylonian captivity, or be thrown upon our shores by the boisterous billows of the seas, at the same time to entitle to a perfect reciprocity of feeling, sentiments and treatment, any of our Brethren who, by the vicissitude of human life, may go into far and distant countries, and into foreign lands, among strangers, they may not be as strangers, but recognised as belonging to the household of the faithful.

The general Constitutions and Laws of Masonry will be the landmarks of this Grand Lodge in the direction of its own labors and in the government of the Lodges subordinate to its jurisdiction; and on no account will they be removed or defaced knowingly or willingly. The Constitution of this Grand Lodge, copy of which hereby accompanies, will demonstrate the order in which the duties and labors of its officers and members, and of the Lodges subordinate thereto, are defined, and whose faithful execution will be the constant care of this Grand Lodge.

Finally, Brethren, while this Grand Lodge cherishes the best desires to preserve the Masonic customs and usages immutable, and to cultivate the most cordial and fraternal feelings of brotherly love and friendship with all worthy Masons individually, and with all regularly and constitutionally organized Masonic institutions, superior and subordinate, collectively, cannot but invite all transient worthy Masons as visitors to her assemblies and to those of the Lodges under her jurisdiction; but on this occasion, while hailing every worthy Mason with the utmost rejoicing, for their Masonic intercourse, it must freely and frankly declare its determination of enjoining upon the Craft, within its jurisdiction, that none but those sojourners shall be recognised as worthy of our Masonic intercourse, protection and relief, as may come duly qualified and properly vouched for by the Lodges of which they have been members previous to their coming among us, or by other testimonials of similar category. The peculiar position in which our country is placed, like unto the Canaan, whither men of all tribes and nations, from all parts of the habitable globe, resort, makes it necessary and incumbent upon this Grand Lodge to send forth its edicts to the centinels that guard the avenues of her temples, and to those stationed at the passages of her "Jordan Rivers," that no Ammonite should be permitted to pass, unless he be duly qualified and pronounce the mystic word, at whose sound the gates will be uplifted.

While this Grand Lodge, in the discharge of the sacred duties incumbent upon

it, will faithfully adhere to the principles herein laid down, will also enjoin upon its own household the conformity to the same principles, and will, by all due means, endeavor to emulate the Craft within its jurisdiction to the perfection of Masonic virtues, intelligence and brotherly love towards the fraternity at large. And that the Supreme Architect of the Universe may prosper and bless the Fraternity, is the fervent prayer of, Brethren, your Brothers and Companions.

Given under our hand and the seal of the said Grand Lodge, this 25th day of February, Anno Domini 1839, Anno Lucis 5839.

B. T. ARCHER,
Grand Master.
WM. G. COOKE,
Deputy Grand Master.
JOSIAH J. CROSBY,
Senior Grand Warden.
C. DART,
Junior Grand Warden.
THOMAS G. WESTERN,
Grand Treasurer.

Attest,
GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. of T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, December 22, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge met in special Communication by order of the M. W. Grand Master in pursuance of the adjournment of the 15th inst.

GRAND OFFICERS.

Bro. S. M. Williams,	M. W. Grand Master, in Chair.
" Anson Jones,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Alexander Russell,	" Junior Grand Warden.
" Thos. G. Western,	" Grand Treasurer.
" Geo. Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" James Izod,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Chas. Mason,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. Anson Jones.
Milam Lodge, No. 2,	" D. S. Kaufman.
Temple Lodge, No. 4,	" Geo. Fisher.
Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	" S. M. Williams, M. W. Grand Master.
Phoenix Lodge, No. 8,	" Geo. Fisher.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" A. Russell, James Izod, Chas. Mason.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. J. Y. Burney, Geo. D. Bizzar, Edwin Waller, August Seezer, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin.

Bro. Greer, Constantine Lodge, No. 64, Tennessee.

" Jos. L. Bennett, Blue Lodge, No. 4, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

" Hitchcock, Solomon Lodge, No. 90, New York.

" Sam. Whiting, }
" S. H. Everett, } Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Six Lodges duly represented, the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The minutes of the preceding special Communication having been read and approved, the Grand Secretary read the Credential of Bro. Geo. Fisher as Representative of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, at Washington, which is in the words following, to wit:—

At a regular meeting of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, held at the Lodge Room, in the town of Washington, on Saturday evening, November 23d, A.L. 5839, it was

Resolved, That we appoint as our Special Representative of this Lodge to the Grand Lodge our worthy Brother, Geo. Fisher, with full power and authority to represent this Lodge in the same.

Be it further Resolved, That the Secretary report this resolution to the Grand Lodge.

(Signed,)

JAMES HURT,

Secretary pro tem. Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.

Which being found correct, the M. W. Grand Master pronounced Bro. Geo. Fisher as Representative of the said Lodge.

The Grand Secretary was directed to give an account of the business before this Grand Lodge in the following order:—

1. Petitions from individual members of the Fraternity.
2. Petitions from individual members of this Grand Lodge.
3. Petitions from subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge.
4. Petitions from Convention of Masons for forming a new Lodge.
5. Reports of Standing Committees,—viz.: Committee on By-laws, Committee on Communications, Committee on Unfinished Business.
6. Reports of Special Committees:—Committee on Printing, Committee to Procure Jewels, Working-Tools, &c.
7. Communications from subordinate Lodges.
8. Communications from Foreign Grand Lodges.
9. Report of the M. W. Grand Master's proxies for installing new Lodges.
10. Annual returns of subordinate Lodges.
11. Grand Treasurer's Report.
12. Grand Secretary's Report

The petition of Bro. J. Harvey Winchell, a member of this Grand Lodge, was read, and, on motion made and seconded, it was referred to a special Committee on Petitions: said Committee consisted of Bros. S. H. Everett, Anson Jones and Jno. M. Hansford. The petition of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston, was read, praying for a Charter, which petition was referred to a special Committee on Petitions, composed of Bros. Jno. M. Hansford, D. S. Kaufman and Anson Jones.

The petition of Austin Lodge, No. 12, at the City of Austin, was

read, praying for a Charter, which petition was referred to a special Committee on Petitions, composed of Bros. D. S. Kaufman, S. H. Everett and A. Greer.

The petition of a Convention of Masons held in Fannin county was read, praying for a Charter to open a Lodge at the seat of justice of Fannin county, to be called "CONSTANTINE," which petition was referred to a special Committee on Petitions, composed of Bros. D. S. Kaufman, S. H. Everett and A. Greer.

A communication from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, accompanying a code of By-laws for the government of said Lodge, was read, all of which were referred to a special Committee on By-laws, composed of Bros. Anson Jones, D. S. Kaufman and Jno. M. Hansford.

A communication from Austin Lodge, No. 12, at Austin, accompanying a code of By-laws for said Lodge, was read and referred to a special Committee on By-laws: said Committee composed of Bros. Anson Jones, D. S. Kaufman and Jno. M. Hansford.

On motion made and seconded, a committee of three was appointed to inquire into the expediency of appointing a Grand Lecturer for the Grand Lodge and provide means for his compensation. The following Brethren were appointed to that Committee,—viz.: Bros. Anson Jones, John M. Hansford and A. Greer.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the appointment of the subordinate Grand Officers be deferred to a future day.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, it was closed, to meet again on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

SAML. M. WILLIAMS,

Grand Master.

Attest,

GEO. FISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, December 25, A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, at 10 o'clock A.M.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather and other intervening circumstances, the M. W. Grand Lodge did not meet to-day in pursuance to the adjournment of the 22d inst.

SAML. M. WILLIAMS,

Grand Master.

Attest,

GEO. FISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, January 30, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 7 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met in special Grand Communication by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. S. M. Williams,	M. W. Grand Master, in Chair.
" A. Neill,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Russell,	" Junior Grand Warden.
" Wm. F. Gray,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Geo. Fisher,	" Grand Secretary.
" Chas. Mason,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. Y. Burney,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Bro. Geo. Fisher, Grand Secretary, Temple Lodge, No. 4.
 " S. M. Williams, W. Master, Harmony Lodge, No. 6.
 " Geo. Fisher, Grand Secretary, Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.
 Bros. Russell, Izod and Mason, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. John Chenoweth, J. H. Harry, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.
 " Bryson and Rumpff, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin City.
 Bro. Samuel W. Metcalf, St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria.
 " Owen O'Brien, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, Matagorda.
 " D. Denise, Richmond Lodge, No. 384, New York.

Four Lodges duly represented, the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The minutes of the preceding special Grand Communication having been read and adopted, the Grand Secretary read the Credential of Bro. Harvey Kendrick as Representative of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, at Matagorda, which is in the words following,—viz. :

MATAGORDA, December 11, 1839.

To George Fisher, Esq., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, City of Austin.

In order to be represented at the Grand Lodge in future, this Lodge has, at a special meeting held to-night, appointed our worthy Bro. Harvey Kendrick their Delegate to attend any Grand Communication that may be held during his stay at the seat of government.

(Signed,)

G. W. WARD,
Secretary Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

Which being found in due form, the M. W. Grand Master declared Bro. H. Kendrick as the Representative of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

The Grand Secretary read a memorial of grievances from Temple Lodge, No. 4, at Houston, against Bro. H. Kesler, and for other purposes, which was referred to a special Committee, composed of Bros. Geo. Fisher, Gray and Mason, with instructions to report thereon to-morrow evening.

The Grand Secretary read a petition from De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, also one from Milam Lodge, No. 11, both praying for a Charter and for other purposes, accompanied with the Annual Returns and Abstract of the proceedings of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, which documents were referred to a special Committee on Petitions, consisting of Bros. D. S. Kaufman, A. Greer and S. H. Everett. A communication was read from De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, and Milam Lodge, No. 11, each accompanying a Code of their respective By-laws for examination and ratification, which papers were referred to a special Committee on By-laws, consisting of Bros. A. Jones, D. S. Kaufman and Jno. M. Hansford. The report of the special Committee on Petitions, for granting Charters to Austin Lodge, No. 12, at the City of Austin, and Constantine Lodge, No. 13, in Fannin county, was read. The report being in favor of the petitions, it was adopted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to issue the Charters to said Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint the following Brethren to the several Grand Offices for the year 1840,—viz.:

R. W. Bro.	Wm. G. Cooke, of Holland Lodge, No. 1,	D. Grand Master.
" "	Thos. J. Rusk, of Milam Lodge, No. 2,	Grand Marshal.
" "	H. Kendrick, of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	G. Sword-Bearer.
" "	Wm. F. Gray, of Temple Lodge, No. 4,	G. Pursuivant.
" "	E. H. Tarrant, of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	Senior G. Deacon.
" "	D. Rowlett, of Constantine Lodge, No. 13,	Junior G. Deacon.
" "	A. Hoxie, of Milam Lodge, No. 11,	Grand Steward.
" "	D. J. Toler, of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8,	Grand Steward.
" "	J. H. Walton, of Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	Grand Lecturer.
" "	H. Ward, of Austin Lodge, No. 12,	Grand Tyler.
W.	Lytleton Fowler, D.D. and R.A.,	Grand Chaplain.
" "	James Izod, of Austin Lodge, No. 12,	D. G. Secretary

And the Grand Secretary instructed to issue to the said Brethren their corresponding briefs, under the seal of the Grand Lodge. There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, it was closed at 9 o'clock in ample form, in peace and harmony, to meet again on to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

Attest,
GEO. FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

SAML. M. WILLIAMS,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, January 31, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 7 o'clock P.M.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the Grand Lodge did not meet this evening in pursuance to the adjournment of last night.

Attest, GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, February 2, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge met in Special Grand Communication, in pursuance to the orders of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	S. M. Williams,	Grand Master, in the Chair.
R. W.	Anson Jones,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	Alexr. Russell,	Junior Grand Warden.
"	Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
"	Geo. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
"	A. Neill,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	Charles Mason,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES.

From Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. Thomas G. Western.
" Milam Lodge, No. 2,	" D. S. Kaufman.
" Temple Lodge, No. 4,	" Geo. Fisher.
" Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" Russell and Mason.
" Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	" S. M. Williams.
" Phœnix Lodge, No. 8,	" Geo. Fisher.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. P. W. Humphreys, J. Y. Burney and Bizzar, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Six Lodges being duly represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Bro. J. Harvey Winchell made a report favourably on the said petition, which is as follows,—viz. :

To the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee appointed to examine and report on the petition of Bro. J. H. Winchell, who was expelled from the benefits of Masonry by W. Holland Lodge,

No. 1, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully offer the following resolution, the adoption of which they recommend,—viz. :

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That Bro. J. Harvey Winchell have permission to be heard before this Grand Lodge in support of his petition, at the next Annual Communication, and that he be notified of the same by the Grand Secretary, and that Holland Lodge, No. 1, be informed of the appeal made by Bro. Winchell, and of the time fixed for trying the same, and requested to furnish a copy of their record and of all the proceedings in relation to the expulsion of Bro. Winchell.

On behalf of the Committee.

(Signed,)

ANSON JONES.

CITY OF AUSTIN, February 2, A.L. 5840.

Which was adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred a communication and petition of Temple Lodge, No. 4, made a favourable report, which is as follows,—viz. :

MASONIC HALL, January 31, 1840.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Special Committee to whom was referred a communication from W. Temple Lodge, No. 4, at Houston, for grievances against Bro. Henry Kesler, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that, from evidence before your Committee, they are fully convinced that the prevailing epidemic during the last summer, and the removal of sundry Brethren, members of Holland and Temple Lodges, and their demission, has caused serious impediments in the progress of the Masonic labors of said Lodges, as also the seizure, by Bro. H. Kesler, on the Charters, jewels, furniture and implements, the property of said Lodges; and his arbitrary detention of the same must cause great injury to the prosperity of Masonry in the city, and jeopardise the very existence of the Lodges at Houston, to remedy all of which, your Committee deem it expedient to offer, for the deliberation of the M. W. Grand Lodge, the accompanying resolutions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed,)

W. F. GRAY,
GEO. FISHER.

Resolved, That Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, at the City of Houston, be allowed a further time, until the first day of May next, to make their Annual Report and pay up their dues for the year A.D. 1839, A.L. 5839, which were due in November last.

Resolved, That Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, at the City of Houston, be authorized to proceed, as soon as practicable, to the election of their officers for the year 1840, which election was to have been held in December last, and to report the same to the Grand Secretary immediately.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has learned with feelings of sorrow the conduct of Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, in regard to their pending accounts with Bro. A. Kesler, which marred the prosperity of their Masonic labours, and hereby admonish them to remove all cause of complaint by a prompt settlement, founded in justice and equity, and in a true Masonic spirit.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge views the conduct of Bro. H. Kesler towards Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, in seizing their Charters, Archives, and other property of said Lodges, and detaining the same arbitrarily in his possession, thereby interrupting the Masonic labors of the said Lodges to the

great injury of the institution, with marked disapprobation, and deprecates the same as unjust, uncharitable and un-masonic.

Resolved, That the Grand Pursuivant be, and he is hereby, required to serve a copy of this and the preceding and succeeding resolutions on Bro. H. Kesler, and demand of him, in the name and by the authority of this Grand Lodge, the delivery of the Charters, Archives, jewels, and other property of the said Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, to him, the said Grand Pursuivant, forthwith, or show cause why, in case of refusal to comply with the provision of this resolution, he shall not be suspended or expelled as the Grand Lodge may deem proper to determine.

Resolved, That in case, after the delivery of said property by Bro. H. Kesler as above provided, the said Holland and Temple Lodges should refuse to liquidate their just debts and demands with Bro. Kesler so soon as practicable or within a reasonable time, Bro. H. Kesler be permitted to pray for such remedial processes as the Grand Master may deem proper to grant, to attain the ends of justice, and the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized to act discretionarily, as the circumstances may require.

Resolved, That the Grand Pursuivant be required to restore to Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Temple Lodge, No. 4, all their property now in possession of Bro. H. Kesler, immediately on his delivery of the same to him, the Grand Pursuivant, who is hereby authorized to install the officers of said Lodges after their election, and set them to work in due and ancient form.

Which report and resolutions were adopted.

The Committee to whom were referred the By-laws of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, Milam Lodge, No. 11, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, made a favorable report, with an additional article, and recommending their ratification, which report is as follows,—viz. :

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee appointed for the special purpose of examining By-laws and communications have had under consideration the By-laws of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, and respectfully recommend their approval by the Grand Lodge, with the addition of the following article at the conclusion of each,—viz. :

Article.—The Constitution and Laws of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas being the supreme rule for the government of the Fraternity within the limits of the Republic, any provisions which may be contained herein, contravening in any wise the Constitution or Laws of the said Grand Lodge, shall be considered null and void and of no effect.

All of which is submitted on behalf of the Committee.

ANSON JONES,
Chairman.

AUSTIN, January 31, 1840.

To the Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Committee appointed to examine the By-laws of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, and Milam Lodge, No. 11, have had the same under examination, and respectfully recommend the ratification of the same by the Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, with the additional article proposed in the accompanying report, (see report above.)

(Signed on behalf of the Committee,)

J. M. HANSFORD,
ANSON JONES.

Which reports and additional article were adopted, and the respective By-laws ratified.

The Committee to whom were referred the petitions of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, and Milam Lodge, No. 11, for granting Charters, made a favorable report, which is as follows,—viz. :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic.

The undersigned, Committee on the petitions of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Milam Lodge, No. 11, and De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, praying for Charters, beg leave to report favorably on said petitions, and respectfully recommend the granting of their prayers, which report being adopted, the Charters were granted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to issue them in due form.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution relative to the appointment and compensation of a Grand Lecturer made a report, which is as follows,—viz. :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The special Committee to whom was referred a resolution of the W. Grand Lodge, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of appointing a Grand Lecturer, &c., have had the same under consideration, and respectfully ask leave to report by a resolution, the adoption of which they recommend.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to employ the services of Bro. Walton as Grand Lecturer, for the purpose of visiting such Lodges as he may direct, to give them instruction in Masonry, and with a view of introducing a uniform system of work in the different Lodges throughout the Republic, and that the said Bro. Walton shall be entitled to receive *five dollars* per day for every day he shall be so employed, and *five dollars* for every thirty miles he may travel by order of the M. W. Grand Master, from the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and the subordinate Lodges for whom he may lecture shall be required to pay him *five dollars* for each day he shall be so employed as Lecturer respectively.

On behalf of the Committee,
CITY OF AUSTIN, February 2, A.L. 5840.

A. JONES,
Chairman.

Which was adopted with the resolution.

The special Committee to whom was referred the resolution to establish a uniform system of charging fees made their report, which is as follows :—

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution providing for a uniform system of fees to be charged for conferring Degrees by subordinate Lodges beg leave to report,—

That, after due deliberation of the subject-matter under consideration, and keeping in view the depreciation of our currency, they have come to the conclusion to offer the following resolution,—viz. :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, in virtue of the authority vested in her by the 4th section of the 2d Chapter of the Constitution, do now establish the following rates of fees, to be charged and collected by the subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction,—viz. :

For Initiation of an Entered Apprentice.....	\$20
“ Passing a Fellow-Craft.....	\$15
“ Raising a Master Mason.....	\$15
“ Affiliation to Membership.....	\$ 5

Which amounts are to be paid in par funds or their equivalent, and that the above fees be considered as the minimum rates, leaving it optional with each Lodge to fix the maximum.

Which report with the resolution was adopted.

A petition of sundry Master Masons, residing in Sabine Town, praying for a Warrant of Dispensation to open a new Lodge, to be called the Sabine Lodge, was read; and, on motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the petition lie on the table.

Bro. Mason offered a resolution relative to the compensation to the Grand Secretary, which was discussed and laid on the table until tomorrow.

Bro. Neill offered a resolution relative to delinquent members and subordinate Lodges, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Bro. Jones offered a resolution relative to the appointment of a Committee on Finance, which was also ordered to lie on the table.

The hour having advanced, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Attest,
GEORGE FISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

SAMUEL M. WILLIAMS,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, February 2, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Several members met, but in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, there being no quorum, the Grand Lodge did not proceed to labor, and stands adjourned until a future day.

Attest, GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, February 3, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 7 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met in Special Grand Communication by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	S. M. Williams,	Grand Master, in Chair.
R. W. "	Andrew Neill,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" "	Alexander Russell,	Junior Grand Warden.
" "	Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
" "	George Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
" "	Charles Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" "	J. Y. Burney,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. "	H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS.

Bros. B. T. Archer and Anson Jones.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Waller, Campbell, Bizzar, Burke, Hammock, Humphreys, Murrah, Jarman, O'Brien, Rumpff, and Johnston, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Bro. S. Pearce, Shakespeare Lodge, No. 138, England.

" Thos. J. Rusk, Mayfield, Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.

" S. H. Everett, J. H. Harry, W. M. Shephard, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Bro. A. Greer, R. Scurry, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine.

REPRESENTATIVES.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Bro. Scurry.

Temple Lodge, No. 4, " Geo. Fisher.

St. John's Lodge, No. 5, " B. T. Archer.

Harmony Lodge, No. 6, " S. M. Williams.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, " Geo. Fisher.

Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Russell, Izod and Mason.

Constantine Lodge, No. 13, " D. Rowlett.

Seven Lodges being duly represented, the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The resolution relative to the compensation to the Grand Secretary was taken up and adopted,—viz. :

Resolved, That Bro. Geo. Fisher be entitled, for his services as Grand Secretary for the years 1838 and 1839, to a compensation of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum, over and above the perquisites of office, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and that the M. W. Grand Master issue his warrant to the Grand Treasurer for the payment thereof, with instructions that it must be paid when he has sufficient funds in his hands, after having paid each and all of the claims against this Lodge now pending.

The resolution relative to the appointment of a Committee on Finance was taken up, discussed and adopted, as follows:—

Resolved, That a Financial Committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine into the financial condition of the Grand Lodge, and to report thereon at the earliest convenient time, and to recommend such measures as to them may seem expedient.

A. JONES.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following brethren the Financial Committee,—viz. : Bros. T. J. Rusk, A. Jones, E. Waller.

The resolution relative to the delinquent members and Lodges was taken up and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to make out the accounts of all delinquent members and Lodges subordinate to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and present them forthwith for payment; and that all members and Lodges so delinquent who shall neglect or refuse to pay, by the anniversary of

Saint John the Baptist in June next, the amount of their arrearages, be stricken off from the roll of this Grand Lodge, previous notice to that effect having been given to the said delinquents.

February 2, 1840.

Presented by Bro. NEILL, J. G. W.

There being no further work before this Grand Lodge, it was closed in ample form in peace and harmony, at 9 o'clock, to meet again tomorrow at 7 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

SAMUEL M. WILLIAMS,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CITY OF AUSTIN, February 4, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 7 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met in pursuance to the adjournment of last night, by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	S. M. Williams,	Grand Master, in Chair.
R. W. "	A. Neill,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	A. Russell,	Junior Grand Warden.
"	Thos. G. Western,	Grand Treasurer.
"	Geo. Fisher,	Grand Secretary.
"	P. W. Humphreys,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	Aug. Seezer,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. "	H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBER.

Anson Jones.

VISITING BRETHREN.

- Bros. Harry and Seavey, Holland Lodge, No. 1.
 " Burney and Bizzar, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
 " Ettinger, Trinité Indivisible Lodge, Paris, France.
 " Steel, Solomon's Lodge, No. 59, Tennessee.

REPRESENTATIVES.

From Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. Thos. G. Western.
" Milam Lodge, No. 2,	" D. S. Kaufman.
" Temple Lodge, No. 4,	" Geo. Fisher.
" Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	" S. M. Williams.
" Phoenix Lodge, No. 8,	" Geo. Fisher.
" Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" Russell and Mason.
" Constantine Lodge, No. 13,	" Daniel Rowlett.

Seven Lodges duly represented, the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Committee on Finance made a report on the state of Finance, with abstracts of the accounts of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, which report is as follows :—

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee on Finance have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, all of which they found correct and satisfactory. The amount of moneys which have been received since the establishment of the Grand Lodge, including four hundred and four dollars loaned by different brethren, and up to the 3d instant, is found to have been \$2558.74, all of which has been expended. The exact amount which is now actually owing by the Grand Lodge cannot be ascertained, but by the annexed exhibit it will be seen that it is between ten and eleven hundred dollars. To meet this, and the current expenses of the present year, including the pay which it is proposed to give the Grand Lecturer, this body has no other means than what it may derive from the annual contribution of \$12 each from its individual members, fees for Diplomas and Charters, and the dues annually accruing from the subordinate Lodges. If these were promptly paid, the Grand Lodge would be enabled to meet all its engagements, more than enough for that purpose being now due. But your Committee regret to find that many of the Lodges have neglected to make their annual returns and to pay their annual dues; and, as it is impossible for this Grand Lodge to adopt and carry into effect those useful and salutary measures which are necessary for the promotion of the best interests of the Fraternity throughout the limits of the Republic, embracing so large an extent of territory, without more adequate means, your Committee would urge the propriety of calling upon the delinquent Lodges, informing them of the necessity and propriety of their complying with the regulations in regard to their annual returns and consequent payments, as well as upon the Brethren, members of this Grand Lodge, for their annual dues. With these views, your Committee would offer the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to adopt such measures as in his opinion may be most expedient to effect the prompt collection of the moneys due this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. RUSK,
ANSON JONES,
EDWIN WALLER.

AUSTIN, February 4, 1840.

Which report and papers, after having been read, were adopted.

The Committee on Finance offered a resolution relative to the approval and signing the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, which resolution is as follows :—

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be authorized to approve the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary as reported by the said Committee, 4th February, 1840, presented by Bro. A. Jones, and, having been read, it was adopted. The Grand Secretary presented sundry printed communications from the Grand Lodge of New York, relative to the proceedings of that body in A.D. 1837, '38 and '39, and was instructed to acknowledge receipt thereof.

The Grand Secretary presented an abstract of proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States on the formation of a clandestine association in the City of New York, called St. John's Grand Lodge, by expelled Masons.

VOL. I.—5

Whereupon the following resolutions were offered,—viz.:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge sustains the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and that no communication be held with expelled Masons, or St. John's Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward a printed copy of the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States, on the formation of a clandestine association in the city of New York, called St. John's Grand Lodge, by expelled Masons, accompanied with the preceding resolution, to each of the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, for their information and compliance; also, one copy to the Grand Lecturer.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to acknowledge receipt of said communication to the Grand Lodge of New York, accompanying the same with a copy of the foregoing resolutions.

Which was adopted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to forward a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge of New York; also a copy, with a copy of said abstract, to each of the subordinate Lodges.

No further business appearing before this Grand Lodge, this Grand Communication was closed in ample form, in peace and harmony, at 10 o'clock P.M., to meet again on first Monday in November next.

Attest,
GEORGE FISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

SAMUEL M. WILLIAMS,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

The Fourth Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was held in the Lodge Room at the City of Austin, Monday, November 9, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Alexr. Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Isaiah Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Joseph Daniels,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" T. G. Foster, Austin Lodge, No. 12,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Jas. Izod,	" Deputy Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" L. F. Marguret,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Chas. Mason,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Herman Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

MEMBER.

Henry Millard.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. W. H. H. Johnson, J. M. Swisher, B. Holland, M. Johnson, Thos. Ward, G. K. Teulon, D. C. Gilmore, J. F. Johnson, H. W. Raglan, P. W. Humphreys and A. C. Hyde, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Bros. A. H. Lattimer, Wm. N. Porter and C. K. Johns, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.

Bro. James Riley, Holland Lodge, No. 1.

Bros. J. C. Tannehill and K. Holliday, Paris Lodge, No. 55, Tennessee.

Bro. D. S. Kaufman, Milam Lodge, No. 2.

The Grand Annual Communication was opened in due and ancient form.

Bros. Porter, Johns and Lattimer presented their Credentials as Representatives of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, and were received and acknowledged as Representatives of said Lodge. Bro. Porter presented the returns of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, also the Dispensation of said Lodge.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Saturday next, at early candlelight.

GRAND LODGE, CITY OF AUSTIN, November 14, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

The Grand Lodge met in pursuance to adjournment, and resumed their labors.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Alexander Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Isaiah Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry Millard,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" James Izod,	" Deputy Grand Secretary.
" S. H. Everett,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" L. F. Marguret,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Thomas Ward,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Anson Jones, P. G. M.; Charles Mason, J. W. Austin Lodge, No. 12; C. K. Teulon.

VISITORS.

Bros. H. J. Jewett, P. W. Humphreys, T. G. Foster, H. M. Raglan, A. Seezer and S. P. Burt, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. The Deputy Grand Secretary informed the Grand Lodge that the W. M. of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, had called upon him and left (he being compelled to return home) a petition for a Charter for said Lodge, having returned the Dispensation under which they have been working, which petition was read; and, on motion, a committee, consisting of Bros. Menard, Mason and Porter, were appointed upon the same.

On motion, a list of the subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge was read, with a view to ascertain whether said Lodges were represented; when, no representative appearing for Holland Lodge, No. 1:

Bros. Everett and Riley were appointed. Bro. Greer was also appointed for McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine; Bro. Anson Jones, for St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria. De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, De Kalb, was represented by Bros. Porter, Johns and Lattimer; Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin, by Bros. Alexander Russell, James Izod and Charles Mason; Trinity Lodge, No. 14, by Bro. James Izod, the proxy of the representative.

The Report of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, was read. Bro. Porter, a Representative of said Lodge, stated to the M. W. Grand Lodge that they had not been able to have their By-laws printed, owing to their remoteness from any press.

The Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and again from refreshment to labor. The Annual Report of the Secretary of Austin Lodge, No. 12, was then read and referred to a special committee of three, with the Deputy Grand Secretary, which committee were required to report upon the several communications now on the table, which committee consisted of Bros. Jones, Millard and Call.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called off from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow week, the 22d inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

CITY OF AUSTIN, November 22, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

Sunday, 10 o'clock A.M., the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor in pursuance to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. A. Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i> , of Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" W. R. Porter,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i> , De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.
" Thomas J. Hill,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i> , Benevolent Lodge, No. 6, Georgia.
" J. M. Swisher,	" Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" H. W. Raglan,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" L. F. Margaret,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" C. Saasman,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

No business appearing, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

GRAND LODGE, CITY OF AUSTIN, Sunday evening, November 22, }
A.D. 1840, at 8 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Alexander Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" Isaiah Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" Henry Millard,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i> , Grand Lodge.
" James Izod,	" D. Grand Secretary, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" William R. Porter,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i> , De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.
" L. F. Margaret,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i> , Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" Thomas Ward,	W. Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Lattimer and Johns, of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.

VISITORS.

Bros. Seezer, Raglan, Harrison, Holland and Burney, Austin Lodge,
No. 12.

Bro. — Hill, Benevolent Lodge, No. 6, Georgia.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Committee appointed on the By-laws of Trinity Lodge, No. 14,
and Austin Lodge, No. 12, reported as follows:—

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand
Lodge of the Republic of Texas.*

Having been appointed a Committee on sundry communications, beg leave to
report as follows:—

On the Report and Annual Returns of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, we report favor-
ably, and find the sum of ninety-six dollars due by said Lodge to the M. W. Grand
Lodge.

On the Report and Annual Returns of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, we report
favorably, and find that the sum of thirty-four dollars is due by said Lodge to
the M. W. Grand Lodge; also recommend that a Charter be granted. Accom-
panying said Report is twenty-six dollars par funds and one hundred and sixty-
five dollars Texas promissory notes,—which last amount, at five for one, will make
thirty-three dollars in par funds, in all fifty-nine dollars, making sufficient for
dues to Grand Lodge and Charter.

On the Report and Annual Returns of Austin Lodge, No. 12, we report favor-
ably, and find that one hundred and eighty-nine dollars is due by said Lodge to
the Grand Lodge. Said Lodge petitions that they have received Texas money
at three for one, and prays that the Grand Lodge may receive it at the same

rate, on which we report favorably, and recommend that the dues due to the Grand Lodge by subordinate Lodges be received by the Grand Lodge at the same rate at which they received it for the year 1840, and that the Grand Lodge shall, in future, demand of subordinate Lodges par funds in all cases for dues due to said Grand Lodge.

ANSON JONES, *Chairman.*

HENRY MILLARD,

J. CALL,

JAS. IZOD.

Which reports were received.

A communication was received from Austin Lodge, No. 12, in relation to the petition of Mr. G. H. Harrison for initiation to said Lodge, which communication is as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

AUSTIN LODGE, No. 12, Austin, November 18, A.D. 1840.

As Secretary of this Lodge, I am required to lay before your honorable body the accompanying petition of Mr. G. H. Harrison, a member of Congress from Houston county, who petitions for initiation to this Lodge. It has been thought by some of the members that we could not receive him at this Lodge, on account of the remoteness of his place of residence, and because there are Lodges subordinate to the M. W. G. Lodge of the Republic *nearer* than this, for which reason the said petition is referred to the M. W. G. Lodge, that they may inform us whether we are authorized to receive him, and, if not, that a Dispensation may be granted to enable him to receive the Degrees of Masonry in this Lodge, which is respectfully submitted.

AUG. SEEZER,

Secretary Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion,

Resolved, That the petition above referred to, and all other petitions made to Austin Lodge, No. 12, of a similar character, Austin Lodge shall have the privilege of receiving or rejecting as they may think proper.

The Deputy Grand Secretary offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the By-laws of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, be ratified, and that a Charter be granted to said Lodge.

Which resolution was read and adopted.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until next Sunday, the 29th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M., unless sooner called in case of emergency.

GRAND LODGE, Nov. 29, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, at 10 o'clock A.M

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. A. Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" I. Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Millard,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Jas. Izod,	" Dep. Grand Secretary.
" Jas. Riley,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Samuel Flint,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>

Bro. G. K. Teulon, R. W. Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " H. Ward, W. Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Lattimer and Porter, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.
 Bro. S. H. Everett, Holland Lodge, No. 1.

VISITORS.

Bros. Holland, Hord, J. F. Johnson, Bonnell and Seezer, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
 Bro. Wilson, Harmony Lodge, No. 6.
 Bro. Thos. Johnson, Vesper Lodge, Ky.
 Bros. T. C. Cornelius and M. Ward, Jr., De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.

No business appearing before the M. W. Grand Lodge, the same was called off, until Thursday evening next, the 3d day of December.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met on Thursday evening, December 3, A.D. 1840, pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. A. Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" I. Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Millard,	" Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Jas. Izod,	" Dep. Grand Secretary.
" J. A. Greer,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" J. Matossey,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" D. S. Kaufman,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Lattimer, Porter and C. Mason.

VISITORS.

Bros. Murchison, Seezer, Marguret, Swisher and Raglan.
 Owing to the inclemency of the weather, the Grand Lodge was called off until Sunday, the 6th inst., at 3 o'clock P.M.

GRAND LODGE, Sunday, December 6, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, 3 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. A. Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" I. Call,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>

Bro. H. Millard,	R. W. Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Jas. Izod,	" Dep. Grand Secretary.
" J. A. Greer,	" Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Chas. Mason,	" Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" W. N. Porter,	" Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Johns, Lattimer, James Reily and S. H. Everett.

VISITORS.

Bros. Seezer, Forster, Harrison, Marguret, Raglan, Swisher, Thos. Ward, Humphreys, Burney and Teulon, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Bros. Matossey and Chenoweth, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Bros. K. H. Muse, D. S. Kaufman and Jas. Mayfield, Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.

Bros. Gillespie and Murchison, ———.

Bro. W. C. McKinstry, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

" S. W. Pipkin, Clinton Lodge, No. 54, Tennessee.

On motion of Bro. Deputy Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge resolved to go into an election for Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Whereupon the list of subordinate Lodges was called and Representatives appointed for the following Lodges,—to wit:

Bro. James Riley representing Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

Bros. W. N. Porter and E. Johns, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, De Kalb.

" K. H. Muse and Jas. Mayfield, Milam Lodge, No. 11, Independence.

Bro. James Riley was appointed to represent Temple Lodge, No. 4.

" W. C. McKinstry, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, Matagorda.

" B. Gillespie, Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.

" D. S. Kaufman, Milam Lodge, No. 2.

" Jacob Matossey, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

" Jas. Izod, Trinity Lodge, No. 14.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That "Perfect Union" Lodge, No. 10, and "Constantine" Lodge, No. 13, be not represented,—they not being at work.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge now go into the election of its Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Bro. Anson Jones, Representative of St. John's Lodge, No. 5, not being present, Bro. P. W. Humphreys was appointed in his stead. Bro. D. S. Kaufman was appointed Deputy Grand Master *p. t.*

By the Constitution of this M. W. Grand Lodge, Bro. S. M. Williams, the present M. W. Grand Master, was placed in nomination. Bro. Anthony Butler was also nominated for the office of M. W. Grand Master.

The ballot being taken, Bro. A. Butler was declared duly elected M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas,—having received 23 votes, and Bro. S. M. Williams 20 votes.

Bros. Mayfield and Riley were appointed a Committee to wait upon the M. W. Grand Master elect and inform him of his election.

Bro. J. A. Greer was nominated R. W. Senior Grand Warden, and, no other nomination being made, Bro. Greer was accordingly declared duly elected R. W. Senior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Barry Gillespie was nominated as R. W. Junior Grand Warden, and, no other nomination being made, Bro. Gillespie was declared duly elected R. W. Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. James Izod was nominated as R. W. Grand Treasurer, and, no other nomination being made, the case was declared to be an emergency, as Bro. Izod was not eligible to fill an office in the Grand Lodge—not being a Past Master—unless in case of emergency. Bro. Izod was accordingly declared elected Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Henry Millard was nominated as R. W. Grand Secretary, (also Bro. August. Seezer, who was declared ineligible, not being a Past Master.) No other nomination being made, Bro. Willard was declared duly elected R. W. Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until this evening at early candlelight.

GRAND LODGE, Sunday, December 6, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, }
at early candlelight.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

Bro. Alexander Russell,	M. W. Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
“ Isaiah Call,	“ Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Henry Willard,	R. W. Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. W. Raglan,	“ Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ James Izod,	“ Deputy Grand Secretary.
“ L. F. Marguret,	“ Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ William N. Porter,	“ Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. Ward,	W. Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Bros. Russell, Izod and Mason, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
 “ Porter and Lattimer, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.
 “ Izod, Trinity Lodge, No. 14.
 “ Porter, Milam Lodge, No. 11.
 “ Matossey, Harmony Lodge, No. 6.
 “ Greer, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
 “ Kaufman, Milam Lodge, No. 2.
 “ McKinstry, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

- Bro. Everett, Holland Lodge, No. 1.
 " Gillespie, Phoenix Lodge, No. 8.
 " Humphreys, St. John's Lodge, No. 5.

VISITORS.

- Bro. A. Butler, Milam Lodge, No. 11, Independence.
 " Teulon, Forster, Harrison, Swisher, Flint, Thos. Ward, Hord,
 Tannehill and Moses Johnson, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
 " Murchison, Wetumpka Lodge, No. 36, Alabama.

On motion of Bro. Greer, the installation of the Grand Officers was postponed until Tuesday evening next, the 8th inst., at 6 o'clock P.M.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called off accordingly.

GRAND LODGE, Tuesday, December 8, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840, 6 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Bro. A. Butler, | M. W. Grand Master. |
| " I. Call, | R. W. Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i> |
| " Barry Gillespie, | " Junior Grand Warden. |
| " H. W. Raglan, | " Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i> |
| " P. W. Humphreys, | " Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i> |
| " L. F. Marguret, | " Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i> |
| " W. N. Porter, | " Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i> |
| " H. Ward, | W. Grand Tyler. |

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. James Riley, Mayfield, J. A. Greer, J. Matossey, A. H. Lattimer, A. Russell and D. S. Kaufman.

VISITORS.

- Bro. Hill, Benevolent Lodge, No. 6, Milledgeville, Ga.
 " Holland, Swisher, Teulon, Jewett, J. F. Johnson, Thos. Ward, Sausman, Hord, Forster, C. Mason, Representative, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
 " Owen O'Brien, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.
 " Forbes and Taylor, Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.
 " — Murchison, Wetumpka Lodge, No. 36, Alabama.
 " — Cook, Jackson Lodge, No. 44, Tennessee.
 " — Tannehill, Paris Lodge, No. 55, Tennessee.
 " S. Pipkin, Clinton Lodge, No. 54, Tennessee.
 " — Veatch, Philanthropic Lodge, No. 36, Indiana.

The M. W. Grand Lodge resumed its labors in the third Degree.

On motion of Bro. Gillespie,

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That there shall be appointed, by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, two Grand Orators and one Grand Lecturer at each Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Greer,

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas at this Grand Annual Communication, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint a committee of *three* to settle with the late Grand Treasurer, and examine into the fiscal concerns of this Grand Lodge and report as early as practicable.

Bros. Izod, Willard and Gillespie were appointed that Committee.

The M. W. Grand Master communicated to this Grand Lodge the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, to wit:—

R. W. Bro. Alexander Russell,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ “ Isaiah Call,	Grand Lecturer.
“ “ Chauncey Richardson,	Grand Chaplain.
“ “ A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
“ “ W. N. Porter,	Grand Marshal.
“ “ W. F. Gray,	Grand Pursuivant.
“ “ D. S. Kaufman,	} Grand Orators.
“ “ James Riley,	
“ “ George K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ “ P. W. Humphreys,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ “ Jacob Matossey,	} Grand Stewards.
“ “ L. F. Marguret,	
W. “ Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

Bro. Call, by the request of the M. W. Grand Master, then proceeded to install the following officers elect for the ensuing year:—

R. W. Bro. J. A. Greer,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ “ B. Gillespie,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ “ George K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ “ P. W. Humphreys,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ “ L. F. Marguret,	} Grand Stewards.
“ “ J. Matossey,	
W. “ Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

On motion of Bro. Porter, the Grand Lodge adjourned until Thursday evening next, the 10th instant, at 6 o'clock.

Attest, HENRY MILLARD,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE, Thursday evening, 6 o'clock, }
December 10, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840. }

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. B. Gillespie,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. “ I. Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ “ A. C. Hyde,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ “ James Izod,	Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. H. Willard,	Grand Secretary.
“ “ George K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ “ S. Pipkin,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ “ J. Matossey,	Grand Steward.
W. “ H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBER PRESENT.

Bro. A. Sterne, Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Charles Daniels and H. B. Hill.

The Grand Lodge resumed its labors, but, on account of the inclemency of the weather, on motion of Bro. Call the Grand Lodge adjourned until Friday evening, December 11, at 7 o'clock.

GRAND LODGE, Friday evening, December 11, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. A. Butler,	Grand Master.
B. W. “ Alex'r Russell,	Dep. Grand Master.
“ “ J. A. Greer,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ “ B. Gillespie,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ “ R. Scurry,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ “ H. Millard,	Grand Secretary.
“ “ G. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ “ P. W. Humphreys,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ “ Isaiah Call,	Grand Lecturer.
“ “ James Riley,	Grand Orator.
“ “ J. Matossey,	} Grand Stewards.
“ “ L. F. Marguret,	
W. “ H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. A. Sterne, Mayfield and Fitchett.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Raglan, Sausman, Hancock, Flint, Hord, Swisher and Hyde, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Bro. Cravens, St. John's Lodge, No. 5.

On motion of Bro. Gillespie,

Resolved, That Milam Lodge, No. 2, at Nacogdoches, be exempted from paying dues to the Grand Lodge for the past year, (in consequence of their losses by fire.)

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered a lucid and appropriate lecture to the Grand Lodge, on the social and moral duties of Free Masons, exhorting the Brethren to attend strictly to the precepts inculcated by their honorable and ancient Order.

The following communication was received from Austin Lodge, No. 12:—

To the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas.

AUSTIN LODGE, December 6, 1840.

BRETHREN:—As Secretary of Austin Lodge, No. 12, I am required to lay the following case before the Grand Lodge for its decision:—About two months since Bro. C. R. Sausman a F. C. of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, at San Augustine, Texas, which Lodge was, at the time of his passing, under the jurisdiction of the M. W. the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, applied to this Lodge for the privilege of being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason: he was accordingly received and the Degree conferred upon him in due and ancient form. The question arose at our last regular meeting, whether or not Bro. Sausman was a member of this Lodge. The Brethren, not being able to decide the point, hereby refer the matter to the M. W. the Grand Lodge.

With high respect, I am fraternally yours,

AUGUSTUS SEEZER,

Secretary Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion of Bro. Greer,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the M. W. Grand Lodge that when a Brother has been raised to the Degree of a Master Mason in any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, he shall be considered a member of said Lodge by his complying with their By-laws.

On motion of Bro. Gillespie, this Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge adjourned until Sunday, the 13th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

GRAND LODGE, Sunday morning, 10 o'clock, }
December 13, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840. }

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. A. Butler,	Grand Master.
R. W. " Alex'r Russell,	Dep. Grand Master.
" " J. A. Greer,	Senior Grand Warden.
" " Barry Gillespie,	Junior Grand Warden.
" " James Izod,	Grand Treasurer.
" " Henry Millard,	Grand Secretary.
" " Isaiah Call,	Grand Lecturer.
" " G. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" " Charles Mason,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" " J. Matossey,	} Grand Stewards.
" " L. F. Marguret,	
" " W. N. Porter,	Grand Marshal.
" " Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Lattimer and Fitchett.

VISITORS.

- Bro. T. J. Cornelius, De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.
 " Owen O'Brien, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.
 " Charles Daniels, Roxbury Lodge, Roxbury, Mass.
 " H. P. Savery and Flint, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion of Bro. Gillespie,

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That the Committee on Finance be authorized to act during the vacation of the Grand Annual Communications, to call all delinquent Lodges to settlement, and to take the necessary steps to enforce the observance of the Rules of the Grand Lodge, or bring them regularly before the Grand Lodge for its action at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. G. K. Teulon,

Resolved, by the M. W. Grand Lodge in Grand Annual Communication, That the M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and the R. W. Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, be requested to supervene all subordinate Lodges that they may be enabled to visit during the course of the ensuing year, to lecture before the same as often as convenient, and as far as possible to suppress all irregularities and to correct all innovations.

Be it further resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be requested to furnish each of the above-mentioned officers with a copy of the above resolution, duly certified to under the Grand Seal of this M. W. Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be authorized to employ any surplus funds at present, or which may be hereafter, in the hands of the W. Grand Treasurer, so far as is requisite to purchase a full set of jewels for the use of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

And be it further resolved, That said Committee be authorized to purchase a sufficient quantity of ribbon, or some other material, of the proper color, (crimson,) and have the same made into collars for the use of the officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge, prior to the approaching festival of St. John the Evangelist.

On motion of Bro. Gillespie,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait on the Hon. George H. Flood, Chargé d'Affaires from the Government of the United States to this Government, and invite him to attend the meetings of this Grand Lodge.

Bros. Gillespie, Millard and Greer were appointed that Committee.

On motion of Bro. Teulon,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed on the part of the M. W. Grand Lodge, to act with a like committee on the part of Austin Lodge, No. 12, to make necessary arrangements for the celebration of St. John the Evangelist's day.

Bros. Teulon, Izod and Mason were appointed that Committee.

Bro. Thos. J. Hardeman paid \$12, in Texas Treasury-notes, for his dues to the Grand Lodge for the year 1840. On motion of Bro. Greer, the M. W. Grand Lodge adjourned until Sunday, the 20th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

Attest,

HENRY MILLARD,
 Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE, Sunday, 10 o'clock A.M., December 20, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	Isaiah Call,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. "	Chas. Mason,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" "	Barry Gillespie,	Junior Grand Warden.
" "	James Izod,	Grand Treasurer.
" "	Henry Millard,	Grand Secretary.
" "	G. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" "	L. F. Marguret,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. "	Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Joel T. Case and M. B. Menard, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

Bro. S. Pipkin, Clinton Lodge, No. 54, Tennessee.

" Swisher, Hord and Raglan, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The Committee appointed to wait upon Bro. G. H. Flood performed that duty, and introduced Bro. Flood to this M. W. Grand Lodge.

The returns from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston, were read, and referred to a special committee of three. Bros. James Izod, Henry Millard and Isaiah Call were appointed that Committee.

The report of the special Committee on the celebration of St. John's day was read and adopted, with this amendment:—"Strike out the word 'wands' wherever it occurs in said report, and insert 'rods' instead."

Bro. H. Ward presented his account for tiling, and, on motion of Bro. Millard, a resolution making an appropriation for paying the Grand Tyler was taken up, amended and passed, as follows:—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That the Grand Tyler be paid out of the funds of this Grand Lodge the sum of fifty cents as his fee for attending each meeting of the Grand Lodge at their Grand Annual Communications.

Bro. Ward's account was referred to the Finance Committee for payment.

The account of Austin Lodge, No. 12, against the M. W. Grand Lodge, was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Bros. Joel T. Case and M. B. Menard produced their Credentials as Representatives of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston, and took their seats as members of this Grand Lodge. The R. W. Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary elect were then installed in their respective offices, agreeable to ancient usages.

Bro. G. K. Teulon paid \$12, in Texas Treasury-notes, for his fees to the M. W. Grand Lodge for the year 1840.

There being no further business at this meeting, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Thursday evening next, the 24th inst., at 7 o'clock P.M.

GRAND LODGE, CITY OF AUSTIN, Thursday, 7 o'clock P.M., }
December 24, A.D. 1840, A.L. 5840.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. Isaiah Call,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. " Joel T. Case,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " H. N. Porter,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " James Izod,	Grand Treasurer.
" " Henry Millard,	Grand Secretary.
" " Geo. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" " Perry W. Humphreys,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" " D. S. Kaufman,	Grand Orator.
" " L. F. Marguret,	Grand Steward.
W. " Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

MEMBER PRESENT.

Bro. Chas. Mason, Representative of Austin Lodge, No. 12.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Bros. Raglan, Hord, Bonnell, Sausman and Juan Zembrano, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion of Bro. Porter,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with similar committees on the part of Lone Star Chapter and Austin Lodge, No. 12, to procure proper Lodge Rooms for the accommodation of said Lodges.

Bros. Teulon, Izod, Porter, Humphreys and Millard were appointed that Committee.

A communication from Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

Bro. Harvey Kendrick produced his Credentials and was received as the Representative of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7. On motion of Bro. Mason, a committee was appointed to investigate the character and standing of Samuel G. Haynie, a Master Mason from the State of Alabama. Bros. Kaufman, Mason, Call and Millard were appointed that Committee.

There being no further business at this meeting, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday next, the 3d day of January, 1841, at 7 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
HENRY MILLARD,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE, AUSTIN CITY, Sunday, 7 o'clock P.M., }
January 3, A.D. 1841, A.L. 5841. }

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment, and called from refreshment to labor.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	J. A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W.	" Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" Joel T. Case,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" H. W. Raglan,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	" Henry Millard,	Grand Secretary.
"	" Geo. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	" L. F. Marguret,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	" D. S. Kaufman,	Grand Orator.
W.	" Herman Ward,	Grand Tyler.

VISITOR.

Bro. Geo. H. Flood, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

A communication was read from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, and, on motion of Bro. Call, it was

Resolved, That the name of Daniel Busby be placed on the minutes of this Grand Lodge as an expelled member from the Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, of Missouri, and all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge be informed of the same, together with a description of said individual.

Communications from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in Germany, and the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Kentucky, Mississippi, Maryland, New Hampshire and New York were received and read. On motion of Bro. Kaufman, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the above communications and correspond with the above-named Grand Lodges.

Bros. Kaufman, Millard and Teulon were appointed that Committee.

On motion of Bro. Millard, Bros. Greer and Case were added to that Committee, and Bro. Geo. H. Flood invited to act on said Committee.

The joint Committee to whom was referred the duty of obtaining suitable Lodge Rooms for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge, Lone Star Chapter, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, made the following report:—

The joint Committee, appointed to obtain Lodge Rooms for the accommodation of the respective Masonic Bodies held in the City of Austin, would respectfully report, that they have entered into an engagement with Bro. A. Russell for the whole of the second story of the building in which the present meetings of the Fraternity are now held. By this agreement, the Grand Lodge will be expected to pay at the rate of six dollars per month for the use of the room, and Austin Lodge and the Lone Star Chapter are awarded to pay twelve dollars per month each. The whole of the above is submitted, and the concurrence of the M. W. Grand Lodge respectfully requested.

HENRY MILLARD,
Chairman Joint Committee.

CITY OF AUSTIN, January 3, 1841.

VOL. I.—6

On motion of Bro. Call, the above report was received and adopted.
On motion of Bro. Teulon,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer of the M. W. Grand Lodge be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay, to the order of the Chairman and Treasurer of the joint Committee for obtaining and fitting up a Lodge Room, the sum of three hundred dollars in the promissory notes of the Republic of Texas, to be appropriated towards the expenses of fitting up the room.

The Committee on Finance and Accounts made the following report :—

Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the account of Austin Lodge, No. 12, for candles, washing aprons, and rent of Lodge Room, beg leave to report, that they have examined said account, and recommend the same to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and that the Chairman of the Finance Committee be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for said amount of \$142 Texas Treasury-notes, in favour of Austin Lodge, No. 12.

(Signed,)

JAMES IZOD,
Chairman Committee Finance.

On motion, the above report was received and adopted.

On motion of Bro. Kaufman,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to subscribe for the first volume of the Albany Masonic Register.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Wednesday, the 13th inst., at 7 o'clock P.M.

Attest,

JOHN A. GREER,

HENRY MILLARD,

Grand Master p. t.

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

GRAND LODGE, AUSTIN CITY, Wednesday, 7 o'clock P.M., }
January 13, A.D. 1841, A.L. 5841.

The M. W. Grand Lodge convened, pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. " Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " Chas. Mason,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " Jas. Izod,	Grand Treasurer.
" " Henry Millard,	Grand Secretary.
" " G. K. Teulon,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" " L. F. Marguret,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " C. Richardson,	Grand Chaplain.
W. " H. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

VISITORS.

Bros. Swisher and Harnell, Austin Lodge, No. 12.
" Phineas Johnson, Abram's Lodge, Lexington, Ky.
" G. H. Flood, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.
" Flint, Hill, Hutchinson and Daniels.

A communication received from Milam Lodge, No. 11, Independence, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

The Committee to whom was referred the statement of Mr. Samuel G. Haynie respecting an act of expulsion by Tuscomb Lodge, Alabama, against said S. G. Haynie, reported on said statement in writing, supported by the statements of Bro. C. Richardson, Grand Chaplain, and Bro. A. Hutchinson, corroborating said statement; that Tuscomb Lodge, in passing the act of expulsion against said S. G. Haynie, had acted illegally and unconstitutionally,—the said act of expulsion being done by a small minority of said Lodge,—that is, thirteen members out of more than fifty; their Constitution requiring a majority of the whole to expel a member; therefore said act was evidently done in a spirit of persecution. Which statements your Committee respectfully submit to the M. W. Grand Lodge for their further action. On motion of Bro. Marguret, the proceedings in the above case were laid on the table until a full meeting of the Grand Lodge may be had to act upon the same.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Master and Brethren of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas in Grand Annual Communication assembled.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the communications from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Hamburg, together with documents from the Grand Lodges of New York, Maryland, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Hampshire and Georgia, have carefully examined the same, and would respectfully beg leave to report,—

That your Committee notice with pleasure the prompt manner in which their Brethren in Germany have extended the “right hand of fellowship” and responded to the circular of this Grand Lodge.

In the proceedings of the W. Grand Lodge of Mississippi, as printed, it is stated, “The Grand Lodge of Missouri requests and desires an expression of an opinion as to the propriety of the practice which has prevailed with some subordinate Lodges of opening in the Entered Apprentice’s and Fellow Craft’s degrees, and transacting the ordinary business of the Lodge, instead of in a Lodge of M. Ms.”

Your Committee are desirous of directing the attention of the Grand Lodge to this subject, the more especially as some doubts are entertained by the Brethren as to what business may or may not with propriety be transacted in a Lodge of E. A., and in order to promote a uniformity in the mode of working in the various subordinate Lodges throughout the Republic. The only response your Committee could find to the request of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, which forbids the transaction of business in a Lodge of E. A., and the admission of E. A. or F. C. to exercise any of the rights of membership.

Another subject, to which the attention of your Committee has been directed, is to a proposition, emanating from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, for the exchange of representatives with foreign Grand Lodges. It would appear, by the report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, that the system has been adopted by the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina and the District of Columbia. Your Committee are of the opinion that many advantages would accrue to the cause of Masonry by the general adoption of the system.

The general tenor of the communications and proceedings received from the various Grand Lodges proves that the cause of Masonry continues to flourish with renewed vigor and strength: its march is onward, its principles triumphant. Public excitement on the subject of Masonry in the United States has died away, and the virtuous portion of the community freely admit the purity of the principles of our ancient institution, and, at the same time, acknowledge that its cause is the cause of morality, benevolence and brotherly love.

Your Committee being unanimous in the opinion that, as members of the same Masonic family, it is the duty of all to promote, as far as in their power, a spirit of love and a reciprocity of feeling with all other members of said family, and to encourage to their utmost an interchange of communications and good offices as tending to unite, in one indissoluble fraternal bond, all Masons wheresoever dispersed; and, viewing as next in importance to the great truths and sublime principles of morality inculcated by our institutions, its universality, would respectfully recommend the adoption of the accompanying Circular.* Your Committee would further recommend the printing of five hundred, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward one copy, duly signed and authenticated under the seal of the Grand Lodge, to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and also to the Grand Lodges in Europe, as well as to the subordinate Lodges in Texas.

(Signed,)

HENRY MILLARD,	} Committee.
GEORGE K. TEULON,	
JOHN A. GREER,	
JOEL T. CASE,	
GEO. H. FLOOD,	

Which report was received and adopted.

On motion of Bro. Case, a committee of three was appointed to report on the propriety of any Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge transacting the ordinary business of said Lodge in the Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft's Degree. Bros. Call, Case and Daniels were appointed that Committee.

On motion of Bro. Teulon,

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge be called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday evening next, at 7 o'clock P.M., and that the Grand Secretary give a written notice to every member now in the city to attend said meeting.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called off accordingly.

Attest,

HENRY MILLARD,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

JOHN A. GREER,

Grand Master p. t.

GRAND LODGE, Sunday, January 17, A.D. 1841, }
A.L. 5841, 7 o'clock P.M. }

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. " Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>

* For Circular see the close of this Annual Communication.

R. W. Bro.	Chas. Mason,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	Jas. Izod, Grand Treasurer.
"	"	Henry Millard, Grand Secretary.
"	"	Geo. K. Teulon, Senior Grand Deacon.
"	"	L. F. Marguret, Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	C. Richardson, Grand Chaplain.
W.	"	Herman Ward, Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. M. B. Menard, C. R. Jones, W. R. Porter, J. T. Case and J. Matossey.

VISITING BROTHER.

Samuel Flint.

On motion of Bro. Call, and by his request, a committee of three, consisting of Bros. Raglan, Marguret and Daniels, were appointed to investigate his conduct respecting his dismissal from the office of Master Armorer, and report on the same at the next meeting.

On motion of Bro. Case,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to summon all members of this Grand Lodge now in the city to appear before this Grand Lodge on Wednesday next, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Wednesday next, the 20th inst., at 7 o'clock P. M.

Attest,

HENRY MILLARD,

Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

JOHN A. GREER,

Grand Master p. t.

GRAND LODGE, Wednesday, January 20, A.D. 1841, }
A.L. 5841, 7 o'clock P. M.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	J. A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W.	"	Isaiah Call, Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	Chas. Mason, Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	Jas. Izod, Grand Treasurer.
"	"	Geo. K. Teulon, Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	C. Richardson, Grand Chaplain.
"	"	W. N. Porter, Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	P. W. Humphreys, Junior Grand Deacon.
"	"	D. S. Kaufman, } Grand Orators.
"	"	Jas. Riley, }
"	"	Jacob Matossey, } Grand Stewards.
"	"	L. F. Marguret, }
W.	"	Herman Ward, Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bro. S. M. Williams, Past Grand Master.

" B. T. Archer, " " "

" Sam. Houston.

Bros. Joel T. Case and M. B. Menard, Delegates from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

Bro. K. H. Muse, Delegate from Milam Lodge, No. 2, Nacogdoches.

Bros. Saml. Flint, H. W. Raglan, J. M. Hansford.

" J. S. Mayfield and W. C. McKinstry.

VISITORS.

Bros. D. C. Gilmore, T. L. Jones, W. H. Sandusky, M. Johnson, A. C. Hyde, Chas. Sausman, Joseph Harrell and G. W. Bonnell, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

Bro. Hugh McLeod, Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston.

" Geo. H. Flood, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Galveston.

" John Murchison, Wetumpka Lodge, No. 36, Alabama.

" H. B. Hill, Benevolent Lodge, Milledgeville, Georgia.

" Chas. Daniels, Washington Lodge, Roxbury, Massachusetts.

" A. Hutchison.

The Grand Lodge being called from refreshment to labor, the memorial of S. G. Haynie was taken up and read, together with the resolution laid on the table from the last meeting. On motion of Bro. Mason, permission was granted Mr. Haynie to withdraw said memorial.

The Committee appointed to investigate the character of Bro. Call made the following report:

AUSTIN LODGE ROOMS, January 19, 1841.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the investigation of the causes which led to the dishonorable discharge of Bro. Isaiah Call, beg leave to report: Your Committee have taken every means of ascertaining the origin of the cause of Bro. Call's discharge, and, from all the information they have been able to obtain, it appears that he has been guilty of no immoral or un-Masonic conduct, but was discharged for a breach of military duty, which, as one employed by the military department of this country, he was considered bound to perform. Your Committee are of opinion that no odium should be attached to the name of Bro. Call for the above-named discharge, as we feel assured that it was owing to nothing which could reflect any discredit upon him.

(Signed,)

L. F. MARGURET,
CHARLES DANIELS.

AUSTIN, January 17, A.D. 1841, A.L. 5841.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

BRETHREN:—Your Committee, appointed to inquire into the expediency and propriety of transacting business in regularly-constituted Lodges of Masons in any Degree below that of M. M., have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report: That from their own experience, as well as from the expressed opinions of many old and intelligent members of our Fraternity, corroborated also by the decision of one or two of the Grand Lodges of the United States on

this point, they have come to the belief that it is improper for any Lodge to transact regular business in any degree below that of M. M., and would respectfully submit the accompanying resolutions for the adoption of this Grand Lodge.

(Signed,)

ISAIAH CALL,
JOEL T. CASE,
CHARLES DANIELS.

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, in Grand Annual Communication, That whereas, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the practice of transacting business in the subordinate Lodges in the degrees of F. C. and E. A. often creates confusion and embarrassment, and in order to establish a uniformity in the labors of the Fraternity: Therefore, the subordinate Lodges of this Republic of Texas are hereby instructed to open their Lodges in the degree of M. M. for the transaction of all matters of business as well in that as in the degrees of F. C. or E. A.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge is hereby authorized and required to furnish, at as early a day as practicable, each of the subordinate Lodges in this Republic, as well as each of the Grand Lodges in other countries in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, with a copy of these resolutions, with the certificate of his name and the seal of this Grand Lodge thereunto attached.

On motion of Bro. Teulon, the foregoing report and resolutions were adopted.

Bro. Teulon offered the following resolution, which was read and unanimously adopted, and the Grand Secretary instructed to forward a copy of the same to the Most Worshipful Grand Master:—

Resolved, That the system adopted by the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of New York, and other Grand Lodges of the United States, of Delegates, be likewise adopted by this Grand Lodge, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master be authorized to appoint a Deputy as Delegate to represent this Grand Lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Bro. Humphreys offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge be authorized and required to communicate with the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Alabama, respecting the case of S. G. Haynie, who is represented to have been illegally and unconstitutionally expelled from Tuscumbia Lodge, Alabama, and requesting said Grand Lodge of Alabama to transfer its jurisdiction (as far as relates to this case) to this Grand Lodge.

There being no further business before this Grand Lodge, the same was closed in due and ancient form of peace and harmony, until its next Grand Annual Communication, unless sooner convened in case of emergency.

Attest,
HENRY MILLARD,
Grand Secretary G. L. R. T.

JOHN A. GREER,
Grand Master p. t.

ANNUAL CIRCULAR.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, of True and Accepted Ancient York Masons, to the worthy Fraternity of Masons, wherever dispersed over the surface of the Globe, greeting.

BRETHREN:—By the kind beneficence of the Grand Architect of the Universe, we are permitted to tender you, on another anniversary of the Grand

Lodge of Texas, the salutation of HEALTH, PEACE and UNION. It gives us joy in these far-off solitudes, "these goings-down of the sun," to greet you thus fraternally; and we pray that future years and revolving cycles may draw the bonds of brotherhood still more nearly and enduringly between us. Aware that our brethren throughout the world can and will appreciate the feelings which actuate us on this occasion, we feel assured our gratulations, our rejoicings and our gratitude to the Supreme Author of Creation for the kind care in which we have been held throughout the past year will be mutual, and these feelings will be responded to with a reciprocity peculiar to our ancient and sacred Order. In reviewing the labors of the year just closed, we congratulate ourselves upon the marked prosperity which has signalized the institution of Masonry in this young Republic. Although the tenets of our order can never be blended with the principles of government or the dogmas of religion, except as pure streams, emanating from the same exalted source, commingle their waters while flowing on to the same boundless and peaceful ocean; yet, even in Texas, a land but recently reclaimed from the solitude and barbarism of nature,—even here Masonry has found a resting-place, and has fixed her abode, as eternal as the mountains that engirt her territory, or the seas that lave her shores. Masonry in Texas is everywhere respected, and by the majesty of its bearing, and the peace-dispensing influences that follow in its train, is drawing hundreds of votaries to its standard.

It also gives us pleasure, in our retrospect of the past year, to learn that the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas have proceeded diligently in their labors, and have kept in view, with scrupulous care, the ancient and established landmarks of our Order,—that they have guarded the passes into their hallowed grounds, and the doors of their temples, with a sleepless vigilance, against such impostors as would gain admission by clandestine and surreptitious means. We owe it, also, to the cause of Masonry to state that these subordinate Lodges have been strict and just in their discipline, visiting such aberrations from the line of propriety on the part of their members with merited inflictions and penalties. Where justice, with its equal scales, has required a cumbrous and polluting member to be lopped off, its exactions have been obeyed. It is this rigid adherence to order and strict propriety that constitutes one of the firmest pillars in the great Temple of Masonry; and it is, we feel assured, the punctilious care with which not only the Grand Lodge, but all the subordinate Lodges of this Republic, have clung to these ancient landmarks, which has given us character and respectability with kindred institutions throughout the world. "CHARITY endureth long" and patiently, but there is a point where forbearance towards error and deviations from a *line* of rectitude would deal a death-wound upon Masonry,—would throw her proud columns down from their towering heights, and leave the beautiful edifice a wreck of ruin, over which religion and philanthropy would weep and mourn.

Finally, in our view of the past year, we feel a pride and gratification in the acknowledgment which has been extended to us by so many of the ancient and established Grand Lodges of America and of Europe. We feel especially grateful for the special and generous recognition of the Grand Lodges of New York, Maryland and Mississippi, in the United States, and of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in Germany. Long may the fraternal relations continue, on terms as legitimate and lofty, between us, as these demonstrations show them now to exist.

We close our annual salutations by expressing our fervent wishes that the year upon which we are entering with such bright and happy auspices may be signalized by the advancement and prosperity of our sacred Order throughout the whole habitable globe. While we pledge ourselves, on the part of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, to discharge the sacred duties incumbent upon us as true Masons, by a strict adherence to the principles of our institution,

we will also enjoin upon our own household in the Republic a punctilious conformity to the same principles and precepts; and we will, by all due means, endeavor to stimulate the Craft, both in this country and elsewhere over the habitable globe, to emulate the perfection of Masonic virtues, intelligence and brotherly love towards the Fraternity at large. And that the Supreme Architect of the Universe may prosper and bless the institution of Free Masonry throughout the world, is the fervent prayer of, Brethren,

Your Brothers and Companions,

Given under our hands, and the Seal of our said Grand Lodge, this 4th day of January, Anno Domini 1841, Anno Lucis 5841.

ANTHONY BUTLER,
Grand Master.

ALEX. RUSSELL,
Deputy Grand Master.

J. A. GREER,
Senior Grand Warden.

BARRY GILLESPIE,
Junior Grand Warden.

JAMES IZOD,
Grand Treasurer.

Attest,
HENRY MILLARD,
Grand Secretary.

FIFTH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

Commenced November 8, 1841.

The Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge, held in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Austin, the 8th November, A.D. 1841, A.L. 5841.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	Alexander Russell,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W.	" John A. Greer,	Senior Grand Warden.
"	" Thomas J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" James Izod,	Grand Treasurer.
"	" George K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
"	" William L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	" H. W. Raglan,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	" Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

PAST GRAND MASTER PRESENT.

Bro. Anson Jones.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bro. Anson Jones.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Bros. N. H. Darnell and J. Gillespie.

In consequence of few Lodges being represented, it was deemed advisable to adjourn until to-morrow evening, the 9th instant, at early candlelight.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Deputy Grand Secretary.

TUESDAY, November 9, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	John A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W.	" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" T. J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" Alex'r Russell,	Deputy Grand Master.
"	" Edward Hall,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	" G. K. Teulon,	Deputy Grand Secretary.
"	" W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	" H. W. Raglan,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	" Jacob Matossey,	Grand Steward.
W.	" T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND MASTER PRESENT.

Bro. Anson Jones.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bro. Anson Jones.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, Bro. John Gillespie.

De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, Bros. A. J. Fowler and A. H. Lattimer.

Austin Lodge, No. 12, Bros. J. Izod and C. Mason.

The Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:—

On Finance,—Bros. Lattimer, Hardeman and Mason.

On By-laws,—Bros. Jones, Gillespie and Izod.

On Communications,—Bros. Fowler, Teulon and Sinks.

On Unfinished Business,—Bros. Izod, Porter and Gillespie.

The Annual Report of the Grand Treasurer was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Annual Report of the Deputy Grand Secretary, with accompanying documents, were read and disposed of as follows:—The accounts of Sam. Whiting for printing and advertising were referred to the Committee on Finance; the charges preferred by Holland Lodge, No. 1, against Bro. Isaiah Call, Grand Lecturer, for un-Masonic conduct, referred to a select committee consisting of Bros. Jones, Gillespie and Hardeman, to whom likewise were referred the documents relative to the conferring of Degrees by Harmony Lodge, No. 6, on persons residing without their jurisdiction; and also that portion of the annual report relating to Diplomas. The annual financial report of the Grand Secretary was read and referred to Committee on Finance.

An estimate for Lodge Room rent was read and referred to Finance Committee.

The Annual Report of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, was read and referred to Committee on Communications.

The Annual Report of Austin Lodge, No. 12, was read and referred to Committee on Communications.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor until Thursday evening at early candlelight.

JOHN A. GREER,

Attest,

Grand Master *p. t.*

GEORGE K. TEULON,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thursday, November 11, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

PRESIDENT.

M. W. Bro.	John A. Greer,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W.	" N. H. Darnell,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" T. J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" A. C. Hyde,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	" G. K. Teulon,	Dep. Grand Secretary.
"	" W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	" J. W. Harrison,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	" T. Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES.

Jno. Gillespie and N. H. Darnell, McFarlane Lodge, No. 3.
Chas. Mason, Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The Committee on Communications presented the following report, which was read and that portion relating to the returns of McFarlane and Austin Lodges adopted, the balance of the report being laid on the table till next meeting:—

The Committee on Communications respectfully report: That they have examined the several communications received from the Grand Lodges of New York, Ohio, Massachusetts and Indiana, in the whole of which they find convincing evidence of the increasing prosperity of this ancient and honorable institution. In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts your Committee are gratified to find the following demonstration of friendly feeling toward this Grand Lodge:—"The Committee to whom was referred the documents from the Grand Lodge of Texas submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted, viz.: That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has received this communication with fraternal satisfaction, and with great pleasure reciprocate those acts of courtesy and good-will which are due from Brethren to Brethren."

The Committee find that Bro. Isaac Campbell is returned as a member in good standing in McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and as a suspended member of Austin Lodge, No. 12. As this is a novel case to your Committee, the decision of which may form a precedent for the future, they beg leave to submit the same to your honorable body, that you make a decision thereon.

By an examination of the returns of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, your Committee find them correct as far as they are able to judge. By said returns we find \$184 due from said Lodge to this Grand Lodge. By the returns of Austin Lodge, No. 12, there appears to be due the Grand Lodge \$104. Your Committee would recommend the reference of said returns to the Finance Committee, that they may thereby be enabled to make a full report of the state of the finances of this

Grand Lodge. Your Committee have had under consideration that portion of the report of the Deputy Grand Secretary in relation to a Dispensation granted to nine Brethren to establish a Lodge in Santa Fé, to be called the Santa Fé Lodge, No. 15, and the circumstances therein detailed have induced your Committee, after much deliberation, to report the same back and recommend its confirmation, and that an extension of time be granted to said Brethren, till the next Grand Annual Communication, to apply for a Charter.

(Signed,)

A. J. FOWLER, *Chairman.*
G. W. SINKS,
G. K. TEULON.

The Committee on Finance requested further time to report, which was granted.

The special Committee, to whom was referred certain portions of the Annual Report of the Deputy Grand Secretary with accompanying documents, made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

AUSTIN, November 11, 1841.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The special Committee, to whom was referred sundry charges against Bro. I. Call, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and the late Grand Secretary, Bro. Fisher, in issuing a Diploma to Bro. A. McDonald, and some suggestions of the Deputy Grand Secretary in relation to the Diploma system, respectfully submit the following report as the result of their mature deliberations :—

In Isaiah Call we are happy to recognise a Mason high in the Degrees of our Order, and one who has ever evinced a very ardent and praiseworthy zeal in the promotion of its welfare, and therefore the more regret that any temporary feeling or excitement should have betrayed him into the indiscreet conduct which he appears to have evinced in his intercourse with Holland Lodge, No. 1, as an officer of the M. W. Grand Lodge. The station which he held, that of Grand Lecturer, being one of high dignity and importance, your Committee are of opinion that a more imperative obligation rested upon him to restrain his feelings, and, whatever might have been the supposed error which he was attempting to correct, that he was bound to do it with moderation and true Masonic charity and forbearance, and a proper respect to the W. Holland Lodge. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That Bro. I. Call be notified to appear before this Grand Lodge to answer the charges of un-Masonic conduct preferred against him by Holland Lodge, No. 1 ; that he be furnished with a copy of all the proceedings in his case, and that he have until the next Grand Annual Communication to make his defence ; that in the mean time he be suspended from the duties of his office of Grand Lecturer, and that the W. Holland Lodge have due notice of the proceedings against the Brother.

It is with deep regret that we feel bound to acknowledge that Harmony Lodge, No. 6, appears to have violated a resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed December 9, 1839, in initiating, passing and raising to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, Bro. A. McDonald of this city. Whether Harmony Lodge acted in ignorance of the aforesaid resolution, and also of the fact of Bro. McDonald's petition having been rejected by Austin Lodge, No. 12, we are not able to say. In order, however, that the matter may be fairly understood and the blame rest in the proper place, we would recommend the passage of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the W. Harmony Lodge, No. 6, be notified of the charges preferred against it by the W. Master of Austin Lodge, No. 12 ; that it be furnished

with a copy of those charges and the proceedings thereon, and that it be requested to explain its course in this behalf to the M. W. Grand Lodge at as early an opportunity as practicable, in order that said Grand Lodge may take further action thereon.

The Committee are further of opinion that although Harmony Lodge has acted contrary to a resolution of this Grand Lodge in admitting Bro. McDonald to the privileges of the Order, that he cannot in consequence of the error of the Lodge be deprived of those privileges.

A Diploma has been shown to your Committee bearing date of the 9th November, 1840, issued and granted to a Brother who, it appears from testimony before us, was not raised to the Degree certified in the said Diploma until nearly a year subsequent. This Diploma is attested by the former Grand Secretary, Bro. Geo. Fisher, and appears to have been issued by him after his term of office had expired: if so, we are of opinion that Bro. Fisher has acted in violation of his duty, and that this matter may be investigated and the late Grand Secretary have an opportunity of being heard, we would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That Bro. G. Fisher be notified to appear before this Grand Lodge to answer to the charge of having issued Diplomas of Membership illegally; that he be served with a copy of all the proceedings in his case, and that he have until the next Grand Annual Communication to make his defence.

The only remaining matter referred to this Committee being the consideration of the price now charged for Diplomas of Membership, and your Committee believing that it should be reduced, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That from and after St. John's day next, the price of Diplomas of Membership shall be reduced to *three dollars* par funds,—two dollars to the Grand Lodge and one dollar to the Grand Secretary.

All of which is respectfully submitted to the consideration of the M. W. Grand Lodge by

(Signed,)

ANSON JONES,
JOHN GILLESPIE,
THOMAS J. HARDEMAN.

The resolutions offered by the select Committee relative to Bro. I. Call, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and Bro. Fisher, late Grand Secretary, having been severally read and seconded, were unanimously adopted. The resolution to reduce the price of Diplomas was read first time and passed to second reading.

Bro. Teulon introduced the following resolutions to amend the Constitution, which were severally read first time and passed to their second reading.

1. To insure punctual and uniform returns from Subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, That section 6th of Chapter 2d of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to make it obligatory on each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to make out its general returns to the 1st day of September in each year, and transmit the same to the Grand Secretary on or previous to the second Monday in November next ensuing, under a penalty of a fine of \$25, and requiring special returns of officers to be made out and forwarded within one month after said election.

2. Fixing a day for the election of Grand Officers.

Resolved, That the second section of Chapter 1st of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be amended by inserting after the words "elected and appointed," "on the first Sunday after its organization."

3. Reducing the fees to the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the first section of Chapter 3d of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to reduce the amount to be paid for the use of the Grand Lodge, from and after the adoption of this resolution, to the following scale, instead of the fees at present charged:—

For each Dispensation	\$32.00
“ Charter	45.00
“ Degree conferred and each Affiliation	50
“ Member who shall be a member on the day on which the returns of the Subordinate Lodges are made, whether the same shall have been affiliated or raised during the same year	1.00

4. Authorizing Subordinate Lodges to reduce fee.

Resolved, That from and after St. John's day, December 27, 1841, the Grand Lodge, by virtue of the power vested in it, does hereby authorize the several subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction to reduce the rates of fees for initiation, passing, raising and affiliation to the following rates, payable in par funds or the equivalent thereof:—

For Initiation	\$15.00
“ Passing	10.00
“ Raising	10.00
“ Affiliating	3.00

The above fees being regarded as the minimum, and it being optional with each Lodge to fix its maximum.

5. Requiring the Grand Master to suspend delinquent Lodges.

Resolved, That within ten days after the closing of this and all succeeding Grand Annual Communications, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to issue, under his hand and the seal of this Grand Lodge, his edict suspending all delinquent Lodges until they shall have made full returns and have paid up all arrearages; and should it come to the knowledge of any of the Grand Officers, present or past, of any Lodge so suspended continuing to work, it is hereby made their duty, under forfeiture of membership in this Grand Lodge, to notify the Grand Master of the same; and should he after due inquiry find such to be the case, he shall immediately strike said Lodge from off the rolls, advertising the same in three of the most public papers published in the Republic, and report the same to the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Teulon, it was unanimously

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to address an annual circular letter to the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge on the subject of Masonry in general, and particularly urging on them—1. A more rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for the privileges of Masonry; 2. A more strict conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and the By-laws of the subordinate Lodges; 3. A more particular and supervisory control over the moral character and conduct of their members.

On motion of Bro. Teulon, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required, previous to the next Grand Annual Communication, to open, under the supervision of the M. W. Grand Master or his Deputy, a book, to be termed the Book of the Constitution, in which he shall transcribe the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and all resolutions concerning the governance of said Grand Lodge and the Lodges subordinate thereto, arranging the same systematically in chapters, under the appropriate heading, with a full and ample index attached thereto.

The annual accounts of the Grand and Deputy Grand Secretary were presented and referred to the Committee on Finance. On motion of Bro. Mason, Bro. Darnell was added to the Committee on Finance.

By request of Bro. Hardeiman, he had leave of absence granted, and was excused from Committee on Finance. On motion of Bro. Teulon, Bro. Izod was added to the Committee on Finance.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Sunday morning, the 14th inst., at 10 o'clock.

JOHN A. GREER,
Grand Master p. t.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Deputy Grand Secretary.

Sunday, November 14, 1841, 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge, pursuant to adjournment, was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. A. Russell,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. " J. A. Greer,	Senior Grand Warden.
" " C. Mason,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " N. H. Darnell,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" " G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" " W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " W. N. Porter,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" " J. Matossey,	Grand Steward.
W. " T. Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. Anson Jones.
McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	" N. H. Darnell and J. Gillespie.
De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	" A. H. Lattimer and W. N. Porter.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" J. Izod and C. Mason.

MEMBER.

Bro. Asa Bringham.

A petition from sundry Master Masons for a Charter for a Lodge at Clarksville was presented, read, and on motion referred to a select Committee consisting of Bros. Jones, Greer and Mason.

The Committee on Finance made the following report:—

The M. W. G. Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge.

BRETHREN:—The undersigned, chairman of the Committee on Finance, begs leave to report: That they have examined the accounts of Bro. James Izod, Grand Treasurer, and Bro. G. K. Teulon, Deputy Grand Secretary, and find them

correct, consequently they have been approved and adopted. The accounts of Bro. S. Whiting, amounting to \$17 par funds, we find correct, and recommend that they be paid out of any moneys not otherwise appropriated. The accounts of Bros. H. Millard and G. K. Teulon, for services as Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Secretary, we are unable to approve, as the resolution does not allow the Grand Secretary any salary for the year 1841; that portion of their accounts which does not include salary we recommend their payment.

We have examined the returns of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, for the years 1840 and 1841, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, for the year 1841, and find them correct. Their indebtedness to this Grand Lodge is as follows:—

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, for 1840	\$82
“ “ “ “ “ 1841	100
Austin Lodge, No. 12, for 1841	104

\$286

By a resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last session, subordinate Lodges were allowed to pay Texas Treasury-notes to the Grand Lodge at the same rate at which they received them for the year 1840, consequently the amount of \$82 due by McFarlane Lodge for 1840 is embraced in that resolution. We therefore offer the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the accounts of Bro. S. Whiting for \$17 par funds be paid by the Treasurer.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed for his services for the year 1841 \$125 Texas Treasury-notes, and that the Treasurer is authorized to pay the same.

Resolved, That the accounts of Bros. Teulon and Millard, amounting to \$132-50 Texas money, be paid by the Treasurer.

(Signed,)

A. H. LATTIMER, *Chairman*.

Report read together with the resolutions and adopted.

The report of Committee on Communications was read and adopted; and it was

Resolved, That McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, be notified that Bro. J. Campbell is returned as a member of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, in good standing, and as a suspended member of Austin Lodge, No. 12, for non-payment of dues.

The report of the chairman of the Committee on Finance on the estimate for funds for rent, for the years 1841 and 1842, for \$94 par funds, was adopted and ordered to be paid as it becomes due.

Bro. Mason was appointed a committee of one to co-operate with the like committees from Lone Star Chapter, No. 3, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, to examine the accounts of Bro. J. Izod, Treasurer of the Lodge Room repairing Committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor until 7 P.M.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Deputy Grand Secretary.

Sunday, November 14, 1841, 7 p.m.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W.	Bro. J. A. Greer,	S. G. Warden, as Grand Master	<i>p. t.</i>
"	"	W. N. Porter, G. Marshal, as Senior Grand Warden	<i>p. t.</i>
"	"	C. Mason,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	M. Johnson,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	George K. Teulon,	Deputy Grand Secretary.
"	"	W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	H. W. Raglan,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	"	A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer
W.	"	T. Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Anson Jones, Past Grand Master, and A. Brigham.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. Anson Jones.
McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	" Darnell and Gillespie.
De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	" Lattimer, Fowler and Porter.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" James Izod and Mason.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Past Masters, as stated section 1, chapter 1, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, shall be Past Masters who have been duly elected to the office of Master in some subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge now proceed to the election of Grand Officers.

On motion, Bro. M. Johnson was allowed to vote as proxy for R. W. Bro. B. Gillespie, Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. J. A. Greer was unanimously elected Grand Master.

" E. H. Tarrant was unanimously elected Senior Grand Warden.

" N. H. Darnell was unanimously elected Junior Grand Warden.

" A. Brigham was unanimously elected Grand Treasurer.

" John W. Harrison was unanimously elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

J. A. GREER,

Attest,

Grand Master *p. t.*

GEORGE K. TEULON,

Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thursday, November 18, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to order pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. " N. H. Darnell, Jr. G. Warden, as	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " M. Johnson,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" " A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" " G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" " W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " ——— Tannehill,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" " A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" " J. Matossey,	Grand Steward.
W. " T. Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. A. Jones.
McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	" N. H. Darnell.
De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	" Lattimer and Fowler.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" Izod and Mason.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The resignation of Bro. J. W. Harrison, Grand Secretary elect, was presented, read and accepted. On motion, the Grand Lodge went into a new election for Grand Secretary, when Bro. G. K. Teulon was unanimously elected Grand Secretary for the ensuing year.

Bro. Anson Jones, by request, installed Bro. John A. Greer as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas. The M. W. Grand Master then installed Bro. A. H. Lattimer as proxy for Bro. E. H. Tarrant, Senior Grand Warden; Bro. N. H. Darnell, Junior Grand Warden; Bro. A. Brigham, Grand Treasurer; and Bro. G. K. Teulon, Grand Secretary. The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following appointments,—viz.:

R. W. Bro. B. Gillespie,	Dep. Grand Master.
" " C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" " I. N. Moreland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" " R. E. B. Baylor,	Grand Chaplain.
" " A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" " J. S. Mayfield,	Grand Marshal.
" " S. Whiting,	Grand Pursuivant.
" " D. McFarlane,	} Grand Lecturers.
" " J. H. Holland,	
" " J. Riley,	Grand Orator.
" " J. Matossey,	} Grand Stewards.
" " E. M. Pease,	
W. " T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master then installed Bro. C. Mason, and Bro. W. L. Cazneau as proxy for Bro. Moreland, Grand Deacons, and Bro. J. Matossey, and Bro. Tannehill as proxy for Bro. Pease, Grand Stewards, and Bro. T. Ward, Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Thursday evening next.

Attest,
 GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Thursday, November 25, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Bro.	J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W.	" A. J. Fowler,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	" A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
"	" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	" W. N. Porter,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	" T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	Bros. Darnell and Gillespie.
De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	" Lattimer, McFarlane and Porter.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" Mason.

The select Committee on the petition of sundry Master Masons for a Lodge at Clarksville, to be termed "Friendship Lodge," reported favorably thereon and the report was adopted.

The select Committee to whom was referred the resolution suspending all delinquent Lodges reported the same with amendments, and recommended its passage. Report read and laid on the table to come up with resolution.

The Annual Report of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, was presented, read and referred to the Committee on Finance. The account of Bro. Ward for tiling—amounting to seven dollars—was presented and referred to Committee on Finance.

Communications from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire and Kentucky were presented and referred to Committee on Communications.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Saturday evening at 7 o'clock.

Attest,
 GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Saturday, November 27, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	} Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
Dep. Grand Master, as	
" A. J. Fowler,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" R. S. Neighbors,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, Bro. Fowler.

Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Mason.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather and the thin attendance of members, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Friday evening, December 10, 1841.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Friday, December 10, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie, Dep. G. Master, as	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" S. Whiting, G. Pursuivant, as	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" H. W. Raglan,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" A. H. Lattimer,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" W. N. Porter,	Grand Marshal.
" J. H. Walton,	Grand Lecturer.
" J. Matossey,	Grand Steward.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bro. A. Jones.
Milam Lodge, No. 2, " A. Sterne.
McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, " N. H. Darnell.

Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Bros. Walton, Oliver, Hinton and Whiting.
 Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, " S. Ingram.
 De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, " Lattimer and Porter.
 Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Izod and Mason.
 Trinity Lodge, No. 14, " Kincaid.

Briefs to Bros. Walton, Hinton, Oliver and Whiting to represent Harmony Lodge, No. 6, were received, read and acknowledged. The petitions of sundry Royal Arch Masons, asking for a Dispensation to open Chapters at Matagorda, Galveston, Austin and San Augustine, were read. Bro. Teulon moved that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the usual fees to the Grand Lodge be dispensed with and remitted, which motion was adopted. The petition of Daniel Busby, an expelled Royal Arch Mason, was presented and read. On motion of Bro. Walton, the Grand Secretary was instructed to communicate with Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, St. Louis, Mo., and request the transfer of jurisdiction in the case to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, the accounts of Past Grand Treasurer Bro. T. G. Western were referred to the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was adopted:—

AUSTIN, Dec. 10, 1841.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

The undersigned, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, begs leave to report that said Committee have examined the account of Bro. T. Ward for tiling and approved the same, and recommend its payment. Also, have examined the returns of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, and find them correct. Amount due by said Lodge, eighty-six dollars.

By the report of said Lodge we find that 10 Degrees were conferred before the 5th March, at which time they (said Lodge) were informed by Bro. Porter that, for the future, par funds would be required in all cases for dues to the Grand Lodge; and, as De Kalb Lodge received Texas Treasury-notes at par up to that date, we recommend that the dues from De Kalb Lodge up to the 5th March be received in Texas money.

(Signed,)

A. H. LATTIMER,
Chmn. Com. on Finance.

Bro. C. Mason, Committee of one to co-operate with a like committee on the part of the Chapter and Austin Lodge, No. 12, on the accounts of Bro. James Izod, Treasurer of the Joint Repairing Lodge Room Committee, made a report, which was adopted, and the following resolution passed:—

Resolved, That the committee appointed by this Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication to act in conjunction with a like committee on the part of Lone Star Chapter, No. 3, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, having performed their duty, be discharged.

The Annual Returns from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, were presented and read and referred to Committee on Finance. On motion of Bro. Walton, a special committee of five was appointed for the purpose of deciding whether Masters of Lodges had a right to resign. The M.

W. Grand Master appointed Bros. B. Gillespie, Ingram, Jones, Walton and Sterne said Committee.

Resolution fixing a day for Annual Elections of Grand Officers on its third reading referred to above special Committee of five.

Resolution relative to fees for Diplomas read third time and made a portion of the Constitution.

Resolution in relation to fees for Degrees read third time and adopted.

Resolution in relation to fees from subordinate Lodges read third time, adopted and made part of the Constitution. The other resolutions to amend the Constitution on their third reading were referred to the special Committee of five.

The accounts and report of James Izod, late Grand Treasurer, were read and referred to the Finance Committee, with authority to approve the same if found correct.

The accounts of Bro. T. Ward for washing aprons and for wood, amounting to \$6 par funds and \$6.50 Texas money, and S. Whiting's account for printing Diplomas,—\$10 par funds,—were read and approved and ordered to be paid.

On motion, the Grand Master was authorized to grant a Charter to Friendship Lodge, No. 16, at Clarksville, Red River county. A portion of a letter from Bro. Call to Bro. Gillespie was read, acknowledging his error and praying forgiveness. On motion, it was resolved that the apology of Bro. Call be received; that Holland Lodge be notified thereof, and be requested to withdraw the charges against Bro. Call. On motion of Bro. Jones, it was

Resolved, That the explanations made by Harmony Lodge, No. 6, relative to the initiation of Bro. A. McDonald, are entirely satisfactory, and that the W. Master of Austin Lodge, No. 12, be allowed to withdraw his charges.

A pamphlet from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, showing the rejection and suspension of subordinate Lodges in that State, was presented, read and referred to Committee on Communications.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Friday evening, at 7 o'clock.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Friday, December 17, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer, Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie, Deputy Grand Master.
“ S. Ingram, Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*

R. W. N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ W. W. Stewart,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ J. H. Walton,	Grand Lecturer.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ C. Daniels,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3,	Bro. N. H. Darnell.
Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	“ J. H. Walton.
Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	“ S. Ingram and W. W. Stewart.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	“ C. Mason.

A memorial was presented by Bro. Ingram from Matagorda Lodge, No. 7.

On motion of Bro. Walton, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, and Milam Lodge, No. 2, were allowed until the 1st July, 1842, to make their returns and pay their dues.

On motion of Bro. Teulon, seconded by Bro. Walton, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to receive Texas money, at the rate of *four for one*, from the subordinate Lodges, until the 1st July next, in payment of all arrearages.

The special Committee of five at the last meeting reported as the result of their labors the following revised Constitution, as a substitute for the several resolutions to amend the Constitution referred to them :—

CONSTITUTION

Of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE GRAND LODGE, ITS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—*Officers and Members.*

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, four District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Lecturer, Grand Chaplain, Senior and Junior Grand Deacons, Grand Sword-Bearer, Grand Marshal, Grand Pursuivant, two Grand Stewards, Grand Tyler, Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Past Masters of regular Lodges while members of a regular Lodge under its jurisdiction, and the Masters and Wardens of regular Lodges which are subordinate to the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 2.—*Grand Annual Communication.*

The Grand Lodge shall be held once in each year at the seat of government of this republic, which meeting shall take place on the second Monday of January of each and every year, commencing with the year 1843, and the election of officers shall take place on the Friday following, and shall be agreeably to ancient usages, and said meeting shall be called “The Grand Annual Com-

munication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas." Special meetings of the Grand Lodge may be called whenever, in the opinion of the Grand Master, the interests of the Institution may require.

SECTION 3.—*Proxies from Subordinate Lodges.*

In all cases where special representatives shall not be appointed by any subordinate Lodge, and the Master and Wardens cannot personally attend the Grand Lodge, they shall have the privilege of constituting a proxy, and such proxy shall be a Master Mason and member of some Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and he or they shall be entitled to the same number of votes as his or their constituent or constituents.

SECTION 4.—*Qualification for Office.*

No Mason shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge unless he is a member of some Lodge under its jurisdiction and has passed the Chair in some regular Lodge, except it be in cases of emergency.

SECTION 5.—*Mode of Filling Offices.*

The election of Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be by ballot; and no person shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master more than two years in succession; all other officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, attested by the Grand Secretary.

SECTION 6.—*Installation of Officers.*

In case of sickness or necessary absence, the Grand Master, or any other officer, may be installed by proxy; but whoever represents them must have sustained the office to which such absent officer is to be installed, or such office as might have entitled him to fill the Chair in the absence of the Grand Master.

SECTION 7.—*Vacancy of Chair—How Filled.*

In case of death, resignation, or removal from office, the Chair of the Grand Lodge should become vacated, it is to be filled by the Deputy Grand Master, with authority to appoint his Deputy Grand Master, who shall serve until the next Grand Annual Communication.

SECTION 8.—*Grand Master to Preside.*

The Grand Master, when present, shall indispensably fill the Chair; in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master; in the absence of both, the Senior Grand Warden; in the absence of those, the Junior Grand Warden; in case of absence of all those officers, the oldest Grand Officer in the Lodge shall fill the Chair. And, that the Grand Lodge may always appear in due form, the presiding officer shall wear the jewel of the Grand Master; and all others, the jewels of the officers they respectively represent.

SECTION 9.—*Declaration of Officers at Installation.*

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Wardens shall severally, at the time of their installation, make the following declaration: "I, A. B., do solemnly promise, on the honor of a Mason, that in the office of — I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all ancient Masonic usages."

SECTION 10.—*District Deputy Grand Masters.*

The several Lodges within this Masonic jurisdiction shall be divided into four Districts, and the Grand Master shall appoint a District Deputy Grand Master

for each district, whose duty it shall be to visit the several Lodges within his District; and they are hereby empowered to correct errors and discrepancies in the work or lectures of any Lodge differing from the system recognised by the Grand Lodge; and they are further authorized to grant dispensations to confer Degrees. And the District Deputy Grand Masters are further empowered to collect the amounts due from subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge; and it is made the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish annually each District Deputy Grand Master with a statement of the amount due from each Lodge under his jurisdiction; and it is further made the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters to consult with the Grand Lecturer in relation to an uniformity of work, and he shall make annual returns of their proceedings, as well as the state of the Lodges under their jurisdiction.

SECTION 11.—Grand Master may Preside in Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master has full right and authority to preside in every Lodge under his jurisdiction, with the Master of the Lodge on his left hand, and to summon his Grand Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary to attend him, who are to act in their several capacities whenever the Grand Master takes the Chair.

SECTION 12.—Dispensations for New Lodges.

The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master shall have power to grant Dispensations for new Lodges, upon petition, that the Brethren to whom such Dispensation shall be granted make application to the Grand Lodge at the Grand Annual Communication for a Charter. And if such application shall not be made, or such Charter not granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such Dispensation shall be deemed dissolved.

SECTION 13.—Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Treasurer shall be intrusted with the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge. He shall always keep a fair record of his accounts and transactions, and the uses to which the moneys are appropriated, and shall lay the same, when registered, before the Grand Lodge, and account for the moneys as may be directed, for which he shall be compensated as the Lodge may direct.

SECTION 14.—Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary must be a Brother who can write a fair hand, and shall keep accurate records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He shall present all votes and orders of the Grand Lodge, after they are entered, to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature, and shall attest them. He shall issue summons as the Grand Master may direct, and shall give a seasonable notice, in at least one public newspaper, of every stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, and shall be rewarded for his services, from time to time, as the Grand Lodge may direct.

SECTION 15.—Grand Sword-Bearer, Marshal, Pursuivant and Stewards.

The Grand Sword-Bearer shall attend on all public occasions. The Grand Marshal shall arrange all public processions, and he shall attend the Grand Feast and assist the Grand Master in the order and arrangement of the day. The Grand Pursuivant shall attend on all public occasions. The Grand Stewards shall, on a regular summons, superintend all preparations for the Feasts, and shall always see that the tables are regularly and Masonically spread.

SECTION 16.—Grand Tyler.

The Grand Tyler shall attend every call of the Grand Master, and be present at every meeting of the Grand Lodge, for which services he shall be rewarded, from time to time, according to his merit.

SECTION 17.—*Government of Grand Lodge.*

The Grand Lodge shall have power to make such laws for their own government as they may deem proper.

SECTION 18.—*Original Members of Grand Lodge.*

Every Brother who was a member of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, shall continue to be a member of the same.

CHAPTER II.

OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

SECTION 1.—*Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.*

The Grand Lodge shall have power, by Charter under their seal, to constitute new Lodges, and to exercise Masonic jurisdiction in the Republic of Texas, and in any county, state, republic, or territory, where there is no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons; to establish a uniform mode of working in all the Lodges within its jurisdiction, and to superintend and regulate the general police of Masonry, according to the ancient usages and customs of Masons, carefully regarding the ancient landmarks, which are on no account to be moved or defaced.

SECTION 2.—*Subordinate Lodges to Pay Dues.*

The Grand Lodge shall have power to call on the several Lodges under its jurisdiction for the annual customary dues.

SECTION 3.—*Grand Lodge to establish Minimum Rate of Fees.*

The Grand Lodge shall have power to establish a minimum rate as to the sums to be paid, in the several Lodges within its jurisdiction, for entering, passing and raising a brother.

SECTION 4.—*Charters and Dispensations.*

No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons; nor shall a new Warrant issue to any number of Masons residing within less than ten miles of the usual place of meeting of any regularly-constituted Lodge, unless by special *Dispensation* of the Grand Lodge; and the petition shall contain the causes which render it expedient that such Dispensation or Charter should be granted, with the nomination of Master and Wardens, and shall be approved by some regularly-constituted Lodge in the vicinity of the petitioners.

SECTION 5.—*Subordinate Lodges to make Returns*

Each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall make out its annual returns to the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary by the second Monday in January; and said returns shall show the names of their officers and members, and the names of their brethren who have been initiated, passed, raised, affiliated, demitted, suspended, expelled, reinstated or deceased, also of the candidates rejected, in order that the same may be duly noticed in the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 6.—*Rejections, &c. to be Reported.*

It shall be the duty of the subordinate Lodges to report to the Grand Secretary, and to their sister Lodges throughout the Republic, *immediately*, the rejection of an applicant, the expulsion, suspension or reinstatement of a Brother;

and for every neglect thereof they shall be subject to a reprimand from the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 7.—*Books, Jewels, Funds, &c. of Demised Lodges.*

Upon the demise of any Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the last Secretary and Treasurer of said Lodge shall, within three months afterwards, surrender to the Grand Secretary, or to the District Deputy Grand Master, the books, papers, jewels, funds and furniture of said Lodge so demised.

SECTION 8.—*Irregular Lodges.*

No Lodge of Ancient York Masons in this Republic shall be recognised as a regular Lodge, unless it holds its charter from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

SECTION 9.—*Of the By-laws of Subordinate Lodges.*

The subordinate Lodges shall each submit their By-laws, at the first Grand Annual Communication after Dispensation or Charter is obtained, to the Grand Lodge for its ratification; and all subsequent additions and amendments shall, in like manner, be presented for approval. No By-laws shall be adopted by any subordinate Lodge which are not in strict conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. Every newly-organized Lodge shall adopt the By-laws of the nearest Lodge for their government, until their own By-laws be ratified by the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 10.—*Installation of New Lodges.*

All new Lodges shall be installed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, one of the Grand Wardens, or one of the District Deputy Grand Masters; and, if they cannot attend to this work, the Grand Master shall appoint one or more proxies to perform the same.

SECTION 11.—*Of Petitions for Initiation.*

All petitions for initiation shall be presented by a Master Mason, and shall be recommended by two Master Masons in a regular meeting of the Lodge, which petition shall lay over until the next regular meeting of the Lodge, when, if the Committee appointed for that purpose should make a favorable report thereon, the ballot shall be taken, and if *unanimous* in his favor, the petition shall be granted, and the applicant initiated as soon as convenient.

SECTION 12.—*Of Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Crafts.*

Every newly-initiated Brother shall serve as Entered Apprentice at least one month before passing to the more honorable degree of Fellow-Craft, and every Fellow-Craft shall labor at least one month before raising to the degree of Master Mason, unless by Dispensation from the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or one of the District Deputy Grand Masters. No Fellow-Craft or Entered Apprentice shall be raised or passed without being first examined in open Lodge as to his proficiency in the preceding Degree, and unless he shall acquit himself to the entire satisfaction of a majority of the Lodge he shall be remanded to serve until he shall have made himself thoroughly proficient in the preceding Degree.

SECTION 13.—*Of Non-Residents.*

No Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall confer any Degree of Masonry upon any Brother who may be a member of any other Lodge, or upon any person who resides within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without the knowledge and consent of the Brethren of such Lodge.

SECTION 14.—*Transaction of Business.*

All discussions shall be carried on in a Masters' Lodge, and no business shall be transacted in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or Fellow-Crafts but such as appertain to the Degree.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE FINANCES.

SECTION 1.—*Contributions to Grand Lodge.*

There shall be collected for the use of the Grand Lodge, from such subordinate Lodge, the following fees and contributions,—viz.: For each Dispensation, twenty-five dollars; for each Charter, forty-five dollars, to be enclosed in the petition when application is made, and if the petition should not be granted, the same shall be returned to the petitioners, and the amount paid to the Grand Lodge for the Dispensation shall be deducted from the price of the Charter; for each Degree conferred, and for each affiliation, fifty cents; for each member annually, including those who may have been admitted to membership during the year, one dollar; for each Diploma, two dollars.

SECTION 2.—*Fees to Grand Secretary.*

The Grand Lodge shall collect, for the benefit of the Grand Secretary, the following fees,—viz.: For attesting every Dispensation, one dollar; for every Charter, two dollars; for every Diploma, one dollar; for each Certificate, with the seal of the Grand Lodge, fifty cents; and he shall also receive from the Grand Lodge such compensation for his services as the Grand Lodge may from time to time establish.

CHAPTER IV.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 1.—*Of a Reconsideration.*

No vote of the Grand Lodge shall be reconsidered by a less number of members than were present at the passing of the same.

SECTION 2.—*Mode of Voting Prescribed.*

In the adoption of this Constitution and all amendments hereafter made, and in the election of officers, the votes shall be taken according to the rights of the several Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge,—that is to say, every Lodge present, by its representatives, shall be entitled to three votes, whether represented by one or more Brethren, and every member of the Grand Lodge shall have one vote. All other matters in the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present, and the Brother in the Chair shall have the casting vote.

SECTION 3.—*Amendments to Constitution.*

All amendments to this Constitution shall be made at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall be read on three different days, and the concurrence of two-thirds of the votes of the subordinate Lodges represented shall be necessary to make it a part of this Constitution.

SECTION 4.—*All Propositions to be in Writing.*

All propositions made in the Grand Lodge shall be made by the proponent in writing, and must be read by the Grand Secretary before the same is offered for discussion and adoption.

Report and revised Constitution read first time.

Bro. B. Gillespie informed the Grand Lodge that he had drafted a

bill, which had been presented to Congress, for the incorporation of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas with special privileges.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow at 4 P.M.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Saturday, December 18, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. S. Ingram,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. H. Walton, Grand Lecturer, as	Junior Grand Warden.
“ A. Jones, Past Grand Master, as	Grand Treasurer.
“ George K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ S. Richardson,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ B. Gillespie, D. Grand Master, as	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. A. Jones.
Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	“ J. H. Walton.
Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	“ S. Ingram.

The revised Constitution was read a second time, and, on motion, passed to its third reading.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M.

Attest,
J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

Sunday, December 19, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ S. Ingram,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. W. Stewart,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ F. H. Hood,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ S. Whiting,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Bros. Hinton and Whiting.
 Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, " Ingram and Stewart.
 Austin Lodge, No. 12, " C. Mason.

MEMBER PRESENT.

Bro. A. Neill.

Minutes of the preceding meetings were read and adopted.

The revised Constitution was taken up on its third reading, and first and second chapters read by sections and adopted. The following resolution from the special Committee was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be divided into districts as follows:—

1st District,—Holland Lodge, No. 1, Harmony Lodge, No. 6, Trinity Lodge, No. 14.

2d District,—St. John's, No. 5, Matagorda, No. 7, Phoenix, No. 8, Milam, No. 11, Austin, No. 12.

3d District,—Milam, No. 2, McFarlane, No. 3.

4th District,—De Kalb, No. 9, Constantine, No. 13, Friendship, No. 16.

Any Lodges hereafter established, by Dispensation or Charter, shall come within the District of the District Deputy Grand Master residing nearest its location, unless otherwise attached by the Grand Lodge at its Grand Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until 3 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
 GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Sunday afternoon, December 19, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
" A. Sterne, P. D. G. Master, as	Senior Grand Warden.
" J. Izod, P. G. Treasurer, as	Junior Grand Warden.
" A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" A. C. Hinton,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" A. C. Hyde,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" S. Whiting,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Milam Lodge, No. 2, Bro. A. Sterne.
 Harmony Lodge, No. 6, " Hinton and Whiting.

Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, Bros. Stewart and Ingram,
 Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Izod and Mason.
 De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, " W. N. Porter.

MEMBER PRESENT.

Bro. B. T. Archer, Past Grand Master.

The revised Constitution was taken up: third and fourth chapters read by sections and adopted. The question was then taken on adoption of the Constitution as revised and reported by the special Committee of five, and the same was unanimously adopted.

A special Dispensation was granted to Austin Lodge, No. 12, to act on the petition of Mr. G. A. Patillo.

A communication from Austin Lodge, No. 12, accompanied with a protest from sundry Master Masons relative to the action had in the Grand Lodge in the case of Bro. McDonald and Harmony Lodge. On motion of Bro. Ingram, the documents were referred back to Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment, until Thursday evening, the 23d inst.

Attest,
 GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Thursday, December 23, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
" J. Izod,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" S. Richardson,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" A. J. Fowler,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. H. Walton,	Grand Lecturer.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bros. Western and Jones.
Milam Lodge, No. 2,	" Sterne.
Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	" Walton and Hinton.
Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	" Ingram and Stewart.

De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, Bros. Fowler and Porter.
Austin Lodge, No. 12, " Izod and Mason.

Communication from Constantine Lodge, No. 13, was read and referred to the Committee on Communications.

The following communication was received from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas:—

Your memorialist, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas, now makes known to your worshipful body that the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in Texas have deemed it expedient to meet in Convention and form a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the government and control of the several Chapters already in existence, and such as may hereafter be constituted and formed, in the Republic of Texas. We feel assured that your worshipful body will give us a hearty welcome and greeting. We are servitors in the same temple whose votaries are engaged in spreading and inculcating the doctrines of brotherly love, friendship and virtue. Our Grand Secretary will soon furnish your worshipful body with a copy of our Constitution.

Before the formation of our Grand Royal Arch Chapter, each subordinate Chapter being independent of any controlling head, and fearing that regularity and harmony could not prevail, and that the great objects of our institutions for the want of concert would be lost, we petitioned your worshipful body, as the great Masonic head in the Republic of Texas, to take the subordinate Chapter within the pale of your resolution until a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the Republic could be formed. Such a one being now duly organized agreeably to the usages of the Order, the necessity of the case has passed away.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas respectfully ask of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas to relinquish and surrender all jurisdiction and control over the Royal Arch Chapters and Royal Arch Masons in the Republic of Texas upon the surrender of the Dispensations heretofore granted by your worshipful body.

With greeting of brotherly love, we shall ever remain, &c.,
(Signed,) B. GILLESPIE,

G. H. P. G. C. R. T.

On the communication being read, Bro. Teulon offered the following preamble and resolution, which were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, we have received official information that there has been constituted and formed a Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Republic of Texas for the government of the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in this Republic,

Be it therefore known and Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That we surrender all jurisdiction over the said Chapters and Royal Arch Masons to the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, they now being the appropriate head and should of right control and govern the same.

Bro. Sterne offered a resolution relative to Masons made under the French and Scottish rite, which was read and referred to a special Committee consisting of Bros. Neill, Sterne, Walton, Gillespie and Western. The special Committee reported the following substitute, which was unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That all Masons in good standing, who can produce satisfactory evidence that they have been regularly initiated, passed and raised in a regularly-constituted Lodge, working under the sanction of the Grand Lodge of France, or in a regularly-constituted Lodge, working in the ancient rite of Heroden of

Scotland, otherwise known as the Scottish rite, shall be admitted as visitors, and may be affiliated in any Lodge in this Republic by their observing the usual ceremony in such cases made and provided.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following appointments as cancelled :—

Bro. J. H. Holland, of Nacogdoches, and Bro. D. McFarland, of Matagorda, as Grand Lecturers.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following appointments :—
Bro. John H. Walton, of Galveston, as Grand Lecturer of the Republic of Texas.

“ W. D. Smith, of Houston, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 1.

“ D. McFarland, of Matagorda, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 2.

“ J. H. Holland, of Nacogdoches, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 3.

“ J. Baker, of Clarksville, District Deputy Grand Master, District No. 4.

Bro. Teulon offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That, it being the wish of Temple Lodge, No. 4, to surrender their Charter, the District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 1 be required to receive from the Secretary or other officers of said Temple Lodge, No. 4, or from any other person in whose charge the same may be, the Charter, jewels, archives, funds and other property belonging to said Lodge, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary.

Bro. Neill offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge furnish each subordinate Lodge within its jurisdiction with a copy of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and a copy of all resolutions of a general nature as soon as adopted.

Bro. Izod offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed to contract for the printing of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge as revised, and all resolutions of a general character.

Bro. Teulon offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to purchase such books as may be necessary for the use of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Walton offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed an annual salary of one hundred dollars, in addition to the usual fees now allowed.

Communications from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York were presented.

A communication from Bro. A. Neill was presented and read.
The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment, until Thursday evening, the 30th instant.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

Thursday, December 30, 1841.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie, D. G. Master, as	Senior Grand Warden.
“ D. S. Kaufman,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ S. Ingram,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ T. Bryson,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. T. G. Western.
Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	“ S. Ingram.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	“ C. Mason.

The special Committee of five reported that they had examined the accounts of Bro. T. G. Western, and had been unable to discover any vouchers of indebtedness against him the said Bro. Western, Past Grand Treasurer: they therefore recommend that the accounts of the Past Grand Treasurer be approved, and the Committee be discharged from any further consideration of said accounts. Report adopted.

Bro. Gillespie offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That in the event a bill now before Congress of said Republic, among other things authorizing this Grand Lodge to raise by lottery a sum of money sufficient to build a Grand Masonic Hall, shall pass and become a law, the following Brethren, or any three of them,—to wit: Seth Ingram, of Matagorda, John A. Greer and N. H. Darnell, of San Augustine, T. G. Western, of Houston, J. H. Walton and S. M. Williams, of Galveston, B. Gillespie, of Austin, and E. H. Tarrant, of Bowie county,—shall be a Committee to devise a scheme or schemes for the same, to superintend the drawing, to sell the scheme if deemed most advisable, to appoint treasurers, secretaries and agents, and to do all things necessary for the successful determination of said business, to receive and keep all the moneys raised by said lottery, and to report their proceedings to the next meeting of the Grand Annual Communication. It is hereby enjoined on them that they, or some one at least of said Committee, attend the drawing or drawings of said lottery, and carefully inspect all the proceedings thereof, and see that the same is conducted fairly.

The Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was then closed until its next regular Grand Annual Communication, unless sooner convened in case of emergency, in peace and harmony.

Attest,
GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

J. A. GREER,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OR GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, commenced at the town of WASHINGTON, on the second Monday in January, A.D. 1843, A.L. 5843.

OFFICERS.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. R. Scurry,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Asa Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ G. A. Patillo,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

The Lodges being called, the following were found duly represented :—

De Kalb Lodge, No. 9,	Bro. M. Ward.
Milam Lodge, No. 11,	“ E. S. Taylor.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	{ “ W. L. Cazneau.
	{ “ G. K. Teulon.
Friendship Lodge, No. 16,	“ M. W. Matthews.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

Bros. Anson Jones and Anthony Butler.

PAST MASTERS.

Bros. E. Burleson, James Webb and H. R. Cartmell.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was opened in ample form, and with prayer.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following Standing Committees :—

Foreign Communications,—Bros. Ward, Jones and Cazneau.

Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. Darnell, Brigham and Matthews.

Petitions,—Bros. Taylor, Burleson and Darnell.

By-laws,—Bros. Teulon, Brigham and Jones.

The Grand Secretary presented his Annual Report, the reading of which, on motion of Bro. Teulon, was deferred until Thursday evening

next, and a committee of three appointed to obtain a more convenient room in which to hold the meetings of the Grand Lodge. The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Teulon, Brigham and Darnell said Committee.

The following documents, accompanying the Grand Secretary's report, were severally referred to their appropriate Committees, without reading.

Report of Holland Lodge, No. 1, A.L. 5841.

" Milam Lodge, No. 11, A.L. 5841.

" Austin Lodge, No. 12, A.L. 5842.

" Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, U. D.

By-laws of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, U. D.

" Holland Lodge, No. 1.

Proceedings of the Masonic Convention held at the City of Washington, U.S., and of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Account-current of Grand Secretary was read and laid on the table until such time as a Committee on Finance shall have been appointed.

The petition of sundry Master Masons, praying for a Dispensation to establish a Lodge in the town of Washington, to be called "Washington Lodge," was presented by the Grand Secretary, and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Taylor, the Grand Secretary was instructed to call on any of the officers or members of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, resident in the town of Washington, to show cause, if any they have, why said Lodge has heretofore neglected, and does still neglect, to make its Annual Report to this Grand Lodge. Adopted.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Thursday evening at 7 o'clock, then to meet at such place as the Committee on Lodge Room may select.

GEORGE K. TEULON.

Grand Secretary.

Thursday evening, January 12, A.L. 5843.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
" James Webb,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden.
" M. Ward,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" C. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" G. A. Patillo,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

De Kalb, No. 9; Austin, No. 12; Friendship, No. 16.

The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges report, that they have examined the Annual Returns of Holland Lodge, No. 1, for 5841, and approve of the same as amended. The amount due on said returns, \$142, was paid into the Grand Treasury, in accordance with the resolution of last Grand Annual Communication.

The returns from Milam Lodge, No. 11, for 5841, have also been examined, and found correct.

The returns from Austin Lodge, No. 12, for the past year, have been examined, and found correct. The dues from this Lodge amount to \$35, and, we are informed by the Grand Secretary, have been punctually paid, notwithstanding all the local and social difficulties they have had to contend against. We notice this more especially, as Austin Lodge has always been extremely punctual in making her returns and payments, and is the only Lodge working under Charter from this Grand Lodge which has, as yet, paid the Grand Lodge dues for the past year.

The returns of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, working under Dispensation, are correct; and, inasmuch as the said Lodge has only been six months in existence, your Committee would recommend that its membership to this Grand Lodge be charged at that rate, say fifty cents for each member, for the year ending December 27, 5842. The work appears to have been correctly performed, except in one respect; namely, the examination of the candidate as to his proficiency in the Degree he last took: this is very important, and can never be dispensed with in a well-regulated Lodge. Hoping never to have occasion to notice at any future time a like dereliction of duty, your Committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue a Charter to said Lodge so soon as it remit the balance yet outstanding on its dues, &c., say \$10 50.

Your Committee would likewise recommend the issuing of a Dispensation for Washington Lodge, No. 18, as prayed for by sundry Master Masons resident in the town of Washington, your Committee having ascertained, to its entire satisfaction, the demise of Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, formerly held in said town.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to receive Exchequer bills, at par, in payment of all Grand Lodge dues for the past year; all Charters, Dispositions and Certificates to be paid for in par funds, or the equivalent thereof.

Resolved, That the third section, first chapter, of the Constitution be amended, by adding the words, "Whenever any Lodge shall fail to appoint Representatives, and thereby the Grand Lodge be prevented from proceeding with its business, from want of a quorum, the Grand Master shall have the power to constitute any Brother, member of such Lodge, present in the town where the Grand Lodge is held, its Representative."

Resolved, That the second section, first chapter, be so amended as to read, after the words Seat of Government, "or at the place at which Congress shall convene."

A. BRIGHAM,
N. H. DARNELL.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee on By-laws have to report, that they have examined the By-laws and accompanying resolution submitted by the W. Holland Lodge, No. 1, and would recommend the passage of the following resolution, so as to enable the amendments of the said By-laws to be acted on:—

Resolved, That the W. Holland Lodge, No. 1, be authorized to dispense with so much of the twentieth article of its By-laws as renders it obligatory that all amendments to said By-laws should first receive the written sanction of "two-thirds of the whole members of the Lodge," prior to any action being had thereon.

Your Committee would recommend the following amendments to said revised By-laws, and their ratification. They find in article first a proposal to change the name of the Lodge from "Holland" to "Houston." Should this be permitted, it might lead, unless a new Charter be issued, to some confusion. Suppose a Brother were to visit the Lodge after its change of name, and, as he is bound to do, call for the Charter of Houston Lodge, No. 1: it could not be produced, having no existence; and the only conclusion the Brother could possibly arrive at would be either that the Brethren of the Lodge were trying to impose upon him, or that this Grand Lodge transacted its business in a very loose manner. Your Committee would therefore recommend the rejection of the first article of the revised By-laws, and the retention of the first article of the old By-laws.

By the third article it is proposed to hold semi-annual elections for officers: this your Committee consider would be an encroachment on the ancient landmarks, and, if authorized, all Past Masters having the right of voting in the Grand Lodge, would in a short time give Holland Lodge an undue influence in the Grand Lodge. Your Committee therefore recommend its rejection, and the retention, in its place, of the second article of the old By-laws. They would also recommend that the word "semi" be stricken out, wherever it may occur, before the word "annual," in relation to elections.

Your Committee would recommend the striking out of the last paragraph of the section on "Initiations;" also, all between the word "if," in the second line, and the word "stranger," in the fourth line, of the section on "Affiliations," in consequence of its conflicting with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge. They would likewise, for the same reason, recommend the rejection of all after the word "from," in the section on "Advancement of Candidates."

Your Committee would further recommend, in order to give greater publicity to the provisions of this Grand Lodge more immediately regulating subordinate Lodges, the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That all subordinate Lodges within this Masonic jurisdiction, publishing their By-laws, shall cause to be printed and annexed to the same the 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th sections of the second chapter of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the paragraph attached to the "Form of Returns," and such general resolutions adopted by this Grand Lodge as relate to the governance of subordinate Lodges.

GEORGE K. TEULON,
ANSON JONES,
ASA BRIGHAM.

The Annual Report of the Grand Secretary, and the Report of the Special Masonic Delegate, were read and referred to a select Committee, consisting of Bros. Mason, Gillespie and Webb.

The Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas has to report, that, a few days after the close of the last Grand Annual Communication, he received the regular Annual Returns, for 5841, from the W. Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Milam Lodge, No. 11.

Accompanying the report from Holland Lodge was a communication addressed

to its Representatives, and a new code of By-laws, for the adoption of which a special Dispensation is requested.

A notice of appeal has been served on me by Mr. James Rather, against his expulsion by the W. Holland Lodge, he being at the time a member of the W. Harmony Lodge, No. 6. In the discharge of my duty, I have notified Holland Lodge of the appeal, and Mr. Rather that he will be required to appear by proxy to sustain his appeal.

In accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge, I have had the revised Constitution printed, and have distributed the same as follows,—viz.: one copy to each of the Grand Officers, five copies to each of the subordinate Lodges within this Masonic jurisdiction, and one copy to each of the Grand Lodges in America and Europe.

A statement of a case rather novel in its character has been forwarded by Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, and is herewith presented for your consideration.

Under the authority of a resolution adopting the Representative system, the Most Worshipful Grand Master was pleased, in the month of January last, to appoint me as Special Delegate, with power and authority to visit the several Grand Lodges in the United States and Europe, and establish Masonic intercourse with the same. The R. W. Bro. James Riley was at the same time appointed Representative of this Grand Lodge near the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York. My report as said Special Delegate has been prepared, and is herewith submitted. Bro. Riley having returned to this country, a new commission has been prepared, appointing, as is the custom with other Grand Lodges which have adopted the interchange system, a Brother, Past Master, resident near and member of that Grand Lodge, to represent this Grand Lodge near the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York. A commission has likewise been prepared, appointing the R. W. Bro. Richard Lee Wilson, member of the Common Council of the City of London, and a distinguished member of the M. W. Grand Lodge of England, our Representative near that M. W. Grand Lodge.

I have the honor to lay before you my annual account-current, from examination of which it will be seen that there has been received, from all sources, \$103 par funds, and \$2470 promissory notes,—in all, \$2573.

For returns and dues.....	\$2516
For Charter, Friendship Lodge, No. 16.....	45
For Diplomas.....	12

Paid the R. W. Grand Treasurer..... \$2573

By reference to the accompanying accounts against the several subordinate Lodges, made out from the books of the Grand Lodge, so as to include the returns for 5841, it will be seen that most of the Lodges are in arrears, notwithstanding the inducements held out by a resolution passed at the last Grand Annual Communication, authorizing the Grand Secretary to receive the promissory notes of the Government at seventy-five per cent. discount, when in reality they were at a discount of ninety-eight per cent., from such of the delinquent Lodges as should settle up their arrears previous to the first day of July. Several of the Lodges have altogether neglected, although requested so to do, to forward any annual returns to this Grand Lodge: this is the case with Milam Lodge, No. 2, held in the town of Nacogdoches, and Constantine Lodge, No. 13, held in the town of Warren. St. John's Lodge, No. 5, Brazoria, has made no returns since A.L. 5838. McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, held in the town of San Augustine, made no returns for the years 5838 and '39, though it has for 5840 and '41. Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, held in the town of Washington, has failed in its returns for the years 5840 and '41, and Trinity Lodge, No. 14, held in the town of Swartwout, in like manner has failed in the performance of its duty for the year 5841. Lenient measures having failed to induce the subordinate

Lodges to discharge their obligations and perform their duties, it is respectfully recommended that stronger measures be now tried; for it is not just that the whole expense of maintaining the Grand Lodge should fall upon a few Lodges. Suppose, acting on the principle heretofore adopted, of permitting the subordinate Lodges to make returns and settle their dues to the Grand Lodge at pleasure, all the Lodges were annually to send excuses instead of the returns, and apologies instead of the money, and the Grand Lodge, as heretofore, were quietly to admit the excuse and be satisfied with the apology: it would, in a very short time, be compelled to stop payment for want of funds. Let us look at our present situation, brought about by this very system of indulgence: with thirteen Lodges, numbering over three hundred members, under our jurisdiction, we are unable to provide our Grand Lodge with clothing or jewels. The Grand Lodge of Texas has been organized but little over four years and a half, and there is due from delinquent Lodges over twelve hundred dollars, for dues accrued previous to the first January, 5842. As an attempt to remedy this evil, the following resolutions are respectfully submitted:—

Resolved, That all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, in arrears for dues on the first day of July of each and every year, beginning with the present year, shall be suspended until all arrearages are settled; and it is hereby made the special duty of the Grand Secretary to notify the District Deputy Grand Masters, and the several Lodges, of the passage of this resolution, immediately after its adoption. And it is furthermore made his duty, annually, on the first day of July, to notify all Lodges, then in arrears, of their suspension, and to forward to each of the Lodges in good standing, under this jurisdiction, the M.W. Grand Master, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Lecturer, and District Deputy Grand Masters, a list of all delinquent suspended Lodges. And it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters, on the receipt of said lists, forthwith to demand of the delinquent Lodges, within their respective districts, the surrender of their Charters, jewels, &c.

Resolved, That on any Lodge, suspended for non-payment of dues, settling up such arrearages, it shall have its Charter, jewels, &c. returned, and be restored to its previous standing, and all the parties notified of its restoration who were before notified of its suspension: *Provided*, however, such settlement shall take place previous to the next Grand Annual Communication after its suspension; otherwise its Charter shall be deemed forfeited, its name erased from the rolls, its jewels, &c. becoming the property of the Grand Lodge.

Another subject, to which I would, in like manner, respectfully invite your attention, is the Diploma system, as now in use in this Grand Masonic jurisdiction. Last year I had the honor to bring the same subject before this M. W. Grand Lodge, since when I have had an opportunity of observing the systems adopted by other Grand Lodges, and have, in consequence thereof, become more fully convinced of the advantages that would accrue to this Grand Lodge, and the Fraternity, from a modification of our whole system. I would suggest a form of Diploma similar to that in use in England, as the simplest and best of the several ones which I have seen, one of which is herewith respectfully submitted. The plan I have to propose will be easily understood by the following resolutions, and from which it will be seen that the object is to simplify the whole system. The price of Diplomas should be so reduced as to place them within the reach of every Brother. In foreign countries, visiting Brethren are required to produce their Grand Lodge certificates; so ought they, likewise, in this. Many are those who, at present, surreptitiously gain admission into our Lodges, which would be obviated did subordinate Lodges do their duty and carry out the general international regulations of the institution. On a Brother joining or withdrawing from a Lodge, the same ought to be endorsed on his Grand Lodge certificate by the Secretary of such Lodge; and when a Brother contemplates visiting foreign countries, he should obtain a certificate, under the seal of the Lodge of which he is a member, or, if not a member of any Lodge

at the time, of the one of which he was last a member, to be affixed to his Grand Lodge certificate, stating his Masonic standing among the Brethren: this precaution may save him vexation and trouble. A great disadvantage that would be obviated by the adoption of the proposed form of Diploma is the difficulty of obtaining the signatures of several Grand Officers, as at present required.

Resolved, That from and after the first day of March, 1843, it shall be incumbent on each of the subordinate Lodges within this Masonic jurisdiction to charge each and every Brother who may be raised therein, in addition to his raising-fee, the sum of one dollar and fifty cents, which shall be accounted for in the annual returns of the Lodge, and be paid over to the Grand Lodge; and on the receipt of the annual returns, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to issue, and forward to the several Lodges, a Diploma for each Brother therein raised during the year: *Provided*, that if any Master Mason, entitled to a Diploma under this resolution, be desirous of receiving his said Diploma, previous to the Lodge making its annual returns, he shall obtain the certificate of the Secretary of the Lodge, under the seal of the Lodge wherein he was raised, stating that the Brother is entitled to his Diploma; on receipt of which certificate, the Grand Secretary shall make out and forward the necessary Diploma to the Secretary of such Lodge.

Resolved, That the thirteenth line of the first section, third chapter, of the Constitution, be so amended as to read, "each Diploma, one dollar;" and that the fourth line of the second section, third chapter, be so amended as to read, "for every Diploma, fifty cents."

Resolved, That, as soon as practicable, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to have engraved a new form of Diploma, adopting that of the Grand Lodge of England as a form; and a sufficient amount of the funds of this Grand Lodge is appropriated for the payment of the engraving of the plate, and the printing of a sufficient number of copies of the same on good paper.

Resolved, That the signature of the Grand Secretary shall be the only signature requisite to be affixed to the new form of Diploma.

Resolved, That, as soon as possible, after the new form of Diploma shall be ready for delivery, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to forward a copy of the same to each Grand Lodge in communication with this Grand Lodge, requesting from them a copy of their Diploma, in exchange, to file among the archives of this Grand Lodge.

Agreeably to the instructions of the M. W. Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, I wrote to the E. Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, held at St. Louis, Missouri, in relation to the expulsion of Mr. Busby, but as yet have received no reply. No reply has been received from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama, in relation to the expulsion of Dr. S. G. Haynie.

The portion of the records, &c. of the late Temple Lodge, No. 4, have been received by the District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 1, and by him transferred to me.

Copies of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and of the Masonic Convention which met at Washington City, U.S., in March last, have been received, and are herewith presented.

It becomes my painful duty to notify the Grand Lodge of the demise of the R. W. Bro. Alexander Russell, Past Deputy Grand Master, and of the W. Bro. I. N. Moreland, Junior Grand Deacon.

Since the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, a Dispensation has been granted by the M. W. Grand Master, to several Master Masons, to hold a Lodge at Fanthorp's, Montgomery county, under the title of Orphans' Friend Lodge. The Dispensation has been returned with the records and By-laws, and the brethren ask for a Warrant.

GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

BRETHREN:—According to the requirements of my commission as Special Masonic Delegate of your Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I have the honor to report as follows:—

Acting in accordance with my instructions, on arriving at New York, I waited on the Grand Secretary of that State, and presented my Credentials. That Grand Lodge was not in session at the time of my visit: its Grand Officers, however, to testify their respect for this Grand Lodge, tendered to me, as your representative, the highest mark of honor and respect in their power to confer, a public Masonic entertainment; which was accepted. It was to me, at the time, and still is, a source of regret, that a violent attack of sick headache should have prevented me from representing this Grand Lodge in such a manner as I could have wished. A token, presented to me on that occasion, to file among the archives of this Grand Lodge, in commemoration of the event, accompanies this report. This token, though itself of little or no intrinsic value, will, I feel convinced, be equally as precious in your estimation as if it had been composed of the most costly materials. It is not the substance,—it is the act and associations connected with it, which enhance its worth. During my stay in New York, I made it my especial duty to inquire into the Diploma system, and the mode of keeping the books, registers, &c. of that R. W. Grand Lodge: in prosecuting these inquiries I received, and gratefully acknowledge, much valuable assistance from Bro. Herring.

From New York I proceeded to England, where I had the honor of submitting to the M. W. Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, my commission, at a long and interesting interview had with him for that purpose. At this interview I called the attention of His Royal Highness to the subject of an interchange of Deputies, or Representatives, between the Grand Lodges of England and Texas: the proposal was agreed to, and I was assured that whenever this Grand Lodge appointed its resident Representative near the Grand Lodge of England, that some Brother, resident in Texas, would, in like manner, be appointed to represent that Grand Lodge. I have recommended to the M. W. Grand Master the appointment of Bro. Richard Lee Wilson, a worthy and distinguished Brother, and an eminent merchant and citizen of the City of London, as a fit and proper person to represent this Grand Lodge. In accordance with that recommendation, his commission, letters of credence and instructions have been prepared.

In England, as in the United States, my attention was directed to the system of Grand Lodge certificates, or Diplomas; also, to the mode of “work” in the several Degrees. The whole result of my observations, on this latter branch, cannot consistently be committed to writing. That some difference does exist is evident from the following facts:—

The officers of the English Lodges are the Master, two Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, two Deacons, *Inner Guard*, and Tyler or Outer Guard. The station and duty of the Inner Guard are sufficiently explained by the title. It would be no disadvantage if a like officer were added to the American Lodges,—especially on the occasion of the preparation and admission of candidates. The clothing of the several Degrees is properly regulated by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge: each Brother is prohibited from appearing in the Grand Lodge without his appropriate clothing and jewels; and no Brother is allowed to wear, in any subordinate Lodge, any Masonic jewel or clothing, save such as may be acknowledged by the Grand Lodge. The jewel of the Deacons is a dove, and of the Inner Guard the cross-swords.

Although it is thus seen a difference does exist, that difference in no wise interferes with the principles of the institution. The means of recognition are

the same in both hemispheres: it is only in the method of working that we at all vary.

Accompanying this, I have the honor to submit, for your consideration, the form of Diploma, as adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, and recommend its adoption by this Grand Lodge.

As the Representative system has been formally adopted by this Grand Lodge, I applied myself to the task of obtaining all possible information in relation to the mode in which it is conducted by other Grand Lodges. In Europe it has long existed, and is highly appreciated. There they correctly view each *national* Grand Lodge as a separate and distinct Masonic government, and regularly appoint their delegates to watch over their interests and rights at, as it were, each others' courts. These Masonic delegates or deputies are invariably Past Masters, members of the Grand Lodge to which they are delegated, and, on all proper occasions, appear in the costume of the Grand Lodge by which they are delegated. It is their duty to hold regular Masonic correspondence with the Grand Lodge they are appointed to represent, keeping it constantly advised of all matters relative to the *Craft*, as well as to receive and transmit all Masonic documents emanating from the Grand Lodge by which they are appointed: in fine, they perform duties, as delegates, for the various Masonic governments, similar to those that ministers and consular agents perform for political governments.

I have alluded to the necessity Masonic delegates are under of appearing, on all proper occasions, in the costume of the Grand Lodge they represent. I would especially invite the attention of this Grand Lodge to that subject. It has adopted the Representative system, but it has neglected a very important point to enable that system to be carried out,—the providing of an appropriate regalia. It is true, the initiatory step has been taken,—this Grand Lodge having, by resolution, declared "*scarlet*" as the color of its costume. I speak the more freely on this subject from the fact of having experienced no little embarrassment from the non-provision of appropriate clothing. I would respectfully submit for your consideration the subjoined resolution:—

Resolved, That the following be adopted as the proper Masonic clothing of the Representatives of the Grand Lodge of Texas near foreign Grand Lodges:—

COLLAR.—Scarlet velvet, trimmed with one-inch gold lace. In front, in the centre, a five-pointed star; with a sprig of live-oak, commencing at the star, running the whole length of the right-hand side, and, in like manner, on the left-hand side, a sprig of olive. The star and sprigs of olive and live-oak to be embroidered in gold.

APRON.—White lambskin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, twelve to fourteen inches deep, square at bottom, the flap or fall angular, trimmed with two-inch scarlet lace, bullion tassels, &c. On the flap, the "All-Seeing Eye," either painted or embroidered. On the body, a wreath composed of sprigs of live-oak and olive. In the centre of the wreath, the initial letters G. L. R. T. interlaced. The wreath and letters to be embroidered in gold.

GAUNTLETS.—Scarlet velvet, trimmed with one-inch gold lace, and embroidered in gold, with the initials G. L. R. T. in the centre of a wreath, as on the apron.

JEWEL.—Wreath of gold, composed of sprigs of live-oak and olive. In the centre of the wreath, the compass and quadrant, enclosing an irradiated five-pointed star.

Another subject to which my attention was directed was to ascertain if a Master Mason could properly be a member of two Lodges at one and the same time. Most of the members of the Grand Lodge will recollect that this question was under discussion before them at the last Grand Annual Communication, in relation to Bro. Isaac Campbell, reported as member of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and Austin Lodge, No. 12. I found in the United States much diversity of opinion respecting this subject. In England, a Master Mason is permitted to hold membership, and even office, in two or more Lodges at one and the same time; and, from old records which were shown to me, I am satisfied that the

same practice has prevailed among the Craft for centuries,—long before the American Grand Lodges could by any chance have existed.

In both countries I find rules regulating visiting Brethren; it being justly held that those who do not benefit the Craft shall not be benefited by the Craft. Believing that this course could be advantageously adopted in this Republic, I am induced to submit for your consideration the following resolution:—

Resolved, That hereafter no Master Mason, resident of any county in this Republic in which there is a Lodge, shall be allowed to visit any Lodge, under this Masonic jurisdiction, more than three times, unless he be a member, in good standing, of some leading Masonic body (Lodge, Chapter, Council or Encampment) within this Masonic jurisdiction.

I cannot, in justice to myself, close this report without alluding to the many acts of kindness I experienced at the hands of the Right Worshipful Bro. James Herring, the worthy Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and requesting of this Grand Lodge to pass him an unanimous vote of thanks. This I consider due to this Most Worshipful body, and to the Right Worshipful Brother, inasmuch as the attentions received by me must be deemed to have been paid to the Grand Secretary and Special Delegate of this Grand Lodge, and not to me individually.

A few days previous to my leaving London, on my return to this country, I received a letter from the R. W. William H. White, the talented and worthy Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, from which I have the honor to lay before you the following extract: the letter itself accompanies this report:—

“I am commanded by the M. W. Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, to request that you convey to the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Texas the assurances of his Brotherly consideration.”

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully and fraternally,

GEORGE K. TEULON.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint Bros. Gillespie and Darnell as a Committee on Finance.

The Annual Financial Report of the Grand Secretary was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock.

GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

Friday evening, January 13, A.L. 5843.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Asa Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.

R. W. G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" M. Ward,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" W. L. Cazneau,	Grand Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
" S. Whiting,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Friendship, No. 16; Washington, U. D.

The special Committee made the following report, which was read and unanimously adopted:—

The special Committee, to whom was referred the Annual Report of the Grand Secretary, and the Report of the Special Masonic Delegate, beg leave to report that they have examined the same, and recommend the adoption of said reports, and the resolutions therein contained; they also recommend the adoption of the following resolutions,—viz.:

Resolved, That the members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas deeply lament the demise of our worthy Brothers, Alexander Russell, Past Deputy Grand Master, and Isaac N. Moreland, Junior Grand Deacon, and that the members of this Grand Lodge wear mourning for thirty days, as an evidence of their respect for the memory of our deceased Brethren.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas be, and the same are hereby, tendered to the R. W. Bro. James Herring, the worthy and able Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, for the solicitude evinced by him to advance the interests of "Freemasonry," and more especially of this Grand Lodge, on the occasion of the visit of our Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. G. K. Teulon, as our Special Masonic Delegate to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York: and as a testimonial of the manner in which this Grand Lodge regards the services of the said R. W. Bro. James Herring, it does hereby constitute him an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Be it further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution, signed by the Grand Master, and attested by the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, be transmitted to R. W. Bro. James Herring.

CHARLES MASON,
JAMES WEBB,
BARRY GILLESPIE.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee on Finance have the honor of submitting the following report, upon the Annual Returns of the Grand Secretary for the year 5842, referred to them by the M. W. Grand Lodge: That they have carefully examined the account-current, debits, credits and vouchers, and find them all correct, and would recommend their reception and adoption by the Grand Lodge. Balance due Grand Secretary, first January, 5843, is \$44 50. All of which is respectfully submitted.

BARRY GILLESPIE.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Annual Report of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, was presented, read and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The following resolutions were severally read a second time and passed to their third reading:—

To authorize the M. W. Grand Master to appoint Representatives for subordinate Lodges, whenever necessary, to complete a quorum in the Grand Lodge;

To regulate the place of meeting of the Grand Lodge;

To require subordinate Lodges to publish, with their By-laws, such sections of the Constitution, and such general resolutions of the Grand Lodge, as relate to their governance;

To compel delinquent Lodges to make their annual returns and settle their arrearages of Grand Lodge dues;

To alter and amend the Diploma system;

Adopting a Grand Lodge costume;

Regulating visiting Brethren.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the R. W. G. K. Teulon, our worthy Grand Secretary, for the faithful and able manner in which he represented the interest of this Grand Lodge, and of Masonry in this country, during his visit to the United States and England.

On motion of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary was instructed to register W. Bro. H. R. Cartmell, Past Master of the late Phoenix Lodge, No. 8, and member of Washington Lodge, U. D., as a member of this Grand Lodge.

This being the evening appointed by the Constitution for the annual election of officers, the Grand Lodge, in accordance therewith, proceeded with the election. The M. W. Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that he expected to be absent from the Republic the greater part of the ensuing year, and must therefore decline being put in nomination for re-election. The ballot was then taken, when the following Brethren were duly elected, and proclaimed accordingly,— viz. :

M. W. James Webb, of Austin,	Grand Master.
R. W. N. H. Darnell, of San Augustine,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ E. Burleson, of Bastrop,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ A. Brigham, of Washington,	Grand Treasurer.
“ G. K. Teulon, of Austin,	Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint Bros. Teulon, Gillespie and Cazneau a committee to wait on the Grand Master elect and inform him of his election.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock, then to install the officers elect.

Saturday morning, January 14, 5843.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. J. A. Greer,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ C. Mason,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ N. H. Darnell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
“ G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ M. Ward,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. L. Cazneau,	Grand Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
“ S. Whiting,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

So much of the minutes of the meeting of 13th instant as relates to the election of officers being read, and all the officers elect being present, they were severally installed into their respective offices, and, being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the Craft.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments for the year 5843,—viz.:

R. W. E. H. Tarrant, of Boston,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ R. E. B. Baylor, of Rutersville,	Grand Chaplain.
“ J. H. Walton, of Galveston,	Grand Lecturer.
“ W. B. Ochiltree, of San Augustine,	Grand Orator.
“ H. R. Cartmell, of Washington,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ W. L. Cazneau, of Austin,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ M. Ward, of De Kalb,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
“ S. Whiting, of Austin,	Grand Marshal.
“ E. W. Taylor, of Independence,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward, of Austin,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. E. S. Perkins, of Houston,	First Masonic District.
“ Anson Jones, of Columbia,	Second Masonic District.
“ A. Sterne, of Nacogdoches,	Third Masonic District.
“ M. W. Matthews, of Clarksville,	Fourth Masonic District.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Saturday afternoon, January 14, 5843.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. James Webb,	Grand Master.
R. W. B. Gillespie,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" N. H. Darnell,	Senior Grand Warden.
" E. Burleson,	Junior Grand Warden.
" A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" W. L. Cazneau,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" M. Ward,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" S. Whiting,	Grand Marshal.
" E. W. Taylor,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. T. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Friendship, No. 16; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, U. D.

Bro. Darnell, from the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, reported verbally that they had examined the returns of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and found the same, so far as they are able to judge, correct; that said returns are very imperfect, and are not made out in accordance with the form of returns adopted by this Grand Lodge and appended to its Constitution. The amount due, as per said returns, is \$31. Report adopted.

Bro. Teulon, from the Committee on By-laws, reported on the By-laws of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17; which report was adopted and By-laws, as amended, ratified.

Bro. Barry Gillespie, from the Committee on Finance, reported verbally that they had examined the Annual Report of the Grand Treasurer, comparing it with the vouchers, and find the same correct. The balance in the Grand Treasurer's hands is \$1680 75 in the promissory notes of this Government, at present worth about two cents on the dollar.

The report of the R. W. J. H. Holland, District Deputy Grand Master for the Third Masonic District, was presented and read.

The Annual Returns of Holland Lodge, No. 1, were presented and read.

The resolution authorizing the M. W. Grand Master to appoint Representatives for subordinate Lodges, whenever necessary to complete a quorum in the Grand Lodge, was then taken up on its third and final reading and adopted.

The resolution to regulate the place of meeting of the Grand Lodge was then taken up on its third and final reading. Bro. Mason moved to amend the same by striking out the words "at the seat of government or;" which amendment was adopted, and the resolution, as amended, passed.

The following resolutions were severally read a third time and adopted:—

To require subordinate Lodges to publish with their By-laws such sections of the Constitution and such general resolutions of the Grand Lodge as relate to their governance.

To compel delinquent Lodges to make their annual returns and settle their arrearages of Grand Lodge dues.

To alter and amend the Diploma system.

Adopting a Grand Lodge costume.

Regulating visiting Brethren.

There being no further business, the M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, according to ancient usages.

GEORGE K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

JAMES WEBB,
Grand Master.

CIRCULAR.

To the Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens and Brethren of the several Subordinate Lodges in the Republic of Texas.

BRETHREN:—At the Fifth Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, held at the City of Austin, A.L. 5841, it was made the duty of the Grand Master annually to address a circular to the several subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction upon the following subjects:—

First,—To urge “a more rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for the privileges of Masonry;”

Secondly,—To urge “a more strict conformity with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge and the By-laws of their respective Lodges;” and

Thirdly,—To require from each Lodge “a constant and supervisory control over the moral character and conduct of its members.”

As the points upon which I am thus directed to address you imply in themselves a dereliction of duty on the part of some of the subordinate Lodges, I should be placed in a delicate attitude, in performing the task required of me, were I not conscious that I am addressing Brethren as anxious as myself to elevate the moral standard of the Order, and who think and feel with me, and with the Grand Lodge, that in this young Republic, where our organization is yet comparatively new, and where the materials of which our Fraternity is, in a great degree, to be composed, are still to be subjected to that ordeal which alone can keep our Lodges pure and bright and give them a character which neither calumny can tarnish nor misrepresentation affect. Whatever, therefore, I may say in this letter will be attributed to a proper zeal for the advancement of the great objects we had in view in connecting ourselves together in this mystic tie, and will be received and acted upon in that fraternal spirit in which it is dictated.

The first subject presented in the resolution of the Grand Lodge is one of such high importance to the Craft that its bare mention is sufficient, without comment, to cause its just appreciation. To guard well the portals of the sanctuary is one of the first Masonic lessons inculcated, and it is one that can never be too frequently brought to mind or be too strictly observed. It is the key that preserves the respectability, usefulness and happiness of each Lodge. We are required to live together in brotherly love and friendship; but this can never be done if we permit men with whom we cannot associate in the private walks of life—men who are not restrained by honorable motives and feelings and who are incapable of appreciating the objects of our institution—to mingle with us

VOL. I.—9

and participate in privileges which they cannot enjoy. The admission of such individuals gives rise to manifold injuries of the most serious and paralyzing kind. Such members not only produce discord and strife where nothing but peace and harmony should reign, but they bring utter and hopeless discredit upon the societies to which they are known to belong. What confidence can the world repose in an institution which professes to have for its objects the inculcation of honor and integrity, and the practice of virtue, benevolence and charity, when they see men, wearing its badges and associating with its most distinguished votaries and supporters, who are known to be contemners of all that is good and amiable in life? And this is not the only or worst evil which necessarily follows these unguarded and thoughtless admissions: the great objects which Masons have in view are defeated by them. We expect improvement in the moral and social virtues which adorn the man, by conversation and intercourse with the members of our Fraternity; but can this be attained if those who belong to our Lodges are incapable of governing themselves or of imparting salutary counsels and instructions to others? We are told to look upon Masons, wherever we find them, as friends and brothers; but can this be done when we see men, claiming to belong to the Order, whose conduct in the world is such as to render it necessary for our own safety and respectability that we should shun them? Our Brethren are taught to believe that they and their widows and orphans will find the hand of charity extended to them in their distresses; but can there be consolation in such assurances when they daily perceive the efforts of one Mason to cheat and defraud another, and, what is worse, when they see attempts to rob the widow and the orphan of the small pittance which industry and frugality had left for their support? These are evils which we and all Masons are compelled to see. They exist, and we cannot hide them either from our own eyes or the eyes of the world, and there is but one certain way to prevent them: that way is to observe in the subordinate Lodges, in the language of the resolution of the Grand Lodge, "*a more rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for the privileges of Masonry.*" Let me, then, urge upon you the most sedulous attention to your BALLOT-BOXES. In them you have a sure protection from the evils under which Masonry has long suffered, and under which it will continue to suffer, unless they be properly guarded.

The second subject upon which I am directed to address you, though of less vital importance to the Craft than the first, is nevertheless one of high consideration. No association of individuals can long be preserved unless the laws by which it is governed are duly respected. This remark is applicable to all societies, but more especially to ours, where there are none but moral influences to govern us and to enforce a due observance of the rules and regulations necessary to our corporate existence. With Masons, however, none but moral restraints should be necessary; morality is the foundation-stone upon which their edifice is reared, and whatever it inculcates they have solemnly undertaken to perform. It can scarcely be necessary for me to point out, in an address to intelligent Masons, the disorganization and confusion which would unavoidably result from a disregard of the Constitution and laws which they have adopted for their social government, and still less can it be necessary that I should call their attention in detail to the various duties which are enjoined by them. The resolution of the Grand Lodge is of itself sufficient to show what is expected, and to that resolution I most respectfully and earnestly invite your particular notice and regard.

The third and last subject to be embraced in this address is one nearly akin in its character and consequences to the first: it is one, upon the proper observance of which, in subordinate Lodges, much of the character, happiness and usefulness of Masonic institutions rests. As it is necessary to be exceedingly careful in preventing those who are not *worthy* from gaining admission into our societies, so is it equally necessary to see that those who have been admitted square their conduct according to Masonic rule, and by their actions bring no

discredit upon those with whom they are associated. If a Brother err, admonish him in brotherly love and charity, and if he persist in his error, deal with him according to your laws and the character of his offences. I am aware that it is at all times painful to a generous mind to contemplate the infliction of punishment, and it is particularly so when that punishment may have to rest upon one with whom we have been connected in ties of friendship and brotherly love; but if the purging of our institutions be essential to their purity, we should not hesitate in the performance of so sacred a duty after all milder remedies have failed. We have nothing to commend us to the world except the purity of our conduct and the uprightness of our walk before the rest of mankind. Our business is transacted in secret, and that of itself has a tendency to create a prejudice on the part of those who know not the motives and objects of our labors; and if to our secret operations there should be superadded a careless, dissolute and immoral course on the part of any of our members, it will unavoidably bring disgrace and contempt on the institution itself. It is unavailing to urge the infirmities of man as an extenuation for such departures from rectitude in the eyes of the world: they know us not, except as we are seen abroad, and whatever is discoverable in a Mason which would be objectionable in a man is at once attributed to the influence of our secret associations, and by that means the institution, and all who belong to it, are made to suffer for the misdeeds of those who are unworthy to minister within its temple.

In presenting these subjects to your consideration, Brethren, in compliance with the duty enjoined upon me, I feel assured that it is only necessary to call your attention to them in the brief manner which I have now done. Your own Masonic character and virtues are sufficient guarantees with me that the objects sought to be accomplished by the Grand Lodge in the passage of this resolution will meet your hearty co-operation and support.

Wishing you collectively and individually all prosperity and happiness, I have the honor to be most fraternally and sincerely yours,

JAMES WEBB,
Grand Master G. L. T.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OR GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, commenced at the town of WASHINGTON, on the second Monday in January, A.D. 1844, A.L. 5844.

OFFICERS.

M. W.	James Webb,	Grand Master.
R. W.	N. H. Darnell,	Senior Grand Warden.
"	J. M. Swisher,	Junior Grand Warden p. t.
"	A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
"	G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
"	H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	W. L. Cazneau,	Junior Grand Deacon.
"	E. W. Taylor,	Grand Pursuivant.
W.	J. W. Mann,	Grand Tyler p. t.

The Lodge-roll being called, the following Lodges were found duly represented:—

Holland Lodge, No. 1, Houston, Bro. A. S. Ruthven.

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, San Augustine, Bro. N. H. Darnell.
 De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, Bros. J. McFarlane and M. Ward, Jr.
 Milam Lodge, No. 11, Independence, Bros. M. Johnson and E. W. Taylor.

Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin, Bro. W. L. Cazneau.
 Trinity Lodge, No. 14, Swartwout, Bro. G. A. Patillo.
 Friendship Lodge, No. 16, Clarksville, Bro. W. H. Bourland.
 Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, Fanthorp's, Bros. J. C. Massie and G. W. Patrick.

U. D. Washington, Washington, Jno. M. Swisher, D. D. Crumpler and W. P. Rutledge.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was opened in ample form, and with prayer.

The M. W. Grand Master, on motion, deferred the appointment of the regular committees until after the Grand Lodge should be called to refreshment.

A petition from sundry Master Masons for a Dispensation to open a Lodge at Huntsville was presented by the R. W. N. H. Darnell, and referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Returns were presented from Holland Lodge, No. 1, De Kalb, No. 9, Milam, No. 11, Austin, No. 12, Friendship, No. 16, Orphans' Friend, No. 17, Washington, U. D., and referred to the Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges.

Copies of the By-laws adopted by Milam Lodge, No. 11, and Friendship Lodge, No. 16, were presented, and referred to the Committee on By-laws.

The Annual Report of the Grand Secretary was presented, read and referred to a special committee.

Sundry resolutions accompanying the Grand Secretary's Report were read and referred to the special Committee on said report; and the sundry foreign communications were referred to the Committee on Correspondence.

A communication from the R. W. Grand Secretary of the State of New York, relative to a Joseph Hall, who had stolen a large amount of Texas money, was read.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor until to-morrow evening, early candlelight.

Tuesday evening, January 9, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell, Grand Master *p. t.*

R. W. E. W. Taylor, Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*

R. W. J. C. Massie, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " A. Brigham, Grand Treasurer.
 " Geo. K. Teulon, Grand Secretary.
 " H. R. Cartmell, Senior Grand Deacon.
 " A. S. Ruthven, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 W. W. P. Rutledge, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Trinity, No. 14; Friendship, No. 16; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, U. D.

A communication from Bro. L. G. Hoffman, of Albany, New York, relative to Geo. Fisher, agent for the Masonic Register, was presented, read and referred to a special committee, consisting of Bros. Ruthven, Cartmell and Taylor.

A communication from McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, relative to Bro. John Gillespie, a member of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, was presented, read and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the preceding evening, after the Grand Lodge had been called from labor, he had appointed the following Committees:—

On By-laws,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, M. Ward, Jr. and H. R. Cartmell.

On Foreign Communications,—Bros. T. G. Western, H. F. Fisher and N. H. Darnell.

On Finance,—Bros. C. Mason, A. S. Ruthven and M. Johnson.

On Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. G. M. Patrick, W. H. Bourland and J. A. Greer.

On Returns from Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. J. M. Swisher, J. C. Massie and C. Mason.

On Petitions,—Bros. H. R. Cartmell, E. W. Taylor and D. D. Crumpler.

On Unfinished Business,—Bros. A. Brigham, W. L. Cazneau and W. P. Rutledge.

Select Committee on Grand Secretary's Report,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, R. Scurry, N. H. Darnell, H. R. Cartmell and J. McFarland.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

As Chairman of the Committee on By-laws appointed by your worshipful body, I beg leave to report on those that have been submitted for investigation,—one from Friendship Lodge, No. 16, held at Clarksville,—and would respectfully recommend the approval of the same by this Grand Lodge, with this exception: there appears to be an amendment to Article II., Section 2, (as written in the Code of By-laws which they have adopted,) and altered to read thus:—"That the Worshipful Master shall not be eligible after the second term, in regular succession." This, in the opinion of your Committee, is a partial infringement and removal of some of the ancient usages and customs of our Order, and

would recommend that the same amendment be stricken therefrom, and the following adopted:—

“That the W. Master of the Lodge may always be in nomination for that office.”

There is likewise an amendment in Article IX. concerning visiting Brethren, which we would recommend should read as follows:—

“Visiting Brethren shall, upon application to enter the Lodge, give—in writing—their names, and the name of the Lodge of which they are members; and, unless vouched for by a Brother, shall be examined by a committee.”

This, together with the following article from the Constitution, we would recommend:—

“That hereafter no Master Mason, resident of any county of this Republic in which there is a Lodge, shall be allowed to visit any Lodge under this Masonic jurisdiction more than three times, unless he be a member, in good standing, of some legal Masonic body within this Masonic jurisdiction.”

The other, which was submitted for our investigation from Milam Lodge, No. 11, held at Independence, has been found correct, and we respectfully recommend their approval.

With fraternal regard,

I remain yours,

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Chairman.

The select Committee on the Grand Secretary's report and accompanying resolutions made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary beg leave to report that they have examined the same, and would most respectfully recommend that they approve of the publication and distribution of the proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication; and hope that the same may meet with the approval of your honorable body, this course having been highly beneficial to the interests of our Order.

Your Committee cannot but feel highly gratified at the disposition evinced by the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, as shown in his report, not only for his ardor and zeal for the welfare of our ancient and honorable institution, but for the various suggestions and propositions which he has advanced, and which he recommends for your serious consideration; and, as these suggestions are further embodied in a series of resolutions which are appended to the report, they (your Committee) would most respectfully recommend that the report itself be received and adopted, and that the several resolutions be brought up in rotation before your honorable body, and then be disposed of as their merits and usefulness may suggest.

A. S. RUTHVEN.

H. R. CARTMELL.

JACOB MCFARLAND.

The several resolutions accompanying the Grand Secretary's report were laid on the table, to come up in the course of the evening.

The Annual Report of the Grand Treasurer was presented, read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Dispensation of Washington Lodge, U. D., together with the By-laws adopted by the Lodge, and its minutes for the past year, were presented, and a Charter requested.

The By-laws were referred to the Committee on By-laws, and the minutes and petition for Charter to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The following resolutions, accompanying the Grand Secretary's report, were taken up, read and adopted:—

A resolution revoking certain Charters and Dispensations.

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas in Grand Annual Communication, That the Charters of St. John's Lodge, No. 5, held at Columbia, and Constantine Lodge, No. 13, held at Warren, and the Dispensations heretofore granted to Perfect Union Lodge, No. 10, Santa Fé Lodge, No. 15, and Gonzales Lodge, be, and the same are hereby, revoked; and the Grand Secretary is hereby instructed to demand and obtain, through the respective District Deputy Grand Masters, the several Charters, Dispensations, jewels, funds, records, &c., if any such there be in existence, of the aforesaid delinquent Lodges.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed annually, to be styled the "Committee on Printing," whose duty it shall be, immediately on the close of each session of the Grand Lodge, as they may deem advisable, to have printed and distributed the proceedings of the Grand Lodge; and they shall enter into contract for the printing of the same,—subject to the approval of the Grand Master; and it is hereby made the duty of the Grand Secretary, under the direction of said "Committee on Printing," to superintend the printing thereof; and he shall publish, at the close of the report, a statement of the several Lodges in Texas, together with the names of their officers, and a list of expulsions, suspensions, reinstatements, demises and admissions,—omitting the publication of the names of rejected applicants.

Resolved, That the receiving, by any Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, of individual promissory notes in payment of fees for the several Degrees, is in violation of the Constitutions of Free Masonry, and a removal of ancient landmarks.

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be instructed to report on the subject of the promissory notes of the Government held by this Grand Lodge, and suggest such disposition thereof as they may deem most advantageous to this Grand Lodge.

The R. W. Grand Secretary presented the following preamble and resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Whereas, The peculiar situation of Austin Lodge, No. 12, and the dispersion of its members consequent on the invasion of Texas by the Mexicans, in the spring of 1842, prevented many of its members from settling up their dues and obtaining demits; and they, in consequence thereof, became suspended by the action of the By-laws of said Lodge, and are reported as such to this Grand Lodge: therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the sentence of suspension against such Brethren as have become so suspended be remitted; and that Austin Lodge, No. 12, be authorized and recommended to grant honorable demits to said Brethren, on their paying up their dues to the time at which they were prevented, by the situation of the Lodge, as before stated, from applying for and obtaining their demits.

The business on the Grand Secretary's table having been disposed of, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening at early candle-light.

G. K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary.

Wednesday evening, January 10, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. James Webb, Grand Master.
R. W. N. H. Darnell, Senior Grand Warden.

- R. W. J. M. Swisher, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " A. Brigham, Grand Treasurer.
 " G. K. Teulon, Grand Secretary.
 " H. R. Cartmell, Senior Grand Deacon.
 " A. S. Ruthven, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " E. W. Taylor, Grand Pursuivant.
 W. M. F. Jones, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; De Kalb, No. 9; Trinity, No. 14; Friendship, No. 16; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, U. D.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

As Chairman of the Committee on By-laws appointed by your honorable body, I most respectfully recommend the enclosed By-laws, from Washington Lodge, U. D., for your approval.
 A. S. RUTHVEN, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

BRETHREN:—Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave respectfully to report, that they have perused with all the care and attention circumstances and the limited time have permitted, and recommend to the attention of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, document marked "A" in relation to the *Representative system and Grand Lodge Certificates.*

That the Grand Secretary transmit to Holland Lodge, No. 1, a copy of the document marked "B" from St. Louis Lodge, No. 20, relative to the expulsion of Daniel Busby. That the Grand Secretary transmit, to all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this M. W. Grand Lodge, the import of the charges alleged against one Joseph Hall by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, [see Document C.] or that it be published in the proceedings.

The documents from the Grand Lodge of the Eclectic Free Masons' Union, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, are of a very interesting character, but time has not been allowed for their translation from the German language. The same may be said with regard to those in Spanish, from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Venezuela; and it is recommended that a Masonic correspondence be continued with those Worshipful Grand Lodges.

The documents from the States of Maryland, Indiana, New York, Tennessee, New Hampshire, Mississippi and Alabama manifest the most flattering prospects in the Masonic firmament; and, as our institution is in its bloom in our new Republic, we recommend an uninterrupted communication and exchange of courtesies with the Grand Lodges of those States in particular, as well as those of the United States in general. All of which your Committee most respectfully submit.
 THOMAS G. WESTERN, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

BRETHREN:—The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the account-current and vouchers from the R. W. Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report, that they have examined the same and find it correct, and recommend its reception and adoption by the M. W. Grand Lodge.

There appears to be on hand in the treasury, in promissory notes, \$3562 75. This your Committee would suggest the propriety of retaining on hand until the

next Grand Annual Communication. There also appears to be on hand the sum of \$22 50 in par funds.

Your Committee have also carefully examined the annual returns of the R. W. Grand Secretary for the year 5843, and find the debits, credits, vouchers and account-current, in every particular, correct; and the amount now due the Grand Secretary appears to be \$162 75 in par funds, and \$5 03½ in Exchequer bills.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
CHAS. MASON.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges reported the following :—

The Committee appointed by your worshipful body, on Subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report, that they have had before them a petition for a Charter from the W. Master, Wardens and Brethren of Washington Lodge, No. 18, held in the town of Washington, who have been working under a Dispensation, and find that their minutes and mode of work are in conformity with the ancient usages and landmarks: they would therefore recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.

They also recommend that the following preamble and resolution, from Trinity Lodge, No. 14, be adopted :—

Whereas, owing to the general embarrassment of the citizens in the vicinity of the Trinity River, caused by continued high water and the almost impassable state of the roads, together with continued sickness among the Brethren, the Lodge called Trinity Lodge, No. 14, held in Swartwout, has been unable, during the last six months, to hold any meetings for initiation, passing or raising; and there being in that case considerable doubt whether they have been able to elect their officers on the day appointed by the M. W. Grand Lodge; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the M. W. Master, Wardens and Brethren of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, be, and are hereby, authorized to go into an election for their proper officers at as early a period as practicable, and report the same.

The communication which has been before us, from the Secretary of McFarlane Lodge, we beg to refer to a select committee.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Chairman.

The report, embracing the preamble and resolution, was adopted.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Bros. T. G. Western, N. H. Darnell and H. R. Cartmell the special Committee on the communication from McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, relative to Bro. John Gillespie.

The Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges made the following report :—

The Committee to whom was referred the returns of subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that they have examined various returns, and have found the following amounts to be due the Grand Lodge,—viz. :

From Holland Lodge, No. 1, for 1843.....	\$46 00
“ McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, for 1843.....	49 50
“ De Kalb Lodge, No. 9, for 1842.....	32 50
“ Milam Lodge, No. 11, for 1842 and '43.....	51 00
“ Austin Lodge, No. 12, for 1843.....	13 00
“ Friendship Lodge, No. 16, for 1842.....	15 50
“ “ “ “ “ 1843.....	80 00
“ Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, for 1843.....	87 50
“ Washington Lodge, No. 18, for 1843.....	31 00

They would further state, that they have examined the returns of Milam Lodge, No. 2, for the years 1839, '40, '41 and '42, and find the amount due by said Lodge to be \$976 in the promissory notes of the Government, and \$32 50 in Exchequer bills; which amount has been paid into the hands of Bro. Adolphus Sterne, District Deputy Grand Master for that district.

Your Committee would remark that they deeply regret having to find fault with the returns from Friendship Lodge, No. 16, and Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17. They have been made out regardless of the form laid down for their governance, notwithstanding the form is attached to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, subject to the inspection of every one. They sincerely hope that a similar Committee hereafter will not have to notice a like dereliction.

JNO. M. SWISHER, *Chairman.*

The Committee on the communication from Bro. L. G. Hoffman made the following report, which was adopted :—

BRETHREN :—The Committee appointed by your worshipful body to report on the communication from Bro. Hoffman relative to the subscription caused to be made, through the instrumentality of Bro. Fisher, to a Masonic periodical printed in the City of Albany, beg leave to report, that they would recommend the same to be referred to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Holland Lodge, No. 1, held in the City of Houston, for their investigation, and that they be required to report their proceedings to the next Grand Annual Communication.

A. S. RUTHVEN, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Petitions made a report on the petition from several Master Masons for a Dispensation or Warrant to open a Lodge at Huntsville, which was read, and, on motion, recommitted to same Committee.

The special Committee on the petition of Bro. R. C. Doom reported on the same by resolution.

Bro. R. Scurry offered the following as a substitute therefor, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That Washington Lodge, No. 18, be authorized by Dispensation to pass and raise to the Degrees of Fellow-Craft and Master Mason Bro. R. C. Doom, Entered Apprentice formerly of Dover Lodge, No. 36, Tennessee, and at present a resident of Jasper county in this Republic, if, after due examination, he shall be found worthy.

Bro. Cartmell introduced a resolution authorizing the Grand Master to appoint a Grand Lecturer *p. t.* which being adopted, the M. W. Grand Master appointed the R. W. N. H. Darnell.

Bro. J. A. Greer offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary communicate to Bro. L. G. Hoffman the action of this Grand Lodge upon his communication in relation to Geo. Fisher.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to receive from the several subordinate Lodges Exchequer bills at par for all dues for 5843.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

GEO. K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Thursday evening, January 11, 5844.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

R. W. N. H. Darnell, Sen. G. Warden, as Grand Master *p. t.*

“ A. S. Ruthven, Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*

R. W. J. M. Swisher,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
" G. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
" H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" G. A. Patillo,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. A. G. Perry,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; Trinity, No. 14; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; and Washington, No. 18.

The Committee on Petitions reported favorably on the petition of several Master Masons praying for a Charter to open a Lodge at Huntsville, Montgomery county, which report was adopted, and a Charter granted.

The following resolution, accompanying the Grand Secretary's report, was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer, or some competent Brother to be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, shall deliver annually before the Grand Lodge, at its Grand Annual Communication, a course of lectures on the three first Degrees, and exemplify the same by conferring the Degrees.

Bros. Ruthven, Mason, Patrick, Darnell and Western were appointed a Committee on Work.

The R. W. Grand Secretary offered a resolution authorizing the R. W. Jno. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, to sign all documents requiring the signature of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, who has been unable to attend the present Grand Annual Communication.

A resolution, nominating the R. W. Anson Jones as a worthy Past Master, in every respect qualified to represent the Grand Lodge of New York, was adopted; and Bros. Patrick, Ruthven and Swisher were appointed a Committee to wait on Bro. Jones.

A resolution appointing Bro. Henry F. Fisher, Texan Consul at Bremen, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas near the several Grand Lodges in Germany, was read and adopted.

The select Committee on charges preferred by the Secretary of McFarlane Lodge against Bro. John Gillespie made a report, which was read and adopted, referring the matter to Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17.

Bro. Crumpler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to receive Exchequer bills at par, in payment of all Dispensations or Charters granted at this Grand Annual Communication.

The business on the Grand Secretary's table having been disposed of, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening, 7 o'clock.

GEO. K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary *G. L.*

Friday evening, January 12, 1844

The Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. James Webb,	Grand Master.
R. W. N. H. Darnell,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ E. Burleson,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ A. Brigham,	Grand Treasurer.
“ Geo. K. Teulon,	Grand Secretary.
“ H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ Wm. L. Cazneau,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ M. Ward, Jr.,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. M. F. Jones,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; Harmony, No. 6, (by E. W. Moore and A. B. Shelby;) De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Trinity, No. 14; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; and Washington, No. 18.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Anson Jones, T. G. Western, Andrew Neill, Wm. G. Cooke, and Sam. Houston, by his proxy J. A. Greer.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

J. A. Greer and Anson Jones, Past Grand Masters.

PAST MASTERS.

Charles Mason, H. R. Cartmell, James Webb, E. Burleson, E. W. Taylor, T. Worldredge, Wm. L. Cazneau, N. H. Darnell and A. B. Shelby.

A petition from Daniel T. Fitchett was presented, read and referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. T. G. Western, E. W. Moore and J. M. Swisher.

The Committee on Work made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

The Committee appointed by your most worshipful body to report a system of monitorial work would most respectfully report that they recommend, as the most useful, correct and the most general, that of Bro. Jeremy L. Cross; and would recommend its adoption by this Grand Lodge.

(Signed,)

A. S. RUTHVEN,
GEO. M. PATRICK,
N. H. DARNELL,
T. G. WESTERN.

The Committee appointed to wait upon Bro. Anson Jones to ascer-

tain if he would accept the appointment of Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, near this Grand Lodge, reported that he would accept; which report was received and adopted.

The report of the Committee rejecting certain resolutions accompanying the Grand Secretary's report was adopted.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers.

The M. W. Grand Master informed the Brethren that he did not wish to be put in nomination for re-election. The ballot was then taken, and the following Brethren were duly elected and proclaimed accordingly,—viz. :

M. W. N. H. Darnell, of San Augustine, Grand Master.

R. W. Wm. L. Cazneau, of Austin, Senior Grand Warden.

“ Edwd. W. Taylor, of Independence, Junior Grand Warden.

“ Asa Brigham, of Washington, Grand Treasurer.

“ Jno. M. Swisher, of Washington, Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master, having been duly installed, returned thanks; after which the Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary were installed. The M. W. Grand Master notified the Grand Lodge that he would make his appointments of Grand Officers to-morrow evening.

Bro. M. Johnson offered a resolution reducing the salary of Grand Secretary to \$50. Laid on the table.

Bro. M. Johnson offered a resolution establishing the salary of Grand Treasurer at \$25 per annum. Laid on the table.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

GEO. K. TEULON,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Saturday evening, January 13, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell, Grand Master.

R. W. W. L. Cazneau, Senior Grand Warden.

“ A. S. Ruthven, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*

“ A. Brigham, Grand Treasurer.

“ J. M. Swisher, Grand Secretary.

“ H. R. Cartmell, Senior Grand Deacon.

W. J. W. Mann, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; Harmony, No. 6; De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Trinity, No. 14; Washington, No. 18.

MEMBERS.

Wm. G. Cooke and Andrew Neill.

The Committee on Daniel T. Fitchett's petition made the following report :—

Your Committee, appointed to report upon the petition of Daniel T. Fitchett, an expelled Mason, beg leave to suggest that Holland Lodge, No. 1, be required to furnish this Grand Lodge with authentic copies of all the proceedings in the case of said Fitchett, and that she prepare herself to answer to the charges preferred against said Lodge by the said Fitchett,—to which end the Worshipful Grand Secretary will furnish said Lodge with a copy of the said Fitchett's petition.

All of which your Committee most respectfully submit.

(Signed,)

THOS. G. WESTERN,
E. W. MOORE,
JNO. M. SWISHER.

After the adoption of the report, the following amendment was offered and carried :—

That Holland Lodge, No. 1, be directed that, if, as stated by Daniel T. Fitchett, he has not been served with a copy of the charges, he be furnished with them, in order that he may have an opportunity of exonerating himself.

Bro. Ruthven offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge return their sincere thanks to the R. W. P. Grand Secretary, Bro. Geo. K. Teulon, for the able manner in which he has filled that important station, as well as the ardor and zeal he has shown for the general benefit of the institution while discharging the duties of Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments :—

R. W.	Thos. G. Western, of Washington,	Deputy Grand Master.
"	Wm. M. Tryon, of Washington,	Grand Chaplain.
"	G. K. Teulon, of Austin,	Grand Lecturer.
"	Thos. J. Rusk, of Nacogdoches,	Grand Orator.
"	Charles Mason, of Washington,	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	D. D. Crumpler, of Washington,	Junior Grand Deacon.
"	Jno. T. Harmon, of Clarksville,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
"	Moses Johns, of Independence,	Grand Marshal.
"	Geo. A. Patillo, of Jefferson,	} Grand Stewards.
"	Matthias Ward, Jr., of De Kalb,	
"	Andrew Neill, of Gonzales,	Grand Pursuivant.
W.	S. W. Pipkin, of Washington,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W.	A. S. Ruthven, of Houston,	First Masonic District.
"	J. C. Massie, of Fanthorp's,	Second Masonic District.
"	Adolphus Sterne, of Nacogd's,	Third Masonic District.
"	E. H. Tarrant, of Boston,	Fourth Masonic District.

The Deacons and Stewards were regularly installed by the M. W. Grand Master.

Bro. Rowlett arose, and addressed the M. W. Grand Lodge upon the subject of the revocation of the Charter of Constantine Lodge, No. 13; whereupon Bro. E. W. Moore offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine into the causes of the non-payment of the dues of Constantine Lodge, No. 13; for which, and there having been no reports made by said Lodge to this or any other Grand Annual Communication, the Charter has been revoked.

Bros. Wm. G. Cooke, M. Ward, Jr. and A. Neill were appointed said Committee.

The resolution offered by Bro. Johnson, reducing the salary of Grand Secretary to \$50 per annum, was taken up; and,

On motion of Bro. E. W. Moore, indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Johnson withdrew the resolution fixing the salary of Grand Treasurer at \$25 per annum.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Tuesday evening, 7 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER,

Grand Secretary G. L.

Tuesday evening, January 16, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. Wm. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Warden.
" E. W. Moore,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" M. Ward, Jr.,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Jno. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
" G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. W. D. C. Hall, Jr.,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

McFarlane, No. 3; Harmony, No. 6; Austin, No. 12; and Washington, No. 18.

PAST MASTER.

H. R. Cartmell.

The report of the select Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the non-payment of the dues from Constantine Lodge, No. 13, made the following report, which report was laid on the table:—

BRETHREN:—Two of the Committee appointed by the Worshipful Grand Lodge, to report on the propriety of striking Constantine Lodge, No. 13, from the list of Lodges subordinate to said Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that said Constantine Lodge, No. 13, did not organize until November, 1840, A.L. 5840,

nearly a year from the date of the Warrant granted to said Lodge by the Grand Lodge, and that the Deputy Grand Master, one of your Committee, (Wm. G. Cooke,) was present at the organization; that said Lodge did make Bro. John M. Hansford their proxy for the first year, ending on the 24th of June, A.L. 5842, and that the Secretary of said Lodge reported that he had made the remittances to said proxy of the report and dues; that said Constantine Lodge has paid into the treasury of said Grand Lodge \$79, in promissory notes, as it was directed to do by the Secretary of said Grand Lodge, and would have had a full return made at the present Grand Annual Communication, but for the death of Bro. Jno. G. Jarrett, which took place on the morning the Representative of said Lodge left for this place: wherefore the Committee most respectfully recommend to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, that the said Constantine Lodge be reinstated in all the rights and privileges of the other Lodges subordinate to said Grand Lodge.

(Signed,)

WM. G. COOKE.

Bro Cazneau offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge pay Washington Lodge, No. 18, the sum of fifteen dollars for the use of their Lodge Room, candles, &c.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Friday evening, January 19, 7 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Friday evening, January 19, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ E. W. Moore,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ M. Ward, Jr.,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jno. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ John Gillespie,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. W. H. Bourland,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; McFarlane, No. 3; Harmony, No. 6; De Kalb, No. 9; Trinity, No. 14; Friendship, No. 16; and Washington, No. 18.

A communication from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, concerning the initiation of Wm. Carper, was read, and referred to a special committee, consisting of Bros. E. W. Moore, T. G. Western and J. A. Greer.

Bro. Ruthven offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That Forest Lodge, No. 19, to be held at Huntsville, be added to the First Masonic District, when organized; and that Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, and Washington Lodge, No. 18, be added to the Second Masonic District.

The petition of Bro. John Gillespie was read, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Western, Darnell and Cartmell.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening, 4 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Saturday evening, January 20, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. R. Sourry,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ G. A. Patillo,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jno. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ Chas. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. W. D. C. Hall, Jr.,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

McFarlane, No. 3; Trinity, No. 14; and Washington, No. 18.

The Committee appointed on the petition of Bro. John Gillespie made the following report, which was adopted:—

BRETHREN:—Your Committee, appointed to report on the matter between Bros. A. Fitzallen and John Gillespie, on the petition of the latter, respectfully recommend to your honorable body, that the subject of complaint be referred to McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, for their investigation and decision thereon; and that the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge be directed to recall the papers, in this case, already transmitted to Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17.

All of which your Committee respectfully submit.

(Signed,)

THOS. G. WESTERN,
H. R. CARTMELL,
N. H. DARNELL.

Bros. H. R. Cartmell, D. D. Crumpler and Chas. Mason were appointed, by the M. W. Grand Master, a Committee on Printing.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Tuesday evening, 7 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Tuesday evening, January 23, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

VOL. I.—10

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. Chas. Mason,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. R. Cartmell,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ John Gillespie,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. W. R. Scurry,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

There not being a quorum present, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Friday evening, 7 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER.
Grand Secretary G. L.

Friday evening, January 26, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. Thos. G. Western,	} Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
Deputy Grand Master, as	
“ E. W. Moore,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. King,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ G. W. Crawford,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ John M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ Chas. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. H. R. Cartmell,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Harmony, No. 6; Trinity, No. 14; and Washington, No. 18.

Bro. Mason offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to notify delinquent Lodges to forward their returns as soon as practicable.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, respecting the rejection of Wm. M. Carper by Holland Lodge, No. 1, made the following report, which was adopted:—

Your Committee, to whom was referred a communication from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, in relation to Dr. Wm. M. Carper, beg leave to report, that, from information received by them, Harmony Lodge has communicated with Holland Lodge, at Houston, on the subject; and suggest that, in the event of Holland Lodge being well satisfied that injustice was done Dr. Wm. M. Carper in his rejection by that Lodge, and communicate the same to Harmony Lodge, No. 6, that he may then be considered by Harmony Lodge, No. 6, as possessing the qualifications required by our Order.

We also recommend that Holland Lodge be furnished with a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge in this case.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your Committee.

(Signed,)

E. W. MOORE,
JNO. A. GREER,
T. G. WESTMAN.

Bro. D. D. Crumpler was appointed to wait upon Bro. Rowlett, and request him to attend on the next evening of the meeting of the Grand Lodge, so as to enable the Grand Lodge to take action upon the report of the Committee appointed to investigate the causes of the non-payment of dues by Constantine Lodge, No. 13.

The report of the Grand Lecturer was received and read.

No further business appearing upon the Grand Secretary's table, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Sunday evening, 7 o'clock.

JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary G. L.

Sunday evening, January 28, 5844.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W.	N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W.	Wm. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Warden.
"	E. W. Moore,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
"	G. A. Patillo,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
"	Jno. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
"	H. R. Cartmell,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
"	D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W.	R. C. Doom,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

McFarlane, No. 3; Harmony, No. 6; De Kalb, No. 9; Austin, No. 12; Trinity, No. 14; Friendship, No. 16; and Washington, No. 18.

The report of the Committee appointed to investigate the causes of the non-payment of the dues of Constantine Lodge, No. 13, was adopted.

On motion of Bro. E. W. Moore, the vote on the resolution revoking certain Charters and Dispensations was reconsidered.

Bro. Moore offered the following amendment:—"That St. John's Lodge, No. 5, and Constantine Lodge, No. 13, be stricken out." Carried.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted.

Bro. Cazneau offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted :—

Whereas, The Grand Lodge has been longer in session than was contemplated, when a certain resolution was adopted, allowing Washington Lodge, No. 18, fifteen dollars for the rent of their Lodge Room, candles, &c.; therefore,

Be it Resolved, That this Grand Lodge pay to Washington Lodge, No. 18, the further sum of ten dollars.

The minutes of the Grand Lodge from the commencement of its present session were read and adopted.

There being no further business, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, according to ancient usages.

N. H. DARNELL,
Grand Master.

JOHN M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary.

CIRCULAR LETTER

Of the M. W. Grand Master to the Subordinate Lodges, for the Year of Light 5844.

BRETHREN:—By a resolution adopted at the regular Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, held at Austin in the Year of Light 5841, it was made the duty of the Grand Master to address an Annual Circular to the several subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction, upon the following important subjects.

1st. To impress upon the Lodges the absolute necessity of exercising a more rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for the benefits of Masonry.

2d. To urge a more strict conformity with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and the By-laws of their respective Lodges.

3d. To demand of each Lodge a constant and supervisory control over the moral character of its members.

Upon the exercise of a rigid scrutiny into the character of the applicants for the mysteries of Masonry depend the existence of the institution, and those solemn and endearing ties which bind Masons together. The glow of good feeling, friendship and brotherly love which should ever warm the bosom and animate the heart of every good Mason should never become deadened by the association of vice, cooled by the icy contact of guilt, or poisoned by the baneful influence of treachery or deceit. It is too often the case that feelings of *pseudo* benevolence lead the unthinking Mason to cast his ballot in favor of the reception of a candidate, whom he knows to be objectionable, rather than inflict a wound on his feelings by contributing to his rejection. The Mason who acts upon this principle is untrue to his obligation, a traitor to the institution, and deserves the reprobation of his betrayed Brothers. Every Mason should keep a watchful and untiring guard over the portals of the Lodge: he should leave untried no reasonable means of ascertaining the character of an applicant, and unless he find him sober, honest, truthful, charitable and humane, not given to scepticism or blasphemy, he should unhesitatingly vote against his reception into the Lodge: he owes this both to himself and the institution.

It is essentially necessary to the perpetuity of all institutions, that the rules and regulations prescribed for their government should be rigidly observed, and more particularly is this the case in an institution like ours, where those laws are the offspring of our own untrammelled will, requiring nothing to which the free spirit of liberty could object, or at which the most refined sentiment would revolt.

We enter into the most solemn moral obligations when we contract the most binding ties of Masonic brotherhood. It should be the constant and unwavering duty of the Lodges to look well to the conduct of its members. The natural inclination of the human mind is to err; the temptations which beset us on every side are manifold: how necessary then, for the honor of the Craft, and for the best interest of the individual members, that the Lodges should exercise a constant and supervisory control over the moral character and conduct of its members! To comfort the afflicted Brother, and by the sweet and consoling whisper of fraternal love cause him to refrain from the intoxicating bowl, which, like the siren's song, will lure him to inevitable ruin, and tempt him with the illusive hope of drowning his sorrows in the maddening contents that flow "round its

roseate brim,"—to arrest and curb by well-timed and friendly monitions the impulse of passion, to frown with the severity of truth and honor upon the least deviation from those plain paths of moral rectitude which have been bequeathed to us as the richest legacy by the founders of our Order, and to act promptly, decidedly, and yet guardedly, upon all accusations brought against members for un-Masonic conduct,—is the solemn duty of the Lodge. Do this, and you will retrieve our hallowed institutions from the slanders and machinations of wicked and designing men. Do this, and you act as faithful guardians of a sacred trust, which through the line of centuries has come into your keeping. That those of you who have the true interests of the institution at heart will lend your cordial and efficient co-operation in carrying into effect these great objects, I do not for a moment doubt.

That you may prosper, is the most sincere wish of your Brother.

N. H. DARNELL,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

The Eighth Grand Annual Communication of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, of the Republic of Texas, was convened at the town of Washington, on the 2d Monday, 13th of January, A.D. 1845, A.L. 5845.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. Thos. G. Western,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ E. W. Taylor,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ John M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ E. Allen,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. A. Sterne,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

The Lodges being called, the following were found duly represented,
—viz. :

Holland, No. 1,	by Bro. A. S. Ruthven.
Milam, No. 2,	“ A. Sterne.
Harmony, No. 6,	“ H. McLeod.
De Kalb, No. 9,	“ James Bourland.
Milam, No. 11,	“ E. W. Taylor.
Austin, No. 12,	“ H. G. Catlett.
Constantine, No. 13,	“ W. H. Hunt and Thos. F. Smith.
Trinity, No. 14,	“ G. A. Patillo.
Friendship, No. 16,	“ Wm. H. Bourland.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	“ Geo. M. Patrick.
Washington, No. 18,	“ D. D. Crumpler, G. W. Crawford, J. L. Farquhar.
Graham, U. D., No. 20,	“ Henry King.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Thomas G. Western, A. S. Thruston, William G. Cooke, T. J. Hardeman.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and with prayer.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:—

On By-laws,—Bros. E. W. Taylor, M. Johnson, H. McLeod.

On Foreign Communications,—Bros. E. Allen, B. Gillespie, H. King, A. Sterne.

On Finance,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, C. Mason, D. D. Crumpler.

On Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. M. Johnson, W. H. Hunt, A. S. Ruthven.

On Returns from Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. G. M. Patrick, Wm. H. Bourland, B. Gillespie.

On Petitions,—Bros. G. A. Patillo, Walter Winn, C. Mason, D. D. Crumpler.

Bro. Gillespie offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning Congress to grant a charter to the Grand and subordinate Lodges in the Republic; and for them to hold a limited property in both real and personal estate.

Adopted; and Bros. Gillespie, McLeod, Patrick, Ruthven and Ochiltree were appointed said Committee.

The following reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters of the 1st and 3d Masonic Districts were read, and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:—

Houston, January 10, 5844.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The subscriber, District Deputy Grand Master for the 1st Masonic District, comprising Holland, Harmony, Trinity and Forest Lodges, begs most respectfully, to make the following report:—

That, from the visits he has been able to accomplish during the past year, he has the gratifying intelligence to communicate that they are in a prosperous condition, increasing, not only in number, but in Craftsmen, who, for their zealous attachment to the Institution, will become able workmen, and ornaments to the society in the Republic.

The subscriber would most respectfully recommend that the particular attention of the Grand Lodge be directed to the appointment of a Grand Lecturer for the present year, who will devote some portion of time to the regulation of work throughout the several districts; and should the funds on hand be insufficient to compensate him, that it be recommended to the several subordinate Lodges to make up an amount that will defray the necessary expenses attendant on the labor of such Grand Lecturer: this, in the opinion of your subscriber, would be the means of having the work, throughout, uniform and correct, and remove some informalities which appear to exist.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by

Yours, fraternally,

A. S. RUTHVEN.

WASHINGTON, January 13, 1845, A.L. 5845.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the 3d Masonic District, in accordance with the duties imposed upon him by the Constitution and rules of the Grand Lodge, respectfully makes the following report:—

McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, has, for several months past, ceased its labors, for reasons to me unknown. I have tried, by friendly letters and verbal communications sent to the late Secretary of said Lodge, to obtain a statement from him of the affairs of the Lodge, but am sorry to say that I have been unsuccessful. I am informed by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master that all things, except the funds, belonging to the Lodge, are in his possession.

Milam Lodge, No. 2, has not had a proper room to work in for the last three years. Almost all the members composing said Lodge have removed out of its jurisdiction, or demitted: the Lodge has, however, paid her dues to the Grand Lodge, up to the year 1844, to wit, \$900 in old Treasury notes, and \$61 in Exchequer bills, which have been paid over to the Grand Secretary. There are, at present, a sufficient number of Brethren to recommence their labors; and the officers for the present year have been elected and installed, and a suitable room, in which said Brethren can pursue their labors, will soon be finished; but, knowing myself that it will take all that is due to said Lodge to finish the room, and there being no funds on hand, (the \$61 in Exchequer money having been advanced by a few of the Brethren,) I would recommend to the Worshipful the Grand Lodge the remittance of the dues of said Lodge for the year 1844.

A Lodge has been established at Crockett, in Houston county, working under a Dispensation of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Republic. Said Brethren have but recently (since the 27th of last month) commenced their labors. I would recommend a Charter to be granted said Brethren, on their paying the requisite fees.

Yours, very respectfully and fraternally,

ADOLPHUS STERNE,
D. D. G. M. 3d M. D. R. T.

A communication from Holland Lodge, No. 1, reporting the action of said Lodge upon the matter concerning the subscriptions caused to be made, by Bro. Geo. Fisher, to the *American Masonic Register*, was read, and, on motion of Bro. Gillespie, referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Mason, Johnson and Ochiltree.

The report of Holland Lodge, No. 1, in relation to Dr. W. M. Carper, was read, and laid on the table.

The following communication, from Bro. G. K. Teulon, was received, and, on motion of Bro. Ruthven, referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

Boston, July 23, 1844.

To the Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Texas.

R. W. BROTHER AND SIR:—I have the honor to report, through you, to the M. W. the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On my arrival in this city, on the 20th ult., learning that there would be a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Maine, for the purpose of celebrating the Masonic Festival of Saint John the Baptist, at Portland, I deemed it my duty, under my commission of Feb. 1842, to visit said Grand Lodge, for the purpose of strengthening the bonds of friendship and obtaining a more immediate and intimate

interchange of good offices between the two Grand Lodges. In this, I am happy to say, I succeeded; in proof of which, I have the honor to forward you a copy of the address delivered at the celebration by Bro. Sheppard, and, appended thereto, a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at its said meeting; from the latter of which I have the honor of making the following extract, for fear of miscarriage of the pamphlet:—

“R. W. Bro. Teulon presented to the Grand Master, which was read to the Grand Lodge, Credentials from the Grand Lodge of Texas, duly authenticated, appointing him as a Delegate to the Masonic bodies in England and America, and authorizing him to enter into arrangements for the establishment of a more frequent and intimate correspondence, and appointment, mutually, of resident proxies. He made some interesting remarks upon the benefits to be derived from such an arrangement, and asked this Grand Lodge to take some action upon the propositions which he now made.

“The subject was referred to R. W. James L. Child, R. W. Abner B. Thompson and W. A. R. Putney, with instructions to report this evening.

“Adjourned to half-past seven, this evening.

“Evening—met according to adjournment.

“The following report was presented:—

“The Committee to whom was referred the proposition of the Grand Lodge of Texas, made in the person of their accomplished and intelligent Representative and proxy R. W. George K. Teulon, for a more perfect and frequent intercommunication, have had the subject under consideration, and report, that this Grand Lodge has been highly gratified with the intelligence of the flourishing condition of Masonry in our sister Republic of Texas, and most cheerfully responds to the proposition to hold intimate and frequent intercourse with its Grand Lodge; and that this Grand Lodge will forward, from time to time, its printed documents and such other papers as may be deemed needful or interesting; and that the W. G. Master, from time to time, be authorized and requested to appoint a resident Past Master of Texas as proxy to the Grand Lodge of that Republic, whose duty it shall be to represent the interests of the Grand Lodge in that Most Worshipful body, in accordance with Masonic usage.

(Signed,)

“JAMES L. CHILD,
“ABNER B. THOMPSON, } Committee.
“ALEX. H. PUTNEY,

“Read and unanimously adopted.”

I have the honor to recommend, as a suitable Brother to represent the Grand Lodge of Texas near the Grand Lodge of Maine, the W. Bro. John T. Paine, of Stamford, Maine, present Senior Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge. Bro. Paine is one of the ablest and most respectable attorneys in the State, and devotedly attached to the Masonic institution. I had the honor to recommend Bro. G. W. Sinks to them as a worthy Brother who would make a suitable Representative.

I sail to-morrow for Calcutta; and, should the Grand Lodge of Texas see fit to appoint me its Resident Representative there, I will, with pleasure, accept. They must, however, in such case, present me with the necessary jewel, as my own funds are, at this time, quite exhausted. Not only so; I have been at considerable expense, out of my own pocket, in their service on the occasion of my mission in England as well as my late visit to Portland, which was wholly with a view to advance the interests of the Fraternity in Texas.

Any communications, written or printed, addressed to me, to the care of Chas. W. Moore, Esq., of Boston, will be duly forwarded. If the Grand Lodge should appoint me, and remit the money to Bro. Moore, he will obtain the jewel to be made and forwarded. The proceedings of the last Grand Communication have not yet come to hand.

I have the honor to be

Yours, most fraternally,

Geo. K. TEULON.

Communications from Bros. T. P. Shaffner, Le Blanche de Marionay, Lewis Feuchtwanger, James Herring, and a circular letter from Bro. John Dove, of Virginia, and sundry communications in the German language, together with the proceedings of various Grand Lodges, were, on motion of Bro. Swisher, referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The various returns from subordinate Lodges were referred to the Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Swisher offered the following resolution :—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to investigate the propriety of changing the present form of Diploma, and the regulations concerning the issuing of them, &c., and report as soon as practicable.

Adopted. Bros. Swisher, Taylor and Mason, were appointed said Committee.

The business on the Grand Secretary's table having been disposed of, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor, until to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock.

Attest,
JOHN M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary.

Tuesday evening, January 14, 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. Thos. G. Western,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ E. W. Taylor,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ John M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ E. Allen,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. B. Ochiltree,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Moses Johnson,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1 ; Harmony, No. 6 ; Milam, No. 11 ; Austin, No. 12 ; Constantine, No. 13 ; Trinity, No. 14 ; Orphans' Friend, No. 17 ; Washington, No. 18 ; Graham, U. D., No. 20.

A petition of sundry Master Masons, of Rusk county, was presented, praying for the establishment of a Lodge in said county, and referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Bro. B. Gillespie offered the following resolution, which was read the first time :—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge, That all Past Masters who have regularly presided over a subordinate Lodge, or any other regular Lodge, be received, and considered as members of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. D. D. Crumpler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to register W. Bro. Wm. B. Ochiltree, Past Master of the late McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and, at this time, a petitioner for a new Lodge, as member of this Grand Lodge.

A petition of Marshall Lodge was presented, praying for a Charter. Referred to the Committee on Petitions.

The By-laws of Marshall Lodge were presented, and referred to the Committee on By-laws.

The By-laws of Austin Lodge, No. 12, were presented for ratification, and referred to the Committee on By-laws.

A Communication from Trinity Lodge, No. 14, was read, praying that the Grand Lodge dues may be remitted for the time they were not at labor. They further beg the passage of the following resolution :—

Be it Resolved, That, in consequence of circumstances over which the Brethren of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, had no control, they were unable to hold their election on the day specified by their By-laws, but held their election on the 2d Saturday of December, 1844; therefore, the Grand Lodge confirm their proceedings in the premises.

Approved.

The select Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of petitioning Congress for a Charter of Incorporation for the Grand and Subordinate Lodges made the following report :—

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, now in session.

The Committee, to whom was referred the resolution of your honorable body, on the subject of an application to the Congress of the Republic of Texas, to grant an Act of Incorporation to this Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report, that they have had this important subject under consideration, and given it as full an examination as their limited time would permit.

This boon is accorded, they believe, to the Craft in all countries where our institutions flourish or are honored: indeed, your Committee cannot well see how we can get along without some legislative action on the subject; without it, we can never have a permanent home or abiding-place. At present, if we wish to own real estate, to erect a hall, it has to be held in the name of some Brother, in trust; and, in cases of death, much difficulty often occurs. And, besides, the authority to hold property to the amount asked for in the bill will enable us, in time, to accumulate a fund, out of which much good can be done in advancing the honor and character of our institution.

Your Committee have been favored with the perusal of a bill, which is now pending before the Honorable Congress, in relation to this subject. We highly approve of its liberal provisions, but believe future legislation can be avoided by a bill more general in its character, extending its provisions to all the present and future subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee herewith offer the *project* of a bill to carry out the object in view. All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. GILLESPIE,
Chairman.

Which report was adopted, and the Committee discharged.

Bros. Taylor and Brown were added to the Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Bourland was discharged from serving on the Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :—

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have had under consideration a portion of the letter of our worthy Bro. G. K. Teulon, late Grand Secretary, in relation to his recent visit to the Grand Lodge of Maine, at Portland; and, as most of your Committee are strangers in that portion of the United States, and believe the communication should receive the special attention of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to recommend its submission to a special committee, composed of Bros. M. P. Norton, E. Allen, T. Pillsbury and H. J. Jewett, Brethren who are well acquainted in that section of country.

B. GILLESPIE,
One of the Committee.

On motion of Bro. Ochiltree, a committee was appointed to examine into the causes of the surrender of the Charter of McFarlane Lodge. Bros. Ochiltree, Taylor and Ruthven were appointed that Committee.

Bro. Taylor offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That the Grand Master appoint some suitable Craftsmen to deliver a lecture on each of the Degrees of Masonry, at some suitable time during the present Annual Communication; and also, before the close of the present session, to appoint some Brother to deliver a lecture on each of the Degrees of Masonry, at our next Grand Annual Communication.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven was appointed Lecturer to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gillespie offered the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, which interdicts the visits of worthy visiting Brethren more than three times, be repealed.

Bro. Johnson moved to lay it on the table. Motion lost, and the resolution adopted.

On motion, Bros. Patillo, McLeod and Bourland were appointed a Committee to present to the Honorable Congress the bill to incorporate the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On motion of Bro. Ochiltree, a committee of three was appointed, to examine the minutes of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, in relation to the expulsion of John T. Patterson.

Bros. Patrick, King and Mason were appointed that Committee.

The business on the Grand Secretary's table having been disposed of, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock.

Attest,
JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary.

Thursday evening, January 16, 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. N. H. Darnell,	Grand Master.
R. W. Wm. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Warden.
" A. Sterne,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Jno. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
" Chas. Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" G. M. Patrick,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Milam, No. 2; De Kalb, No. 9; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 13; Trinity, No. 14; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, No. 18; Forest, No. 19; Graham, U. D., No. 20; Trinity, U. D., No. 21.

A petition of Bro. H. King was read, praying that a Charter be granted Graham Lodge, No. 20. Referred to Committee on Petitions.

The report of the Grand Secretary was read and referred to Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Petitions reported favorably to the prayer of sundry Master Masons, residents of the town of Marshall, praying for a Charter for a Lodge by the name of Marshall Lodge, No. 22. Report adopted.

The select Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the surrender of the Charter of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:—

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens and members of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The undersigned Committee, raised by your honorable body to inquire into all such matters and things as are connected with the surrender of the Charter of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, beg leave most respectfully to report, that they have taken the subject under examination, and given it such consideration as the lights before them would permit.

Your Committee regret that they feel constrained to say that there have been many and flagrant departures, by the officers and members of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, from the ancient and venerated landmarks of the Order; and the result has been, in this as in every other instance of a like departure which has come to the knowledge of your Committee, the utter ruin and prostration of the Lodge.

Your Committee, on the examination of the very imperfect records which are contained in the book of record surrendered by the said Lodge, with their Charter, have arrived at the conclusion that perhaps the matter of the expulsion

of John T. Patterson from the said Lodge was the immediate and leading cause of the surrender of the said Charter. Inasmuch as your honorable body have assigned the task of inquiring into the matters directly connected with that transaction, to a special Committee, your Committee will refrain from further notice thereof.

Your Committee, from an inspection of the papers, learn that a considerable amount of money is yet due, and unpaid, from the former Secretary and Treasurer of the said Lodge: we would therefore recommend that the District Deputy Grand Master for that District be instructed to make a final settlement of all the accounts of the said Lodge, and make a report thereof to the next Grand Annual Communication.

Your Committee would finally recommend that, in view of all the connecting circumstances, it were better to receive the Charter of McFarlane Lodge, No. 8; and that its fate be held, by all other Lodges in the Republic of Texas, as a warning against all aberration from the path which the travel of forty centuries has rendered so plain that the simplest understanding can keep it, unless their eyes are clouded by those passions of the human mind which should never find utterance within the hallowed precincts of a Masonic Lodge.

W. B. OCHILTREE,
One of the Committee.

The Committee on the petition of sundry Master Masons of Rusk county, praying for a Charter, reported favorably; and, on motion, it was ordered by the Grand Lodge, that a Charter issue to Clinton Lodge, No. 23, to be established at Henderson, Rusk county, in manner and form as prayed for in the petition; and that the same be held by the Grand Secretary until he be satisfied for the fees thereon.

The select Committee to whom was referred the communication of R. W. Bro. G. K. Teulon made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The special Committee, to whom was referred so much of the communication addressed, under date of the 28th July last, to this Grand Lodge, by our worthy Brother and Representative, G. K. Teulon, as relates to his recent visit to the Grand Lodge of Maine, and its proceedings on his proposition in behalf of this Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that the latter acknowledges, with feelings of no ordinary satisfaction, the receipt of their proceedings on the proposition made to them by our worthy Representative before named; announcing their cheerful co-operation in establishing between these institutions, separated by distance but united in purpose, those intimate but frequent intercommunications which their joint labors, in the erection of that common moral and Masonic edifice whose foundations are commensurate with the world, demand. The gratification which our Brethren of that Grand Lodge experienced at the intelligence, announcing to them the flourishing condition of Masonry in Texas, reacts with powerful and cheering influence upon the interests and progress of the institution here. We hail the *sign* from afar, which cheers us onward in the struggle of virtuous effort, and in the path of charity, to the goal of distinguished success; and while we reciprocate, in a spirit of fraternal sympathy, with our Brethren of the "*Mystic Tie*" in the East, those sentiments of congratulation and friendship so happily expressed in their response to our overture, we feel that we should not act up to the spirit of that response, should we fail to cultivate and enlarge the *system of intercourse* which this propitious connection with our Eastern Brethren suggests, by instituting a to which end, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolute-like connection, so far as practicable, with our Brethren throughout the world:

tions, as initiatory and introductory to the accomplishment of the design suggested.

M. P. NORTON,	} Committee.
EBN. ALLEN,	
HENRY J. JEWETT,	
TIMO. PILLSBURY,	

WASHINGTON, A.L. 5845, January 15.

Resolved, 1. That the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be requested to appoint our worthy Bro. John T. Payne, of Sanford, in the State of Maine, as the Resident Delegate of this Grand Lodge to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Maine.

Resolved, 2. That our worthy Bro. E. Allen, of Washington, be recommended to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine as eminently worthy of the confidence of that M. W. Grand Lodge; and that his appointment as Resident Delegate to this Grand Lodge be respectfully invited.

Resolved, 3. That the Grand Lodges of the other States of the American Union, be respectfully invited to establish communications with this Grand Lodge, corresponding with the relations entered into with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine; and be requested to furnish this Grand Lodge with the names of worthy Brothers, to be appointed as Resident Delegates, within their jurisdictions, to represent the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Resolved, 4. That a committee be raised, to report the names of such Brothers as this Grand Lodge will recommend to the respective Grand Lodges of the United States, and British North American Provinces, as Resident Delegates of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, 5. That the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine be entered among the records of this Grand Lodge; and that the M. W. Grand Lodge of Maine be furnished with a copy of the action of this Grand Lodge thereon.

On motion of Bro. W. L. Cazneau, the blank on the second accompanying resolution was filled with the name of Bro. Eben. Allen; when, on motion, the report and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The select Committee on the claim of Bro. L. G. Hoffman reported that they could not come to any definite conclusion, for want of sufficient evidence. Report adopted.

The Committee on By-laws, to whom were referred the By-laws of Austin Lodge, No. 12, Marshal Lodge, U. D., and Graham Lodge, U. D., reported those of Austin Lodge to be correct, and recommended their ratification: they also recommended certain amendments to those of Marshall Lodge and Graham Lodge. Report adopted.

Bro. Sterne moved the appointment of a committee for the purpose of better defining the Masonic Districts, by specifying the counties over which the same shall extend.

Motion adopted; and Bros. A. Sterne, Wm. G. Cooke and A. S. Ruthven were appointed said Committee.

On motion, Bros. D. McFarland and E. Allen were added to the Committee.

The select Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, in the case of Bro. John T. Patterson, made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom were referred the minutes of McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, and especially that portion relating to the proceedings had in the case of

Bro. J. T. Patterson, beg leave respectfully to report that it is with extreme regret that we have to present to your notice, and for your consideration, proceedings so summary, so irregular, and so much at variance with the usages of our Order. From the proceedings referred to, at their March meeting, it will appear that a notice of expulsion was the first notice with which the accused was served. His notice of appeal was (or seems to have been) disregarded. This notice, in the opinion of your Committee, should act as a suspension of all proceedings in the case, until disposed of by the M. W. Grand Lodge; and, notwithstanding it appears, on record of the May meeting, that the accused (Bro. Patterson) prayed his appeal in regular form; yet it seems to have been wholly neglected and disregarded,—inasmuch as the charges and specifications have not been sent up. Your Committee are decidedly of opinion that the proceedings of said Lodge, so far as relates to the expulsion of the above-named Brother, are of themselves a nullity, and do not deprive the Brother of the privileges of the Order.

Sincerely hoping that a similar instance will never occur to disturb the harmony and tarnish the reputation of the Fraternity, your Committee would most respectfully submit the whole matter to your determination.

GEORGE M. PATRICK, *Chairman*.

Which report was adopted.

Bro. Ochiltree offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the expulsion of Bro. J. T. Patterson by McFarlane Lodge, No. 3, was illegal, and is, therefore, declared null and void, on account of irregularity in the proceedings; and that the said Bro. John T. Patterson be restored to all the rights and privileges of the Order; and that this decision be published in the National Register and Red Lander.

Adopted.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following:—

Resolved, That, in balloting for initiation in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one black ball shall reject the candidate for six months; two for twelve months; and three forever.

Read first time.

On motion, further time was granted Forest Lodge, No. 19, to make its report to the Grand Lodge.

The following communication was received from R. W. Dugald McFarland, District Deputy Grand Master 2d District, in relation to Matagorda Lodge, No. 7; which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:—

To the Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

WORSHIPFUL BROTHER:—From some unknown cause, the returns of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, have not come to hand: I therefore take the liberty of tendering some information explanatory of the situation of that Lodge. The writer was appointed Second District Deputy Grand Master in 1842, with instructions to call upon those Lodges in his District that were indebted to the Grand Lodge, allowing them until the 1st of August of that year to pay up their dues in "Texas money, at the rate of six dollars for one." Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, availed itself of this proposition, and paid up its arrears to that date.

When the Grand Lodge met, in January following, the Lodge was indebted to the Grand Lodge for six months' dues only, or somewhere near that time. But the person expected to attend to the interests of Matagorda Lodge, it seems, did not appear in the Grand Lodge during its session; therefore Matagorda Lodge was unrepresented in that body. The consequence was, Matagorda Lodge received a notice from the Grand Secretary that, in consequence of the non-

payment of the dues, (without any reference to the late payment made to the late Grand Treasurer, Asa Brigham, by the Second District Deputy Grand Master,) its work was suspended.

The Master of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, looked upon this notice with surprise,—if not a deeper feeling,—as uncalled for by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and Masonic usage; as that instrument declares that a Lodge must be twelve months in arrears before a suspension of its work shall take place. From this cause the Master of the Lodge ceased to act, and concluded not to meet in open Lodge until the matter was investigated by the Grand Lodge during the present session.

Worshipful Brother, I hope you will lay this letter before the Grand Lodge for their action. Should its consideration be deemed worthy of reference to a committee, I shall be happy in giving any information that may be required,—being conversant with the affairs of the Lodge referred to.

Fraternally yours,

DUGALD MCFARLAND,
Past District Deputy Grand Master.

The petition of sundry Master Masons, praying for a Charter to establish a Lodge at San Augustine, was read, and the prayer of the petitioners granted; and, on motion of Bro. McDonald, the fees were remitted.

The M. W. Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge that the ill health of his family required his presence, and it was therefore inconvenient for him to remain with the Grand Lodge longer; that he could not, conveniently, attend the next Communication, and desired not to be re-elected.

On motion of Bro. A. Sterne, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to the M. W. Grand Master, N. H. Darnell, for the able and devoted manner in which he had presided over the Grand Lodge the past year.

Bro. E. Allen arose, and made a short and appropriate address in behalf of the Lodge; to which the M. W. Grand Master responded in his usual felicitous manner.

There being no further business upon the Grand Secretary's table, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until 7 o'clock, to-morrow evening.

Attest,
JOHN M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary.

Friday evening, January 17, 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

R. W. Thomas G. Western,	Deputy Grand Master, presiding.
“ W. L. Cazneau,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. M. Swisher,	Grand Secretary.
“ Charles Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>

R. W. D. D. Crumpler, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. S. Ralph, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Milam, No. 2; Milam Lodge, No. 11; Constantine Lodge, No. 13; Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17; Washington Lodge, No. 18; Forest Lodge, No. 19; Graham Lodge, No. 20; Trinity Lodge, No. 21; Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

Bro. Patrick presented the report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges; which, on motion of Bro. Crumpler, was laid on the table.

The Committee appointed to regulate Diplomas made a report, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

Bro. Ruthven offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge be required to make duplicate returns,—one for the use of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, and the other for the use of the Committee on Finance.

Adopted.

Bro. Patrick offered the following preamble and resolution; which, on motion, were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, The Grand Architect of the Universe has seen fit, in his wise providence, to remove by death our beloved Brother, Asa Brigham, the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge: therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to draft a letter expressive of our sympathies with the family of our late esteemed Brother, and furnish them with a copy thereof.

The Chair appointed on said committee Bros. Patrick, Johnson and Mason.

The Chair appointed the following Brethren as a Committee on Printing,—to wit: Bros. Crumpler, Johnson and Swisher.

The Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges made a report, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Patrick, the dues of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, were remitted.

On motion of Bro. Sterne,

Resolved, That the dues of Milam Lodge, No. 2, are hereby remitted for A.L. 5844.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers.

Whereupon R. W. Barry Gillespie, of Washington county, was declared duly elected Grand Master.

R. W. E. W. Taylor, of Independence, was elected Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. G. W. Patrick, of Montgomery county, was elected Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. Walter Winn, of Washington, was elected Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Moses Johnson, of Washington, was elected Grand Secretary.

Bros. Allen, Tryon and Patillo were appointed a committee to wait upon the officers elect and inform them of their election.

There being no further business on the Grand Secretary's table, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow, at 4 o'clock P.M.

Attest,
JNO. M. SWISHER,
Grand Secretary.

Saturday, January 18, 5845, 4 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

R. W. Thos. G. Western,	Deputy Grand Master, presiding.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" E. W. Taylor,	Junior Grand Warden.
" Henry King,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Ira Munson,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" A. McDonald,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. A. S. Ruthven.
Milam Lodge, No. 11,	" E. W. Taylor.
Constantine Lodge, No. 13,	" W. H. Hunt.
Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17,	" G. M. Patrick.
Washington Lodge, No. 18,	" D. D. Crumpler.
Forest Lodge, No. 19,	" A. McDonald.
Graham Lodge, No. 20,	" Henry King.

Prayer by the W. Grand Chaplain, Rev. Wm. M. Tryon.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master then proceeded to the installation of Grand Officers, when the following Brothers were duly installed in their respective offices,—to wit:

M. W. B. Gillespie,	as Grand Master.
" E. W. Taylor,	" Senior Grand Warden.
" Geo. M. Patrick,	" Junior Grand Warden.
" Walter Winn,	" Grand Treasurer.
" Moses Johnson,	" Grand Secretary.

After which the M. W. Grand Master made the following communication:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution as the Grand Master elect for the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, Anno Lucis 5845, I hereby nominate and appoint

R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Rev. R. E. B. Baylor,	Grand Chaplain.
" M. P. Norton,	Grand Orator.
" Henry King,	Grand Lecturer.

R. W. G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" W. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" D. D. Crumpler,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" Edward Burleson,	Grand Marshal.
" Charles Mason,	Grand Pursuivant.
" Thomas J. Hardeman,	} Grand Stewards.
" J. L. Farquhar,	
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. A. H. Lattimer,	Deputy Grand Master, First District.
" B. R. Wallace,	Deputy Grand Master, Second District.
" L. M. Hitchcock,	Deputy Grand Master, Third District.
" E. Allen,	Deputy Grand Master, Fourth District.

BARRY GILLESPIE,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Republic of Texas.

GRAND LODGE ROOM, January 18, 1845, A.L. 5845.

The officers thus appointed were then duly installed.

On motion of Bro. Crumpler, the Grand Lodge was then called from labor, until half-past 7 o'clock P.M.

Attest,

IRA MUNSON,
Grand Secretary p. t.

Saturday, January 18, A.D. 1845, A.L. 5845, 7½ o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. B. Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master.
" E. W. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Geo. M. Patrick,	Junior Grand Warden.
" A. McDonald,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry King,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read, and, on motion of Bro. Taylor, it was received and the Committee discharged.

Bro. Crumpler offered the following resolutions, which, on motion, were adopted:—

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Graham Lodge, No. 20, U. D., and Bro. Henry King be first Master, W. H. Hunt, Senior Warden, and Hugh C. McIntyre, Junior Warden.*Resolved*, That said Graham Lodge, No. 20, at their first regular meeting, proceed to the election of officers to preside over said Lodge until the next

general election of officers in said Lodge, and that the Secretary of said Lodge apprise our Grand Secretary of the result of said election.

The Committee on By-laws reported the following, which was adopted,—viz. :

The Committee on By-laws beg leave to report, that in examining the By-laws of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, they have changed Section 1, Article 2, to read as follows,—viz. :

“The officers of the Lodge shall be elected by ballot at the regular meeting preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, or as soon thereafter as convenient; on which day they shall be installed, when no other work shall be done.”

(Signed,)

E. W. TAYLOR,
M. JOHNSON.

The resolution offered by Bro. Johnson at a previous meeting was then taken up, amended and adopted as follows :—

Resolved, That, in balloting for initiation in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one black ball shall reject the candidate for one year, two black balls shall reject for two years, and three or more for four years.

On motion of Bro. Crumpler,

Resolved, That a certain portion of the proceedings of Graham Lodge, No. 20, which decides that a petitioner could not withdraw his petition previous to balloting, be, and the same is, hereby annulled.

On motion of Bro. Taylor, it was ordered that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay Bro. Samuel Ralph \$6 for services as Tyler.

On motion,

Resolved, That the By-laws of Holland Lodge, as amended, be adopted as those of Forest Lodge.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, the following resolutions were adopted,—viz. :

1. *Resolved*, by the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, That hereafter the Red River counties and the county of Harrison shall compose the first Deputy Grand Master's District.

2. That all that portion of country east of the Trinity River, and not comprised in the first District, be the second District.

3. That Galveston, and all the territory between the Trinity and Brazos Rivers, constitute the third District.

4. And that all the country west of the Brazos constitute the fourth District.

On motion of Bro. Ruthven, the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That the dues of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, for the year '44, be, and the same are hereby, remitted.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That the Charter granted to St. John's Lodge, No. 5, be, and the same is hereby, revoked; and that the jewels, papers, &c. be delivered to the District Deputy Grand Master of that District.

Bro. Ruthven offered the following, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That all Master Masons who are in regular standing, and who have been made under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to a Diploma upon application; and that it shall not be obligatory on any Brother to take and pay for said Diploma, unless by his request or through the Secretary of such subordinate Lodge, properly authenticated, of which he may be a mem-

ber; and that this Grand Lodge shall not charge the subordinate Lodges for said Diplomas.

On motion, the By-laws of Graham Lodge, No. 20, as amended, were adopted.

On motion of Bro. King,

Resolved, That all dues for membership, or for administering Degrees, due by subordinate Lodges for ministers of the gospel are hereby remitted.

The M. W. Grand Master offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be instructed to communicate with, and procure from, the different publishers the following Masonic works:—Forty copies of Cross's Chart; two copies of each edition of Ahiman Rezon; three of Tannahill's Work; fifteen copies of the "Mason's Monitor,"—together with subscribing to such periodicals as may be deemed most advisable, not, however, exceeding four in number; and, further, that six copies of Cross's Chart be retained by the Grand Secretary for the use and benefit of this Grand Lodge, and the balance of copies be sold to the different subordinate Lodges at cost price.

Adopted.

The Bro. Junior Grand Warden was appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to deliver lectures on the first Degree of Masonry, and Bro. Senior Grand Warden to deliver lectures upon the second Degree, and the R. W. Deputy Grand Master on the third Degree of Masonry, at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, the reports of the Deputy Grand Master and the circular of the Past Grand Master were ordered to be published with the other proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Sterne, Bro. A. McDonald was appointed a special Delegate to the Grand Lodge of the British North American provinces.

On motion, the returns of Constantine Lodge, No. 13, were so amended as to insert the name of Bro. T. F. Smith therein.

On motion of Bro. Sterne,

Resolved, That Trinity Lodge, No. 21, receive a Charter, on application for the same, by paying the balance of the fees as specified in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

The business on the Grand Secretary's table having been disposed of, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Tuesday evening, at 4 o'clock.

Attest,

M. JOHNSON,

Grand Secretary.

Tuesday evening, 4 o'clock, January 21, A.L. 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. Sterne,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" S. B. Dickinson,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" M. Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
" Henry King,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" J. L. Farquhar,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" D. D. Crumpler,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; Milam, No. 2; De Kalb, No. 9; Washington, No. 18; Graham, No. 20; Marshall, No. 22.

On motion of Bro. A. Sterne, there being a thin attendance of the members, the reading of the minutes was deferred until the next meeting.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called from labor, until this evening, at 6 o'clock.

M. JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

Tuesday evening, 6 o'clock, January 21, A.L. 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. Allen,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Sterne,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" T. F. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry King,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
" Wm. M. Tryon,	Grand Chaplain.
W. Saml. Ralph,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; Milam, No. 2; De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 13; Friendship, No. 16; Washington, No. 18; Graham, No. 20; Trinity, No. 21; Marshall, No. 22.

The Grand Secretary announced to the Grand Master that the R. W. Bro. Anson Jones was near, and ready to present his Credentials as the Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York; whereupon, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and Past Deputy Grand Master Thos. G. Western, withdrew, and soon returned, accompanied by the R. W. Anson Jones, who was received in due and ample form, being presented by the Grand Secretary to the M. W. Grand Master with the following remarks:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:—I have the pleasure of introducing to you and to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge our Past Grand Master, Right Worshipful Anson Jones, who appears here, for the first time, as Representative of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York; and I cannot, without great violence to my feelings, refrain from giving utterance to some of the emotions of universal regard which must fill the bosom of every true Brother of the *Mystic Tie* in participating in the interchange of the manifestations of friendship between Brethren of distant parts of the earth, and more especially with the Grand Lodge of New York, where our beloved institution has stood with her antique locks streaming in the storms for ages, with her benign brow unsullied by the torrents of revolution and the virulence of political frenzy, and unscathed by the shafts of the demon-spirit of ignorance and superstition so furiously hurled at her. With peace on earth and good-will to men for her Polar star, she stands in her primitive purity, immutable as the universal principle of truth.

And, sir, I congratulate you and my Brethren of this Grand Lodge upon so favorable an event as this appointment, fully confident that it will tend to promote the grand design.

The Delegate then, in a happy and felicitous address, presented his Credentials to the Grand Master, as follows:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:—The M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York has conferred upon me the distinguished honor of representing her in this M. W. Grand Lodge, and I have now the pleasure of placing in your hands the Credentials of my appointment.

On presenting you these Credentials, M. W. Grand Master, I embrace the occasion to express to you the views which the Grand Lodge of New York entertains concerning the general polity of Free Masonry, and the reasons which have actuated her in adopting the Representative system.

She regards the whole Masonic Fraternity as one body, only separate—for the convenient exercise of the fundamental laws of the Order and necessary discipline—into district, local and territorial jurisdictions, denominated Lodges and Grand Lodges, all having one general constitution and one set of landmarks, which are not to be violated anywhere, or for any temporary local purpose, without incurring the disapprobation of the great commonwealth of the Fraternity.

Each Grand Lodge is regarded as sovereign and supreme, exercising all the functions of a regular government over Masons and Masonry within its territory, or at its pleasure where no such government has been established. It is important, therefore, to the whole Order, dispersed as it is over the earth, that everywhere it should be known what each party to the covenant is performing. To this end, constant intercourse is necessary: and the Representative system—so useful and important a link in the chain of union among national governments—has been adopted for universal use by *Masonic* governments. Among these governments, and for these purposes, the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York has been forward in adopting this system.

The duty, therefore, which I shall be called upon to perform here by that Grand Lodge is a pleasing and a grateful one. It will be to use my best endeavors to cultivate the most friendly relations between the Grand Lodge which I have the distinguished honor to represent and the Grand Lodge to which I am accredited; to strengthen the ties of brotherly affection which now so happily exist between them; thus to promote the prosperity of the Masonic family, to protect the unity, integrity and purity of the Order, and to confirm its utility and honor. In the promotion of these great objects I feel well assured I shall receive the hearty co-operation of yourself and the Right Worshipful Brethren over whom you are now called to preside.

In conclusion, M. W. Grand Master, I beg leave to present to you, and, through you, to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, the as-

surances of high fraternal respect and esteem entertained for you by the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York, with her hearty good wishes entertained for your continued happiness and prosperity, individually and collectively; and to tender to you in her behalf, as I now do, the right hand of fellowship and fraternal affection.

Which address was responded to by the Right Worshipful E. Allen, Deputy Grand Master *p. t.*, in the following manner:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER:—In behalf of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and by the command of its M. W. Grand Master, I greet you at your entrance into this apartment of the imaged temple of our Ancient Order, as the accredited Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, with cordial welcome and fraternal salutations. Be assured that the sentiments of our Brethren in that State—communicated by you, as their Delegate, on this occasion—in relation to the "*Representative system*," as connected with the interests and progress of Masonry, are reciprocated by the members of this Grand Lodge, who, with them, regard the institution in the light of a universal commonwealth, established for the exercise and dispensation of benevolence and charity; and that those peculiar relations which subsist between the subordinate and Grand Lodges, within the respective jurisdiction of the latter, may happily be extended and perfected into an organized, systematic and intimate intercommunication between the various Grand Lodges throughout the world. We regard this system as one of comparatively easy consummation, and, with the fullest confidence in its successful and efficient operation, joyfully anticipate its pleasing results. To the Grand Lodge which you represent justly belongs the high praise of forming, with us, the first link in this chain of fraternal communication. This consideration entitles the Brethren of that jurisdiction to our peculiar regard, and adds to the interest attached to the occasion of your present reception as their Delegate, while it evinces their triumph, surrounded and menaced by the discordant elements of blind *Anti-Masonry*, so recently gathered and directed against them.

By the operation of the Representative system, the order of government associated with the memory of our ancient Grand Master and with the construction of the temple is proposed to be extended, so as to embrace within its administration all the laborers employed in the erection of our *moral and Masonic edifice*. In a spirit of earnest and zealous co-operation, the Grand Lodge of Texas will unite with their distant Brethren in the accomplishment of the work thus commenced upon a foundation coextensive with the globe. For this structure "Wisdom hath hewn out her seven pillars;" and, obedient to her voice of invitation "from the high places," the Craftsmen will enter the common temple, in whose ample courts Brethren, though separated by ocean and mountain barriers, may yet emphatically "*dwell together*" in unity pleasant "as the dews of Hermon,—as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, where the Lord commanded his blessing."

The ceremonies of the reception being concluded, the minutes of the preceding meeting of this Grand Annual Communication were read, and, on motion of Bro. Ochiltree, so amended as to strike out the name of Stivers wherever it occurs in the proceedings referring to McFarlane Lodge, and then adopted.

Bro. Fisher, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom communications from European Lodges were re-

ferred, beg leave to report, and recommend that the R. W. Grand Secretary be instructed to address the following Lodges and acknowledge the receipt of communications :—

From the Grand Sq. of Saxony, Dresden, styled “Die Grosse Landesloge von Sachsen,” the proceedings of the same, and double sets of pamphlets, containing descriptions of ancient Masonic medals.

From the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, at Gravenhage, styled “Groot Oosten der V. V. M. in het Konigrijk der Nederlanden,” the proceedings of the same, and a list of all the Lodges subordinate to the Groot Oosten, amounting in all to seventy-six Lodges under that jurisdiction.

Our reunited institution seems to be in a flourishing condition in that section of the globe. The documents, generally, are got up in a style of elegance which they would respectfully recommend to the notice of this R. W. Grand Lodge as specimens worthy of imitation; and they would further recommend that an interchange of fraternal civilities be encouraged, by transmitting to them copies of the Constitution and proceedings of this R. W. Grand Lodge, with such other documents relating thereto as may be deemed expedient.

Your Committee would also recommend that the communications from this R. W. Grand Lodge should be transmitted to Joshua T. Crooswright, Grand Dignitary of the Grand Lodge of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, at the Hague, to the care of the Consul of the Republic of Texas at Rotterdam.

HENRY F. FISHER,

One of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, A.L. 5845.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to examine the foreign correspondence, and make a condensed statement, with extracts of such portions as may be of interest, to be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Johnson, from the Committee on By-laws, reported certain amendments to the By-laws of Constantine Lodge, No. 13, which were accepted; when, on motion, said By-laws, as amended, were ratified.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That all officers of this Grand Lodge, elected and appointed, shall receive a commission or certificate of the same under the seal of this Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That Red Land Lodge be required to take cognizance of the case of Bro. John T. Patterson, who was informally expelled by McFarlane Lodge, No. 8, and deal with him *de novo*, or as if he had never been dealt with, and report their proceedings to this Grand Lodge.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Johnson, and ordered to lie upon the table :—

Resolved, That the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer constitute a committee to purchase jewels and regalia, and that the promissory notes of the Republic of Texas, now in the Treasury, be appropriated for that purpose.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Thursday evening, 23d.

MOSES JOHNSON,

Grand Secretary.

Thursday evening, January 23, A.L. 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

R. W. Adolphus Sterne,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Thos. G. Western,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" M. P. Norton,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" A. Shelby,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry King,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
" G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" T. F. Smith,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1; Milam, No. 2; Harmony, No. 6; De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 13; Friendship, No. 16; Graham, No. 20; Trinity, No. 21.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Diplomas, in the following form, be adopted by this Grand Lodge, to wit:—

The Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons.

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam.

We, the Most Worshipful Grand, and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Masters, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and Grand Treasurer of the Republic of Texas, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging,

Do hereby certify, That our true and worthy Brother, _____, has been regularly raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Lodge, No. _____, under our jurisdiction, and during his continuance with us has comported himself as an honest and faithful Brother; and, as such, we recommend him to the Fraternity around the globe.



In testimony whereof, we have signed these presents, and caused the seal of our said Grand Lodge to be affixed thereto, in the City of _____ this _____ day of _____ Anno Domini _____, Anno Lucis _____

Grand Master.
Dep. Grand Master.
Senior Grand Warden.
Junior Grand Warden.
Grand Treasurer.

Attest,

Grand Secretary.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That any Brother in good standing, who has been raised in a Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall be entitled to a Diploma, upon presentation of the proper certificate of his Lodge, and paying two dollars to the Grand Secretary.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to procure a sufficient number of blanks on parchment, of the present adopted form, for the use of this Grand Lodge, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount required.

Be it further Resolved, That any Brother holding one of the late Grand Lodge certificates may exchange it for one of the form now adopted, by paying the amount of fifty cents.

On motion of Bro. M. P. Norton,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge now proceed to select Brethren to be recommended to foreign Grand Lodges as suitable Representatives of said Lodges, near the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to correspond with such Grand Lodges as we have not recommended a delegate for, and recommend the appointment of such Representatives as the Most Worshipful Grand Master may advise.

The following resolution was submitted by the Grand Secretary and adopted, to wit:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to make out and present to Bro. Ira Munson, raised in Austin Lodge, No. 12, a Diploma, he having before received one, which was lost on the Santa Fé Expedition.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be required to pay Bro. Samuel Ralph \$5, for services as Tyler.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be required to pay the contingent expenses of this Grand Lodge incurred during the present Grand Annual Communication.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer constitute a committee to provide furniture, gavels, candlesticks, a Bible, columns, regalia, jewels and collars for the several officers and members of the Grand Lodge; and that the promissory notes of the Republic of Texas, now in the Grand Treasury, be appropriated for that purpose, and so much more of the funds of the Grand Lodge as may be necessary.

On motion of Bro. Shelby, the Grand Lodge was called from labor, until Monday evening, at 7 o'clock.

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

January 25, A.L. 5845.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

R. W. Moses Johnson, being the oldest Grand Officer present,	}	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" E. Allen,		Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" James Bourland,		Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Walter Winn,		Grand Treasurer.
" Ira Munson,		Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" Geo. M. Wright,		Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. G. Catlett,		Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Samuel Ralph,		Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

De Kalb, No. 9; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Friendship, No. 16; Graham, No. 20; Trinity, No. 21.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, R. W. Bro. Sam. Houston was nominated as a suitable Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of England, to this Grand Lodge.

The following resolutions were submitted by Bro. Johnson and unanimously adopted, to wit:—

Resolved, That our Right Worshipful Past Grand Secretary, G. K. Teulon, be appointed Special Delegate of this Grand Lodge to the various Grand Lodges and Independent Lodges of regular, Free and Accepted Masons, in *Asia* and the *Cape of Good Hope*.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw a sufficient amount from the Treasurer, and furnish said delegate with the regalia of the Grand Lodge, as desired by him.

On motion, Bro. S. B. Dickinson was nominated as a suitable person to represent the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, Bro. G. W. Wright to represent that of Maryland, and Bro. James Webb to represent the Grand Lodge of Florida in this Grand Lodge; and their nominations respectfully submitted for the action of those several Lodges.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for a sufficient amount to pay the Grand Tyler.

The minutes of the present meeting were then read and adopted.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, it was closed in due form, in peace and harmony.

Attest,
IRA MUNSON,
Grand Secretary *p. t.*

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Tennessee, New Hampshire, Iowa, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Indiana, New York, Virginia and several European countries have been examined.

From the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee we make the following extracts:—

“We learn from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, and other Grand Lodges, that an extraordinary and dangerous position has been taken by the Grand Lodge of Prussia, in refusing the benefits of the Order to the Jews, on account of their religion. This we feel bound to bring to your notice, and unqualifiedly protest against the introduction of any other test to obtain the privileges of Masonry than are recognised by the Ancient Constitutions. In the opinion of your Committee, the Grand Lodge of New York deserves the commendation of the Fraternity for their determined action and protest in this instance.”

“With the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, we find a circular containing the Sign-Manual of the Grand Officers of that body. The general adoption of this would prevent unworthy persons from passing their impositions on the Fraternity, particularly if the practice of giving Grand Lodge Certificates should be generally adopted, which we earnestly recommend.

“Throughout the proceedings exhibited to us, we see an increased interest manifested in the cause of education; and, by several of the Grand Lodges, incipient steps have been taken for founding Masonic orphan-asylums for the education of the orphan children of Masons who are unable to obtain the same by their own unassisted efforts. It would be an interesting inquiry to ascertain how far this Grand Lodge is performing its duty in this respect. Something should be done, either by this Grand Lodge or by the subordinate Lodges themselves; and, until something is effected by us, we are neglecting a very important duty towards those who have a right to look to us for fatherly care and protection.”

“In conclusion, your Committee cannot but express the opinion that the present is a very auspicious period in the history of the Fraternity both here and elsewhere. Peace reigns within our borders, prosperity showers her blessings upon us, and we may be permitted to invoke the Great Architect of the Universe to watch over and guide us to the truth in all things and preserve us from disturbances within or broils without.”

In New Hampshire the Order appears in a healthy condition. The following is in their new Constitution:—

“No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall initiate any candidate for a less sum than seven dollars, or pass a Fellow-Craft for a less sum than three dollars, or raise a Brother to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason for a less sum than five dollars; and that the three Degrees shall in no case be conferred upon any one for a less sum than fifteen dollars.”

An extract from a report on fees for the three first Degrees, which was adopted:—

“On inquiry, I find that where a fee of twenty or twenty-five dollars is required, the Lodges requiring liberal fees are as active and healthy as those conferring the Degrees for a less sum.

“The Grand Lodges of New York, Ohio, Missouri and Kentucky each re-

quire a fee of fifteen dollars for three Degrees. The Grand Lodge of Maryland requires a fee of thirty dollars to be charged by the subordinate Lodges working in Baltimore, and twenty dollars of country Lodges.

"The fees exacted by the Southern Grand Lodges vary from twenty-five to fifty dollars; and in that section of the United States does Masonry flourish."

There are twenty Lodges under that jurisdiction. The following was unanimously adopted:—

"That the *Masonic Trestle-Board*, by R. W. Bros. Charles W. Moore and S. W. B. Carnegy, adapted to the national system of Work and Lectures as revised and perfected by the late United States Masonic Convention, be, and the same is hereby, approved; and it is hereby ordered that the same be used by the several Lodges under this jurisdiction as a guide and text-book in their labors."

A Grand Lodge has recently been organized, apparently under favorable auspices, in Iowa. The following resolution was adopted at its first Communication:—

"Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Iowa require of any of their members, when demitting from their respective Lodges, to procure a Diploma from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa; and, for the safety of the Grand Secretary, the Brother so applying shall produce a certificate from the Lodge of which he is a member, stating that all his dues have been paid, and that in all respects he is a worthy member of the Lodge."

The Fraternity in Kentucky is in a very flourishing state. The Grand Lodge is about establishing an orphan-asylum for the education of the orphans of Master Masons. The following is adopted in a report:—

"It is deemed by your Committee to be highly reprehensible in any subordinate Lodge to confer the three first Degrees in Masonry, or even two of them, upon any individual at one and the same meeting. Petitions for the several Degrees should always lie over from one regular monthly meeting to another; and this should never be departed from.

"They also deem it of the utmost importance to the well-being of the Fraternity that the practice of receiving and acting upon petitions for membership on the same night should be discontinued and discountenanced by all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge."

The following resolution was laid over until the next Communication:—

"Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, That the 'Rules for the organization and establishing a Grand Convention of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons,' as passed by the Convention of Masons at the meeting in May, in the year 5843, in the City of Baltimore, composed of eight sections, as the same are set forth in the printed proceedings thereof, be, and the same are hereby, adopted by this Grand Lodge."

The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island has sent us a neat little pamphlet of her proceedings. From the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence we take this extract:—

"Your Committee sincerely regret that our R. W. Bro. Dove has acted in so hasty a manner in this case; because, had the book not been exactly what he expected, the trouble could have been easily removed by calling a special convention for that purpose, or waiting until its next triennial meeting without in the least disturbing the peace and harmony of any portion of the Masonic family.

"Your Committee have been pleased, in the discharge of their duties, to see the fraternal regard existing among the different Grand Lodges towards each

other in the interchange of their proceedings, which, if continued and extended, must result in a closer intimacy and firmer union among all their members."

In Indiana the institution is flourishing. The Grand Lodge of that State is about establishing a college: charity for the distressed seems to prevail. The following extract is from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in relation to the Trestle-Board, published by Bro. Moore:—

"It is now denied by Bro. Dove that the work is in accordance with the outlines of the plan agreed upon by the Committee; but it seems to your Committee that, by an examination of the circular of Bro. Moore and a comparison of the admissions there made with the work itself, there will be found at least a strong family resemblance."

From the same:—

"Your Committee, before concluding, will add that they have had before them the proceedings of many other Grand Lodges than those already noticed in this report. In all of them, though they do not find, in the limited time allotted them, anything requiring, as they think, special notice, yet it was observable in all that Masonry is everywhere on a most rapid increase, that brotherly love unites the Fraternity, and the public favor even in the 'darkest corners' of our country may be considered as already secured."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at their last Communication:—

"Resolved, by the Grand Lodge, That we recommend to the subordinate Lodges throughout the State the propriety of discountenancing, both by precept and example, the use of spirituous liquors as a beverage by Masons."

They have seven Lodges U. D.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York for 5848 present many subjects of infinite interest to our time-honored Fraternity. Much is Masonry indebted to the Right Worshipful Bro. James Herring, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, and Honorary Member of the Grand Lodge of Texas, for his zeal and ability in the cause of brotherly union. The extracts we make from the transactions of that body will be found of much interest. The following is from their proceedings of June 9, 5843:—

"The Grand Secretary informed the Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of Texas had appointed a Representative to this Grand Lodge, who is now ready to present his Credentials, and desired to be received and accredited. The Grand Master then requested the Grand Lodge to assist at the reception of the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

"The Grand Secretary then retired and introduced the R. W. Bro. Lewis Feuchtwanger, who was attended by the Grand Deacons to the presence of the Grand Master, and, after being presented by the Grand Secretary, made the following address:—

"**RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR:**—In presenting you herewith my letters of commission and credence from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, who has honored me with the appointment as her Representative to this R. W. Grand Lodge, I confess that I feel somewhat embarrassed upon assuming this responsible and exalted station; and cannot but regret that that Grand Lodge has selected such an inefficient instrument as myself, whose capacity to the task he has to perform is not adequate to the expectations which are justly entertained either by herself or by your Right Worshipful body.

"I feel, nevertheless, proud of this distinguished honor conferred on me; and trust that my abilities, although feeble, may be stimulated by my earnest desire to do justice to the trust reposed in me, and, encouraged by your indulgence, hope to be able to contribute what my duties require; and that, under your

guidance, may yet prove serviceable to my constituents; and it will be my constant endeavor to communicate with diligence and fidelity, to the Grand Lodge I am representing, all matters of interest to the Craft, and exert myself to promote the harmony of the Fraternity,—to cultivate the friendship of this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, so as to merit its respect and confidence, and will always keep in sight the honor, interest and dignity of that Grand body I have the honor of representing.

"The system of an interchange of Representatives is now successfully followed up by almost all Grand Lodges of the Continent; and, from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, I perceive that she is likewise highly recommending and adopting the system, and has, at the same time, appointed a Representative to the Grand Lodge of England; and she is aware of the beneficial results which may be obtained from alliances among the Masonic Bodies over all the civilized world, so that the ancient landmarks of our beloved and glorious Order may be preserved in their purity.

"It affords me high satisfaction, Right Worshipful Sir, to inform this Right Worshipful body that the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas has, by an unanimous vote, constituted your Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, Bro. James Herring, Honorary Member of the body, in consideration and as a testimonial of the great services he is rendering to the Craft; and it is quite manifest that it is not alone ourselves, but other bodies, who justly appreciate the talents, faithfulness and motives of our Right Worshipful Grand Secretary in advancing the interest of Free Masonry.

"In conclusion, you will permit me, Right Worshipful Sir, to tender you, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, the right hand of Fellowship; and to wish for yourself, and the Right Worshipful body over which you preside, prosperity and happiness.

"The Right Worshipful Bro. Willard, acting as Grand Master, replied to the address of the Representative of Texas, and, after declaring his pleasure at the occasion thus afforded him of giving him a sincere and cordial welcome, he alluded to the rapid progress of Masonry in the young Republic of the Single Star; and expressed the hope that the Grand Lodge whose Representative was then before him might go on in the diffusion of the benign principles of the Order until suns and moons and stars should cease to shine.

"The Grand Master then advanced, and, taking the new Representative by the hand, conducted him to his seat in the east."

The following extracts are taken from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

"The Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in July, 1841, by an unanimous resolution, *decreed*, that no person belonging to the Society of Odd-Fellows should be initiated in the Masonic Mysteries in the Lodges of its jurisdiction; and that the actual members of said Lodges, who belong to the Society of Odd-Fellows, cannot continue to be members of said Lodges, unless they renounce positively the said Society of Odd-Fellows."

"We have also the names and signatures of the officers of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for 1843, and a list of all its members, together with the names of the Lodges under its jurisdiction, by which we are also informed that fifteen are of the YORK RITE, four of the SCOTTISH RITE, and two of the MODERN or FRENCH RITE."

In the general regulations of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Venezuela there are some things of interest. Some of the provisions are,—

That petitions for Degrees must state the age, occupation, country and religion of the applicant, and always lie over one month, when every member of the Lodge must be notified.

Petitions for affiliation must be accompanied with a Diploma and certificate from the last Lodge he belonged to, that he is in good standing and owes nothing to the Lodge.

No ballot can be taken without a majority of the members of the Lodge are present.

Not more than five can receive Degrees at the same time.

No one can be initiated who is dependent as servant or domestic, but must have a competence for himself and family, and must have attained twenty-one years of age,—except the son of a Mason, whose age must be at least eighteen years,—and he must have contributed something for charitable purposes.

No candidate for E. A. can be received for less than \$40; F. C., \$8; M. M., \$15,—in all cases in advance; and if any one should get the Degrees without the fees in advance, he is not acknowledged a Mason until full payment.

No stranger can visit a Lodge without his Diploma and strict examination.

Every visitor shall be seated by the S. D., according to his degree,—the highest in the east.

The Grand Lodge acknowledges thirty-three Degrees under its jurisdiction.

The Grand Master must have received thirty Degrees, and have presided over some subordinate Lodge.

They work under the Scottish Rite.

The voluminous and interesting documents from Europe I have been unable to get correctly translated, but I expect to do so by the next Communication.

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CALLED COMMUNICATION.

In pursuance to the call of the M. W. Barry Gillespie, Grand Master of Masons in Texas, the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas convened in Called Communication on Monday, 7 o'clock P.M., the 23d of June, A.D. 1845, A.L. 5845, and opened in ample form.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ G. M. Patrick,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ H. C. McIntire,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ M. Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
“ G. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ W. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ M. P. Norton,	Grand Orator.

R. W. T. J. Hardeman, Grand Steward.
 " B. R. Wallace, Dist. Dep. Grand Master 2d Dist.
 " E. Allen, " " " 4th Dist.
 W. Samuel Ralph, Grand Tyler.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland, No. 1,	by Bro. A. S. Ruthven.
Harmony, No. 6,	" Michael Chronican.
Milam, No. 11,	" E. W. Taylor.
Trinity, No. 14,	" John M. Dorr.
Friendship, No. 16,	" W. H. Bourland.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	" A. G. Perry.
Washington, No. 18,	" J. L. Farquhar.
Forest, No. 19,	" Isaac Tousey.
Graham, No. 20,	" Wm. Hunt, H. C. McIntire, and Thomas H. Crutcher.
Trinity, No. 21,	" Geo. G. Alfred.
Red Land, No. 23,	" B. R. Wallace.

With about one hundred members and visiting Brethren.

The petition of Harmony Lodge for a new Masonic District was read, and, on motion of Bro. McLeod, it was

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report on the petition of Harmony Lodge, No. 6.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. H. McLeod, W. H. Bourland, T. J. Hardeman, Charles Mason, M. P. Norton and J. D. Giddings said Committee.

Bro. McLeod offered the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas shall be held on the second Monday after the assembling of the first legislative body in Texas, and at the same place as the said legislative body will be held.

Which, on motion of Bro. M. Johnson, was read first time and referred to a committee of five,—Bros. Ruthven, Taylor, Cazneau, Allen and Perry,—with instructions to report to-morrow.

A communication from Washington Lodge, No. 18, inviting the Grand Lodge to a feast on to-morrow, the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, was received, and, on motion of Bro. Ruthven, was unanimously accepted.

On motion of Bro. Crumpler, it was

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint a committee of five to investigate the condition and work of Washington Lodge, No. 18.

Bros. Taylor, Patrick, Norton, McFarland and Hardeman were appointed said Committee.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That a standing committee of five be appointed annually on foreign

correspondence, whose duty it shall be to examine all foreign correspondence and report thereon in full at each Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon the Grand Master appointed the following Brethren to compose said Committee :—Johnson, Allen, Mason, Western and Giddings.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report what are the necessary qualifications to admit a stranger as visitor into the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

The following Brethren were appointed said Committee :—Patrick, Taylor, Ruthven, Hunt and Bourland.

Adjourned, until to-morrow at 1 o'clock.

Tuesday, 1 o'clock, p.m., June 24, A.L. 5845.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ G. M. Patrick,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ T. H. Crutcher,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ M. Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
“ Geo. A. Patillo,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ W. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ G. Fisher,	Grand Chaplain <i>p. t.</i>
“ Josiah Crosby,	Grand Orator <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. L. Cazneau,	Grand Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. R. Scurry,	Sword-Bearer <i>p. t.</i>
“ T. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Steward.
“ Charles Mason,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. Samuel Ralph,	Grand Tyler.
R. W. E. Allen,	D. D. Grand Master 4th Dist.

ORIGINAL MEMBER PRESENT.

R. W. T. J. Hardeman.

Lodges represented as before.

About one hundred members and visiting Brethren present.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, and formed a procession with Washington Lodge, No. 18, according to the following order of the M. W. Grand Master :—

To Bro. W. L. Cazneau, P. G. Warden.

You are appointed Grand Marshal *pro tem.*, to regulate and take charge of the procession during the ceremonies of the day. At 1 o'clock you will repair to the Lodge Room of Washington Lodge, No. 18, and form the procession as follows:—

Washington Lodge, No. 18.

Tyler, with a drawn sword.
 Stewards and their music.
 Entered Apprentices—Fellow Crafts.
 Master Masons—Deacons.
 Secretary and Treasurer.
 Senior and Junior Wardens.
 The Holy Bible, Square and Compass, borne by the
 Oldest Member of that Lodge.
 Past Masters.
 Royal Arch Masons.
 Master of Washington Lodge.

Grand Lodge.

Grand Tyler, with a drawn sword.
 Grand Stewards.
 Grand Secretary and Treasurer.
 Master of a Lodge bearing the Sacred Writings.
 Grand Chaplain and Orator.
 Grand Wardens.
 Deputy Grand Master.
 Grand Master.
 Grand Senior and Junior Deacons.
 (Signed,) B. GILLESPIE,
Grand Master.

The procession then proceeded to the Representative Hall, and listened to an eloquent oration from Bro. Josiah Crosby; after which the procession moved to the Washington Hotel and partook of a feast prepared by the Washington Lodge; thence to the Lodge Room and resumed labor.

Bro. W. L. Cazneau was received as the Representative of Austin Lodge, No. 12.

On motion of Bro. Alfred, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 21, be changed to Lothrop Lodge, No. 21.

Bro. G. W. Wright was received as Representative of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.

The Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Washington Lodge made the following report, which was adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Warden and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred an examination into the affairs and proceedings of Washington Lodge, No. 18, beg leave to report that they have carefully investigated all the transactions which have occurred in the work of the Lodge, and find that many innovations have been suffered to occur, and in some instances the ancient landmarks removed; and unless some check be put to such irregular and un-Masonic proceedings we will find our institution crumbling into dust, and Masonry not only become a mere name *among us*, but become a jest and a by-word among men. And, in order that not only this Lodge may be more careful and more Masonic in their proceedings, but that it may be a warning to all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, we recommend the passage of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That Washington Lodge, No. 18, receive from the Grand Master a reprimand for the un-Masonic and irregular proceedings which have been permitted in their labors.

Resolved, That should such innovations and irregularities continue, or similar instances occur, which have come to the notice of your Committee, they would recommend that their labors as a Lodge be suspended.

E. W. TAYLOR,
G. M. PATRICK,
D. M. MCFARLAND,
M. P. NORTON,
T. J. HARDEMAN.

June 24, 1845.

The Committee to whom was referred the qualifications required of visiting Brethren, &c. made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Warden and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the necessary qualifications required of visiting Brethren who may be strangers beg leave to report the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge require of all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge that the ancient usages, customs and landmarks be carefully sustained in examination of visiting Brethren who are strangers, and also that they be in possession of a Grand Lodge certificate under which jurisdiction they may have been last a member.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
WM. HUNT,
G. M. PATRICK.

Which was adopted unanimously.

The following resolution was passed:—

Resolved, That the Grand Master and Grand Secretary be authorized to examine the accounts of Bro. Geo. Fisher and order the payment of the balance due him, if in their opinion the same are correct.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the very valuable present of "Masonic Discourses, by Joseph R. Chandler."

On motion of Bro. Johnson, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Washington Lodge for the civilities we have received at their hands this day.

The Committee to whom was referred the By-laws of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, reported amendments, which were adopted; and it was

Resolved, That the By-laws of Harmony Lodge be ratified as amended.

The following report was then read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred a motion made by Bro. McLeod, in reference to the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report a substitute, as follows:—

Resolved, That the present Grand Officers shall remain in their several offices until their successors are elected and installed, and the Grand Master be requested to call an extra session should occasion require.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Chairman Committee.

The petition of sundry Master Masons resident in Lamar county, for a new Lodge at the town of Paris, was read, and, on motion of Bro. Norton, it was

Resolved, That a Charter be granted to Paris Lodge, No. 27, at the town of Paris.

On motion of Bro. Patrick, the Masonic Monitors were authorized to be sold at \$1 50 each.

On motion of Bro. Ruthven,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to act with a like committee on the part of Washington Lodge, to wait on Bro. Josiah Crosby and solicit a copy of his eloquent address for publication,—said Committee consisting of Bros. Ruthven, Bourland and Perry.

The majority of the Committee on the petition of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, made the following report:—

WASHINGTON, June 24, 1845.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Bros. Yard and Harrison, praying for the erection of Galveston county into a separate Masonic district, have had the same under consideration, and, for the reasons set forth in the petition, have instructed me to report favorably.

H. McLEOD,
Chairman.

The minority of said Committee reported as follows:—

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

The undersigned, part of the Committee to whom was referred the petition of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, praying that said Lodge may constitute a separate Masonic jurisdiction, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that they consider that all the facilities necessary for the benefit of the Craft in that respect have been wisely provided for by this Grand Lodge, and that it does seem to them that it would be injudicious to grant the request prayed for, and further beg leave to propose the following resolution:—

Resolved, That no District Deputy Grand Master shall have power to grant a Dispensation, authorizing a Lodge to enter, pass or raise an individual, until he shall have served the proper time, as laid down in Chapter —, Section —, of our Constitution.

(Signed.)

T. J. HARDEMAN,
CHARLES MASON.

Both of which reports were laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Patrick,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a chest for the safe keeping of the furniture of this Grand Lodge.

There being no more business before the Grand Lodge, the same was closed in ample and ancient form, with prayer, in peace and harmony.

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

The Ninth Grand Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Republic of Texas convened, according to the Constitution and previous notice, in Austin, January 12, 1846, A.L. 5846.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Grand Treasurer, Walter Winn,	Presiding.
" Past G. M. John A. Greer, as	Senior Grand Warden.
" Past D. G. M. T. G. Western, as	Junior Grand Warden.
" W. H. Cushney,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Tannehill,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. P. Bee,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" S. Z. Hoyle,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

The Lodge was opened in form and with prayer.

On motion, the Lodge adjourned until Thursday, 15th inst.

Attest,
H. P. BEE,
Grand Secretary p. t.

Thursday, January 15, A.L. 5846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. Past Grand Master J. A. Greer,	Presiding.
" Grand Treasurer Walter Winn,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Charles Mason,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. H. Cushney,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Joseph Waples,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" H. W. Raglan,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Milam, No. 11, by Bro. Moses Johnson, Past Master.
 Austin, No. 12, by Bros. Walter Winn, Worshipful Master; Joseph Waples, Senior Warden; and G. W. Hancock, Junior Warden.
 Montgomery, No. 25, Bro. E. J. Arnold, Worshipful Master.
 Bro. Johnson made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Montgomery Lodge find several trifling errors in their work, and some not so trifling. The 5th of July was the regular meeting-day, but they could not get a meeting. On the next Saturday they called a meeting, changed the By-laws, made that a regular meeting, and went on to regular business. This was wrong, for no Lodge can act under a new By-law until it is ratified by the Grand Lodge,—and much less one under Dispensation, which has no By-laws but those of the nearest Lodge.

On the 13th December the Lodge met—the Worshipful Master presiding—and adjourned until Thursday, 18th. On Thursday they met,—the Worshipful Master not present nor the Wardens,—selected a Master *pro tem.*, in compliance with the By-laws, and finished the business before the Lodge. The Worshipful Master has protested on the bottom of the page against the meeting, but does not say why. We see nothing wrong in it.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following:—

Resolved, That the officers and members of Montgomery Lodge, as well as all other Lodges under this jurisdiction, be requested to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge and their own By-laws.

MOSES JOHNSON,
Chairman.

The Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow, 16th inst.

Attest,

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

Friday, January 16, A.L. 5846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Officers and members present as before.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until February 17, A.L. 5846.

Attest,

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

February 17, 5846.

The Grand Lodge convened pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie, Grand Master.
 R. W. A. S. Ruthven, Deputy Grand Master.
 “ E. W. Taylor, Senior Grand Warden.
 “ W. D. Smith, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 “ T. H. Crutcher, Senior Grand Deacon.

R. W. W. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
" Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer.
" T. H. Hardeman,	} Grand Stewards.
" J. L. Farquhar,	
" Charles Mason,	Grand Pursuivant.
" E. Allen,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master 4th District.
" M. P. Norton,	Grand Orator.
" E. Burleson,	Grand Marshal.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

The following Lodges were duly represented:—

Holland, No. 1,	by Bro. Peter W. Gray.
Harmony, No. 6,	" Michael Chronican.
Matagorda, No. 7,	" T. J. Hardeman.
Milam, No. 11,	" E. W. Taylor.
Austin, No. 12,	" Walter Winn.
Constantine, No. 13,	" S. McFarlane.
Friendship, No. 16,	" L. D. Barry.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	" D. C. Dickson.
Washington, No. 18,	" J. L. Farquhar.
Forest, No. 19,	" S. D. Hay.
Graham, No. 20,	" T. H. Crutcher.
Lothrop, No. 21,	" Moses Johnson.
Marshall, No. 22,	" James McCown.
Montgomery, No. 25,	" G. W. Mason.
Paris, No. 27,	" W. H. Bourland and J. Bourland.
Frontier, No. 28,	" H. L. Kinney.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Thomas J. Hardeman and Anson Jones.

REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN LODGES.

Anson Jones, Representative of Grand Lodge of New York.

On motion, Bros. P. W. Gray and T. J. Hardeman were appointed a Committee to invite Bro. Past Grand Secretary George Fisher to a seat in this Grand Communication. Duty performed, and Bro. Fisher was introduced accordingly.

The following report of the Deputy Grand Master was read and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

BRETHREN:—Having had the honor of being appointed by the M. W. Grand Master his Deputy for the year which has now closed upon us, I deem it requisite and necessary to make the following report:—

I have, during the recess of the Grand Lodge from labor, visited several of

the Lodges in various parts of the country, and in all I can truly say that there was a unity of feeling existing among the Brethren, and a harmony of action, which cannot but tend to promote the great principles promulgated by our ancient and honorable institution,—giving a stimulant to benevolence and spreading far and wide that charity which so particularly appertains to our Order.

The first of my visitations was to Montgomery Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Montgomery, where I was requested to assist in labor for the benefit of the Craft, and by the assistance of the Brethren conferred the first three Degrees.

I then visited the Cincinnati Lodge, U. D., where I found the officers had been but recently installed, consequently had done no work since their organization; and, there being labor on hand, I immediately commenced by conferring the first three Degrees on two candidates who had been waiting for a considerable time for the proper organization of the Craft, in order that they might receive these benefits. I also lectured with several of the Brethren, and gave them such instructions of which I was capable,—leaving them in a situation which, I presumed, would enable them to pursue their labors with credit to themselves and honor to the Fraternity.

Returning, I had much pleasure in meeting with the Brethren of Forest Lodge, No. 19, held in the town of Huntsville, where I conferred also two or three Degrees, and went through the several lectures with the Brethren.

Leaving Huntsville, I then visited Orphans' Friend Lodge, held at Fanthorp's settlement. The Brethren and Lodge here I find to be in excellent condition,—generally practising those precepts which are taught within its sacred walls, not only in their daily walk and conversation, but in their actions between man and man, working harmoniously, and, if I may be allowed to judge, according to the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity.

I then visited Graham Lodge, held in Brenham, and found the same zeal and genuine attachment to our cause existing. I remained with the Brethren nearly two days, during which time I went through the lectures, and found the variations in work by no means material, there existing but a very few minor differences.

In granting Dispensations for the conferring Degrees on candidates before they have served their regular time, I have used due caution, and in no instance has it been done unless I felt fully convinced it was a case of emergency, or for the immediate benefit of the Craft,—well knowing the necessity of the newly-initiated being well and thoroughly instructed before being advanced in the Order.

In concluding my report, I would, with all due deference, make the following suggestion for the consideration of this honorable body. From the experience which I have had already, and from what I have seen in the formation of new Lodges, it ought to be required that they have not only the recommendation of the nearest Lodge, but that the three principal officers named in the petition should be vouched for as being competent to confer the Degrees of E. A., F. C. and M. M. according to the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity.

It is to be presumed that, from the present prosperous state of our country and the increase of immigration, we will have many applications for new Lodges, and, when a precaution of this kind is used, we will not only have a uniformity in our work, but it will prevent any innovations which might otherwise arise; and we would also be assured and rest satisfied that the tools of Masonry are not in the hands of unskilful workmen.

With these remarks I beg leave to close my report, and would sincerely pray that the Grand Architect of the universe may assist you in your deliberations, and that they may result in the spreading of benevolence and charity throughout our land, and the promotion of our sacred institution.

I remain yours, fraternally,

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Deputy Grand Master.

HOUSTON, January 8, 1846.

The report of the Grand Lecturer was received and referred to the same Committee.

The following report of the Grand Secretary was read and referred to a special committee, consisting of Bros. Dickson, Ruthven and Crutcher:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Soon after the adjournment of the Grand Annual Communication of last year, I wrote letters to several Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada in reference to interchange of Representatives, according to the instructions of the Grand Lodge. The correspondence in relation thereto is herewith submitted. [Marked A.] The Grand Master having been pleased to recommend Bro. T. G. Western as Representative to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Venezuela, I sent a Communication to that Grand Lodge, a copy of which is herewith submitted. [Marked B.] I also wrote to several of the Grand Lodges of Europe, copies of which letters are also herewith submitted. [Marked C.] During the called Communication last June I procured the services of Bro. George Fisher to translate the German correspondence, which I think of much interest. The correspondence with Bro. Richard Lee Wilson, of London, our Representative near the United Grand Lodge of England, will be found in package D; and that with Bro. G. K. Teulon, of Calcutta, our Representative in Asia, will be found in package E.

Under the instructions of the Grand Lodge, I forwarded to Bro. Charles W. Moore, of Boston, early last year, twenty dollars, for the purpose of procuring a jewel to be presented to Bro. Teulon, which has been attended to and forwarded, together with his commission and other documents, to Bro. Teulon at Calcutta.

Package F contains the correspondence with Bro. Lewis Feuchtwanger, our Representative in New York, and Bro. Herring, Grand Secretary of New York.

Copies of our printed proceedings have been forwarded to all Grand Lodges of whose existence I was informed. The journals of the called Communication were not printed, as the M. W. Grand Master advised the postponement of it.

Since the meeting of the last Annual Communication there have been Charters sent to Graham Lodge, No. 20; Trinity, No. 21; Marshall, No. 22; Clinton, No. 23; Red Land, No. 24; and Paris, No. 27; and Dispensations to Montgomery Lodge, at Montgomery; Olive Branch Lodge, at Cincinnati; and Frontier Lodge, at Corpus Christi.

The periodicals and books authorized to be purchased have been procured, so far as I have been able. The American Masonic Register, published at Albany, N. Y., and the Free Masons' Monthly Magazine, published at Boston, are regularly received. One number of the Free Masons' Quarterly Review, published in London, has also been received. But few books have been procured; but I think, by sending now, we might meet with better success, as Bro. Moore, of Boston, has received a considerable collection for sale.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MOSES JOHNSON, G. S.

The following amendments to the Constitution were read the first time,—viz. :

To section second, first chapter,—The Grand Lodge shall be held once in each year alternately at the Capital of this State on the second Monday after the meeting of the Legislature, and at the City of Houston on the second Monday of January: *Provided*, That the next session shall be held at Houston on the second Monday in January, 1847. The elections of officers shall take place on the Friday following the meeting annually; and the annual election in 1846 shall take place on Thursday, the 19th of the present month, February.

Second amendment :—

Resolved, That the amendment to the second section of the first chapter of the Constitution be repealed.

Third amendment :—

After the word *Lodges*, in the second line from the top of the first section of the second chapter, read,—and shall hold and exercise Masonic jurisdiction within and coextensive with the limits of Texas, as defined in the statutes passed by the Congress of the Republic of Texas.

Fourth amendment :—

After the last line of the first chapter, tenth section, read,—And it shall be the duty of each District Deputy Grand Master to call one or more special Communications of the Lodges of his District annually, at such time and place as he may deem most advisable, under the style of the Special Grand Communication of _____ Masonic District, for the purpose of the improvement and advancement of the interests of the Fraternity in each District; and shall, in his report to the Grand Lodge, transmit a full copy of all minutes and proceedings at said Communication.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

Attest,
MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

February 18, 1846, A.L. 5846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master, presiding.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ W. D. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer.
“ Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
“ T. H. Crutcher,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

Representatives and members as before.

The amendment to the 2d section of the 1st chapter of the Constitution passed second reading; also, the repeal of the previous amendment to the same; also, the amendment to the 1st section of the 2d chapter.

The amendment to the 10th section of the 1st chapter was read and referred to a special committee.

The special Committee on the Grand Secretary's Report made the following report, which was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN :—Your Committee appointed to examine the Annual Report of the Grand Secretary beg leave to submit the following report :—

Your Committee feel highly gratified from the statement, as shown by the Grand Secretary, to find that his correspondence with the various Grand Lodges has been of such a nature as will produce an intimate connection with the various Grand Lodges on both sides of the Atlantic; and that his exertions as Secretary in the performance of the duties have been so fully represented in the correspondence, that we would urgently recommend the same course to be pursued, and, if possible, even more extensively than has been for the past year, feeling satisfied that it cannot but tend to the promotion of our Order and the safety of the Craft.

We remain, fraternally, your Committee,

A. S. RUTHVEN, *Chairman*,
T. H. CRUTCHER.

The Committee on Returns made the following report, which was adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee, appointed to examine the returns of subordinate Lodges, beg leave to make the following report:—

They have with much care examined the package of reports handed them by the Worshipful Grand Secretary, and have been much pleased with the beauty and correctness of the returns of the following Lodges,—viz.:

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 18; Graham, No. 20; Montgomery, No. 25; Olive Branch, No. 26.

Your Committee discover several informalities in the returns of other Lodges, which they feel it a duty to notice, such as the enumerating under the head of Past Masters all those who are such by Degree only. Again, we find the time of initiating applicants specified, without there being a record of the time the petition was presented; also, in affiliating, we find some Lodges neglect entering upon their returns the name of the Lodge of which the Brother was last a member.

Your Committee are satisfied that the above irregularities are partly owing to the want of blank forms of returns. They would therefore respectfully recommend that the usual form of returns be printed with the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication.

They have also examined the returns of Frontier Lodge, No. 27, working under Dispensation, at Corpus Christi, and find them correct.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

AUSTIN, February 18, 1846.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

The Report of the Grand Treasurer was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Bro. Allen, from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, requested further time to report. Granted.

Bro. E. W. Taylor offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:—

Resolved, That Bro. Geo. W. Chayter, of the City of Wilmington, be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas near the Grand Lodge of the State of Delaware.

Resolved, That Bro. John S. Cogdell, Past Grand Master, of Charleston, S.C., be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas near the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

Resolved, That Bro. John P. Duval, Past Grand Master, of Florida, be appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas near the Grand Lodge of Florida.

On motion of Bro. Ruthven, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing now in this city be invited to attend this Grand Annual Communication.

Bro. G. W. Mason offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table :—

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Masters shall not authorize the conferring of Degrees by Dispensation, unless it be declared an emergency by unanimous ballot of the Lodge.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until 4 o'clock to-morrow.

Attest,

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

February 19, 1846, A.L. 5846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Barry Gillespie,	Grand Master.
R. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ E. W. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ W. D. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Walter Winn,	Grand Treasurer.
“ Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
“ T. H. Crutcher,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

Members present as before.

The Representatives of the following Lodges were present :—

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Harmony, No. 6; Matagorda, No. 7; Milam, No. 11; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 13; Friendship, No. 16; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, No. 18; Forest, No. 19; Graham, No. 20; Lothrop, No. 21; Marshall, No. 22; Montgomery, No. 25; Olive Branch, No. 26; Paris, No. 27; and Frontier, No. 28.

The report of Committee on By-laws was read and adopted.

The following report of the Committee on Petitions was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the petition from sundry Lodges beg leave to report, that they have examined one from Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, wherein is stated a number of grievances caused by the unsettled state of the country during the past years of 1842, '43, '44 and '45, causing a cessation of their labor and almost a dissolution of the Lodge; and, as your Committee verily believe that the difficulties have occurred from causes over which they had no control, they would recommend the passage of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, be reinstated under its former Master, and that all dues to the Grand Lodge up to the 27th December, 1845, be remitted.

AUSTIN, February 19, 1846.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
J. L. FARQUHAR.

The following report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was adopted:—

To the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to make the following report:—

Your Committee have examined the records of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 26, working under Dispensation at Cincinnati, Montgomery county, and find the same correct, with no informalities in their labor.

They have also examined the minutes of Frontier Lodge, No. 28, working under Dispensation at Corpus Christi, and find the work of the Lodge was commenced, and Degrees conferred, previous to the installation of officers. This was irregular, and we trust will not again occur in any new Lodge under your jurisdiction. The labors of the Lodge, after the installation of officers, we find correct, and your Committee would recommend the passage of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge ratify the work of Frontier Lodge, No. 28, performed previous to the installation of their officers.

AUSTIN, February 19, 1846.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

The report of the Committee on the amendment of the 10th section of the 1st chapter of the Constitution was read and laid on the table.

The amendment to the 2d section of the 1st chapter of the Constitution was read third time, upon which considerable debate ensued, when, upon motion of Bro. P. W. Gray, the previous question was called and the amendment passed.

The amendment to the 1st section, 2d chapter, was read third time and passed.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers, according to the late amendment to the Constitution, whereupon Bro. A. S. Ruthven, having received thirty-five votes, being all that were given, was declared duly elected Grand Master for the ensuing year. Bro. G. M. Patrick was nominated for Senior Grand Warden, and, having received all the votes, was declared duly elected; Bro. T. J. Hardeman was nominated for Junior Grand Warden, and, having received all the votes, was declared duly elected; Bro. J. C. Tannehill was nominated for Grand Treasurer, and was unanimously elected; Bro. Moses Johnson was unanimously elected Grand Secretary.

On motion of Bro. Burleson, a committee was appointed to invite Past Grand Master Anson Jones to attend the meeting of the Grand Lodge on to-morrow, also Past Grand Chaplain R. E. B. Baylor.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. E. Burleson, T. J. Harde-man and S. D. Hay said Committee.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow morning, at half-past 8 o'clock.

Attest,
MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

Friday, February 20, A.L. 5846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

- M. W. Barry Gillespie, Grand Master.
 " John A. Greer, Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " T. H. Crutcher, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " Moses Johnson, Grand Secretary.
 " T. J. Hardeman, Senior Grand Deacon.
 " W. H. Bourland, Junior Grand Deacon.
 W. Thomas Ward, Grand Tyler.

Members present as before, with Past Grand Master Anson Jones as Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

This being the time appointed for the installation of officers, the M. W. Grand Master proceeded to install the Grand Master elect and other officers in ample form, after which the Grand Master was pleased to make the following communication, and the officers appointed were installed:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, as Grand Master elect for the year of our Lord 1846, Anno Lucis 5846, I hereby nominate and appoint

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| R. W. E. W. Taylor, | Deputy Grand Master. |
| " R. E. B. Baylor, | Grand Chaplain. |
| " W. B. Ochiltree, | Grand Orator. |
| " W. D. Smith, | Grand Lecturer. |
| " G. A. Patillo, | Senior Grand Deacon. |
| " Edward Burleson, | Junior Grand Deacon. |
| " D. D. Crumpler, | Grand Sword-Bearer. |
| " Alex. Ewing, | Grand Marshal. |
| " J. L. Farquhar, | Grand Pursuivant. |
| " W. H. Bourland, | } Grand Stewards. |
| " D. C. Dickson, | |
| W. Thomas Ward, | Grand Tyler. |
| R. W. H. D. Woodsworth, | Dist. Deputy Grand Master, First District. |
| " N. H. Darnell, | " Deputy Grand Master, Second District. |
| " L. M. Hitchcock, | " Deputy Grand Master, Third District. |
| " Charles Mason, | " Deputy Grand Master, Fourth District. |

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

LODGE ROOM, February 19, 1846, A.L. 5846.

On motion of Bro. Mason, the following report was taken up, read, and, after some discussion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the proposed amendment of the Constitution in 1st chapter, 10th section, which is as follows,—viz: after the last line read, “And it shall be the duty of each District Deputy Grand Master to call one or more special Communications of the Lodges of his District annually, at such time and place as he may deem most advisable, under the style of ‘The Special Grand Communication of ——— Masonic District,’ for the purpose of improvement and the advancement of the interests of the Fraternity in each district, and shall in his report to the Grand Lodge transmit a full copy of all the minutes and proceedings at said Communication,” beg leave to report,—

That they have given to the subject as full consideration as the limited time allowed them would permit, and that they are unanimously opposed to its adoption as a part of the Constitution. For which opinion they would briefly assign the following reasons:—That the system proposed is inconvenient, cumbersome and expensive; that, however much good such a plan might produce in each separate District by advancing a uniformity of work among the Lodges of each separate District, it could not by possibility produce that uniformity throughout the State; that the objects of the proposed amendment may be effected by a more simple and less expensive plan,—which is the payment of a reasonable salary to our Grand Lecturer, who shall be required to visit all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and to spend such time with each as may be necessary to give them proper instructions and correct any errors or discrepancies in their work. Your Committee believe that a Grand Lecturer would perform this duty for a moderate salary, and that the benefit to the Craft will be incalculable; and, further, that the salary can be conveniently paid by the adoption of the mode specified in the following resolutions, which they recommend,—viz.:

Resolved, That the sum of ——— dollars annually be paid to the Grand Lecturer,—one-half thereof by the Grand Lodge, and the other half by the subordinate Lodges in equal proportions, which shall be assessed in each Lodge, and paid by the Secretary thereof to the Grand Lecturer or his order.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to visit all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge once in each year, and to spend such time with each as may be necessary to give them proper instruction, and to correct any errors or discrepancies in their work.

All of which is submitted most respectfully by

Yours, fraternally,

P. W. GRAY,
GEORGE W. MASON, } *Committee.*
THOS. J. HARDEMAN,

The resolutions accompanying the report were referred to a special committee of Bros. Gillespie, Greer and Dickson, when the Grand Lodge adjourned, until 4 o'clock this evening.

Attest,

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

4 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives and members as before.

Officers and members as before.

Bro. B. Gillespie introduced R. W. Past Grand Master James Webb, who presented his Credentials and was received as Representative of the Grand Lodge of Florida near this Grand Lodge.

VOL. I.—13

The select Committee to whom the subject was referred made the following report :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred certain resolutions in regard to the raising a fund for the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge beg leave to report,— that they have had under consideration this important matter. They are sorry to find that we are so ill able to pay a suitable compensation at present to the Grand Lecturer, but will have to draw largely on the liberality of the subordinate Lodges and Brethren for their assistance. As the object is so commendable, the Committee doubt not but that a truly Masonic response will be made. Under the present view of things, we would recommend the allowance by this Grand Lodge of an annual stipend of two hundred dollars, to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge to the Grand Lecturer. We would further recommend that each subordinate Lodge that he may visit will refund his expenses in travel from the last Lodge previously attended, and his expenses during his sojourn with them in delivering lectures; and also to pay him as a minimum fee ten dollars, with such other sum as the Lodge may think the time and services of the Grand Lecturer deserve. For the purpose of carrying out these views, the Committee offer the following resolutions, in lieu of those offered by the former Committee.

Respectfully and fraternally, your Brethren,

B. GILLESPIE,
Chairman, &c.

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Texas, That the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge shall hereafter receive the annual salary of two hundred dollars, out of any funds not otherwise especially appropriated.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to visit each subordinate Lodge within this jurisdiction, to notify said Lodge at least ten days previous to his visitation, to improve said Lodge and Brethren in the doctrines, principles and practices of Masonry, to correct all discrepancies in work and produce uniformity in their proceedings, and at each Grand Annual Communication report to the Grand Lodge the state of Masonry in each of said subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, further, That it is recommended to, and expected of, each subordinate Lodge that may be visited by said Grand Lecturer, that they will refund to him his expenses of travel from his last place of labor and during his sojourn among them on his said duty of lecturing, and at least the sum of ten dollars, and such other sum as they may think his time and services deserve and their ability permits.

Resolved, further, That should said Grand Lecturer fail to visit any of the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, there shall be withheld from his salary a proportionate amount of his said salary.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge makes it the duty of the Master or presiding officer of Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to call together his Lodge for the benefit of lecturing and work, at such time as they may be notified by the Grand Lecturer, he giving them due notice of the time when he will meet them during the year.

Which, on motion of Bro. Bourland, were adopted.

The report of the Committee on Domestic Correspondence was read, and Committee discharged.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Domestic Correspondence have had the same under consideration, and, having given the subject a

careful investigation, respectfully beg leave to report, that the correspondence which they have had under consideration, though of a voluminous and interesting character, does not, in the opinion of your Committee, embrace any matter which calls for the action of the Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. D. HAY,
H. L. KINNEY,
E. BUBLESON.

Bro. Smith made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions offered by the R. W. Grand Secretary, beg leave to report that they would recommend their adoption, as follows:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is anxious to promote the universality of Masonry, of the Constitutions and work, and do most respectfully recommend this subject to our sister Grand Lodges, Chapters, Councils, Encampments and Orients in America.

Resolved, That a universal convention is hereby recommended of all legal Masonic bodies, to be holden at London on the first Monday of July, A.D. 1850.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will send a Representative to said convention, if it should be holden.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approve of the Triennial Convention of Grand Lecturers, and that we do hereby appoint our worthy Bro. ——— our Delegate to the Convention to be held at Winchester, Va., this year.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to appoint a Delegate to said Convention if Bro. ——— should not be able to attend.

Whereas, A General Grand Lodge would lessen the sovereignty of the Grand Lodges, by creating an absolute and supreme head, and thereby tend to lessen the spirit of emulation and cool the ardor of officers and members of Grand Lodges; and

Whereas, It would be a novelty, an innovation, an experiment in Masonry; and

Whereas, We are entirely satisfied with the present well-tried organization of Grand Lodges; Therefore,

Resolved, That our Delegate to the Triennial Convention of Grand Lecturers, and our Representatives everywhere, be instructed to oppose, unequivocally, any thing tending towards the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

The report and resolutions, after some discussion, were unanimously adopted.

On motion of Bro. Ruthven, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge tender their warmest thanks to R. W. B. Gillespie, Past Grand Master, for the very zealous and ardent attachment he has shown to the Fraternity in the government of its affairs during the past year.

The Committee on Finance made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the accounts-current of the R. W. Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined both accounts, and find them correct.

They however observe that a commission of \$54 05 was charged for the purchase of our regalia in New York, which, to the best of your Committee's

knowledge, was to have been purchased without any charge of this kind, owing to the circumstance that a Brother had volunteered to do so on like terms; and, in order to take the wish of this Grand Lodge, they would respectfully offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That Bro. D. J. Toler be allowed the sum of fifty-four dollars and five cents commission for purchasing the Grand Lodge regalia.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Chairman, &c.

Report adopted; and, on motion of Bro. Bourland, the resolution was laid on the table.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow, 7 o'clock.

Attest,
MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

Saturday, February 21, A.D. 1846.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS.

M. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Master.
R. W. J. L. Farquhar,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Thos. H. Crutcher,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer.
“ Moses Johnson,	Grand Secretary.
“ W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. H. Bourland,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ R. E. B. Baylor,	Grand Chaplain.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

Members and Representatives as before.

The following report was received and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the By-laws of Forest Lodge, No. 19, held in Huntsville, beg leave to report, that they have examined them, and recommend their ratification as amended; and that Forest Lodge be required to append to them the extracts from the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

E. W. TAYLOR,
J. L. FARQUHAR.

The Committee on Returns made the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Returns, to whom was referred the returns of Forest Lodge, No. 19, held at Huntsville, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined them and find them correct, and recommend their approval.

They have also had under examination the returns of Red Land Lodge, No. 23, and find them correct, but would recommend that their returns in future show when Degrees are conferred under Dispensation. Your Committee, how-

ever, are perfectly satisfied, after observing who are at the head of Red Land Lodge, that it must have been an omission of the Secretary.

Also, the returns of Washington Lodge, No. 18, and have added to their account with this Grand Lodge the charge for initiations, passings and raisings, which appear to have been omitted in the returns; otherwise they find them correct.

E. W. TAYLOR, *Chairman*,
J. L. FARQUHAR.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to act with a like committee on the part of the Grand Chapter, for the purpose of amending and revising the plan presented by Bro. Grand Secretary of a Charter for the two bodies, and to present the same to the Legislature for enactment, if in their judgment it should be expedient, and report at the next Grand Annual Communication.

Bros. Geo. Fisher, Dickson, Bourland, Johnson and Winn were nominated and appointed said Committee.

The resolution of the Finance Committee, which was laid on the table yesterday, was taken up, and, on motion, rejected.

On motion of Bro. Fisher,

Resolved, That Bro. Toler be allowed two and a half per cent. for the purchase of regalia, &c.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

Bro. Ward's account for tyling was approved for \$16, and the Secretary ordered to pay it.

The M. W. Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge.

There being no more business before the Grand Lodge, the same was closed in ancient and ample form, in peace and harmony.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Master.

MOSES JOHNSON,
Grand Secretary.

* * The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have not made their report yet, which is much to be regretted, as our foreign correspondence is extensive and interesting.

Grand Secretary.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Society of Free Masons, composed of Lodges and Chapters.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas*, That the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons in Texas, and their successors in office, shall have, in their corporate capacity, power to hold property, both real and personal, for the purpose of erecting, endowing and maintaining an institution of learning, and to sell and convey the same at pleasure: *Provided*, that at no time shall the capital exceed twenty-five thousand dollars.

SECTION 2. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for said

Grand Lodge, and the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, to erect buildings for their own convenience, and to hold such meetings, and at such times, as they may deem proper for the better management of their charitable funds, and the application of the same to proper purposes, and the transaction of all other business relating to their own affairs; and shall have full power and authority to make, constitute and ordain By-laws, rules and regulations for their own government.

SECTION 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge is coextensive with the limits of Texas, as claimed and defined by the present statutes as the boundary.

SECTION 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the officers and members of the present Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Texas, and their successors in office, be, and they are hereby, created a body politic and corporate, with power to sue and be sued; and that all the provisions, powers and authority granted by this act to the Grand Lodge be extended to the Royal Arch Chapter and to the subordinate Chapters in the State of Texas; and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

W. E. CRUMP,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

EDWARD BURLESON,

President pro tem. of the Senate.

Approved April 28, A.D. 1846.

J. P. HENDERSON.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

TENTH COMMUNICATION.

Proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, assembled in regular Grand Communication on Monday, the 11th day of January, A.D. 1847, A.L. 5847, at the Hall of Holland Lodge, No. 1, in the City of Houston, and was opened in due and ample form.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Alex. Ewing,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" P. W. Gray,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" J. A. Southmayd,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Isaiah Call,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. Wm. G. Evans,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

LODGES REPRESENTED UPON A CALL.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. W. W. Swain.
Milam Lodge, No. 11,	{ " J. McKnight.
Trinity Lodge, No. 14,	{ " E. W. Taylor.
Lothrop Lodge, No. 21,	" A. S. Ainsworth.
Clinton Lodge, No. 23,	" W. D. Smith, (proxy.)
Montgomery Lodge, No. 25,	" Samuel McClarty.
U. D. De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29,	" J. Call and E. W. Cawthon.
U. D. Gonzales Lodge, No. 30,	" Seymour White.
	" S. H. Darden.

Twenty members of the Grand Lodge present.

At the opening of the Grand Communication, the M. W. Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS.

OFFICERS AND BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS:—

It is with no ordinary degree of pleasure that I behold assembled together the Representatives of the Lodges within our jurisdiction, to take into consideration the acts and proceedings during the Masonic year which has just closed upon us, and I sincerely trust that, in the course of our deliberations, we shall find that the true interests of our Order are steadily advancing; that we are not only becoming more numerous, but that we are increasing in that Wisdom, that Strength and that Beauty which is of necessity required to support, perpetuate and beautify the great and glorious institution to which we belong. The position which we occupy, being the youngest Grand Lodge in the Union, naturally draws upon us the attention of all other Grand Lodges throughout the world; and I rejoice in the hope, founded upon the communications received from time to time from all parts of the Union and from abroad, that we are taking our stand and following in the train of our elder Brethren, who, by the steady and concentrated action which should ever characterize our fraternity, are effectually silencing the tongue of our clamorous and scandalizing enemies, who for many years beheld our institution tottering under a burden which by divine assistance only we were able to sustain. During the past year we have met with a severe loss in the destruction of a portion of our archives by fire in the City of Austin: this will cause some considerable expense to the Grand Lodge in blank Charters, certificates, proxies, &c.,—all, or nearly all, of which were destroyed. We shall also have to make the fact known to our Brethren with whom we are in correspondence, so that we can be furnished with the latest of their proceedings, a vast number of which, together with some valuable foreign correspondence, was also lost. Our books were fortunately saved, and we can therefore proceed to all business of a local nature, however sorry we may be to be deprived of the various communications from other parts of the Union; and this, Brethren, is a striking lesson to us of the necessity of the Grand Lodge having a building of their own suited to their wants, and not be required to move from place to place, incurring the risk and expense of moving their archives and furniture.

During the past year we have had, for the first time, the active duties of Grand Lecturer (I trust) fully complied with; and I presume, from his report, you will find that a continuance of the same is not only required, but is in every respect highly beneficial, if not essentially necessary for the safety of our landmarks and uniformity of work among our Lodges.

I find that it is very much the custom to have this most important office filled

by election; and, I doubt not, were this part of our Constitution so amended, it would stimulate into action many who have hitherto taken but a slight interest in the prosperity of our beloved institution; and it would most certainly increase that noble and praiseworthy emulation of who can best work or best agree. It would be well—and I would earnestly recommend—that, after such alterations and amendments in the Constitution as you may deem requisite for the general benefit during the present session, that it be referred to a Committee for revival, who shall report at our next Grand Annual Communication for final action. It has now become rather complicated and inconvenient from the alterations which have taken place since it was first adopted, and, by a revival of the whole, much trouble and not a little inconvenience will be prevented.

I have granted Dispensations since our last Communication for a new Lodge, to be held at the town of Shelbyville, in Shelby county, called "Sam Houston" Lodge, also for one to be held in the town of Palestine, in Houston county, to be called "Palestine Lodge;" and I trust their proceedings and By-laws will be brought before you for approval. It is with exceeding regret that I have to announce the resignation of our much-valued and highly-esteemed Representative to the Grand Lodge of England, Bro. Robert L. Wilson. I have received two communications from him on the subject, and have accepted his resignation in my official capacity by addressing the Grand Lodge of England to that effect; and I trust you will ratify the act by appointing the Brother recommended by our late Representative in his first communication, which is submitted for your action.

Holland Lodge—held in this city—have, at considerable expense, succeeded in procuring a hall suited to their convenience, and the officers are very desirous that it should be dedicated during the present session. In accordance with their wishes, I have stated that the Grand Officers would do so, at which time an address will be delivered, suitable to the occasion, by Bro. Peter W. Gray.

The business in which I am engaged of necessity employs all my time, and I have, therefore, not had the leisure to devote to the interests of the Fraternity which it requires. I therefore decline a nomination to the high and important trust which I have had the honor to hold during the past year, and hope you will select one who will have the true interest of our beloved institution near his heart, and who will do all in his power to promote the welfare and happiness of the members.

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Grand Master.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committees:—

On Returns from Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. E. W. Taylor, G. M. Patrick and T. J. Heard.

On By-laws,—Bros. S. McClarty, Isaiah Call and W. D. Smith.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow at 7 o'clock P.M.

Tuesday evening, January 12, A.D. 1847, A.L. 5847, 7 o'clock.
Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master.
" G. M. Patrick,	Senior Grand Warden.
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. W. Swain,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" Seymour White,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>

R. W. W. D. Smith, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " I. Call, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 W. W. Y. Evans, Grand Tyler *p. t.*
 Rev. W. M. Tryon, Past Grand Chaplain.

The following subordinate Lodges were represented :—

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bro. W. W. Swain.
Milam Lodge, No. 2,	{ " J. McKnight.
	{ " E. W. Taylor.
Trinity Lodge, No. 14,	" A. S. Ainsworth.
Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17,	" G. M. Patrick.
Lothrop Lodge, No. 21,	" W. D. Smith, (proxy.)
Clinton Lodge, No. 23,	" S. McClarty.
Montgomery Lodge, No. 25,	" I. Call and E. W. Cawthon.
De Witt Clinton Lodge,	{ " S. White.
No. 29, U. D.	{
Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, U. D.,	" S. H. Darden.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following Committees :—

On Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. John Shea, S. H. Darden, J. McKnight and M. Johnson.

On Finances,—Bros. E. W. Taylor, Alex'r Ewing, W. W. Swain and M. Johnson.

On Foreign Correspondence,—Bros. W. W. Swain, I. Call, J. McKnight and M. Johnson.

On Petitions,—Bros. A. S. Ainsworth, Seymour White and G. M. Patrick.

The petitions of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, U. D., Gonzales Lodge, U. D. and Palestine Lodge, U. D., praying for Charters, were referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Two communications from our Representative near the M. W. Grand Lodge of England were received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Deputy Grand Master E. W. Taylor presented a communication from Bro. J. Chenoweth, which was referred to a special Committee, —to wit, Bros. E. W. Taylor, G. M. Patrick and S. McClarty.

It being represented that Holland Lodge, No. 1, in the City of Houston, had completed a new hall, and said Lodge being desirous that the same be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes by this Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint Bros. John Shea, Alex'r Ewing and W. W. Swain a committee to confer with said Lodge and make the necessary arrangements.

On motion of Bro. Taylor,

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing in this city, during this Communication of the Grand Lodge, be invited to attend the meetings throughout the session.

Bro. Patrick presented the following preamble and resolutions, which, on motion, passed to a second reading:—

In order more effectually to promote the prosperity of our Order, it is deemed expedient to alter that portion of our Constitution providing for the election of officers.

Be it therefore Resolved, That in chapter 1, section 5, there be inserted the words "Grand Lecturer" immediately after the words "Grand Secretary," causing the said section to read thus:—"The Election of Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer shall be by ballot," &c.

Be it further Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to revise the Constitution, and report at the next Grand Annual Communication, to be held at the City of Austin on the 2d Monday in January, A.D. 1848.

Which resolutions were adopted, and the following Committee appointed:—

Bros. Barry Gillespie, G. M. Patrick, E. W. Taylor, A. S. Ruthven, S. W. Eddy, W. D. Smith and Moses Johnson.

Bro. Cawthon submitted the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the intemperate use of ardent spirits, profane swearing and gambling are derogatory to the vital principles of Ancient Free Masonry, and that any Brother being guilty of either of these baneful vices shall by the Lodge be first admonished, then reprimanded; and, if he still persists, it shall be the duty of the Lodge to suspend or expel him.

Resolved, further, That any Lodge neglecting or refusing to attend to the above duties shall be subject to the censure of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

Which resolutions were adopted.

On motion of Bro. White, the vote adopting the above resolutions was reconsidered, and, on motion of Bro. Patrick, they were referred to a special committee,—to wit, Bros. W. W. Swain, G. M. Patrick and E. W. Cawthon,—with instructions to report at the earliest opportunity.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to morrow at 7 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, January 13, 1847, 7 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Same Lodges represented.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Bro. McClarty offered the following amendments to the Constitution, which passed to a second reading:—

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended that hereafter it shall be the privilege of the Lodges "subordinate to this Grand Lodge" to fix the rate of fees for conferring the several Degrees of Masonry: *Provided*, that in no case shall the rates be established at a sum less than twenty dollars for conferring the first three Degrees.

Resolved, That the Constitution be so amended that *hereafter* the rate of contribution from the Lodges "subordinate to this Grand Lodge" be fixed at one dollar per annum for each member, and fifty cents for each initiation.

The amendment to the Constitution, making the office of Grand Lecturer elective, was read a second time.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Thursday, January 14, 1847, 10 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Same Lodges represented.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Petitions made a report, which was read and adopted :—

The undersigned Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the petitions of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, U. D., at Jasper, Jasper county, of Gonzales Lodge, U. D., at Gonzales, Gonzales county, and of Palestine Lodge, No. 22, U. D., at Palestine, Anderson county, for Charters, having had the same under consideration, would recommend that the prayer of De Witt Clinton Lodge be granted, and the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue a Charter to said Lodge upon their paying the usual fees. That the District Deputy Grand Master be requested to examine and correct the work and proceedings of Gonzales Lodge, (their work not having been sent up,) and report to the next Annual Communication. And that the work of Palestine Lodge shows many irregularities, and their Dispensation has not been received. Your Committee are constrained to report against granting Charters to said Lodges.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. AINSWORTH,
SEYMOUR WHITE,
GEO. M. PATRICK.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a Charter be issued to De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29.

Resolved, That the petitions of Palestine and Gonzales Lodges be recommitted to the same Committee.

On motion of Bro. Darden, Bro. E. W. Taylor was added to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The special Committee to whom was referred the resolutions offered by Bro. Cawthon made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, having been appointed a special Committee to report upon the resolutions offered by Bro. Cawthon, respectfully submit the following substitute :—

Whereas, The intemperate use of ardent spirits, profane swearing and gambling are derogatory to the true principles of Free Masonry : Therefore, *Be it Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge urge upon the Lodges subordinate to its jurisdiction the necessity of a more rigid enforcement of ancient and established usages for the suppression of these baneful vices.

WM. W. SWAIN,
GEO. M. PATRICK,
E. W. CAWTHON.

The Grand Treasurer's Report was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The amendments to the Constitution, regulating fees for conferring Degrees, and regulating contributions, was read second time and passed to a third reading.

The amendment to the Constitution, making the office of Grand Lecturer elective, was read third time, passed and became part of the Constitution.

Bro. Patrick presented a petition from M. A. Montrose, which, on motion of Bro. E. W. Taylor, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. McClarty, Darden, King and Patrick.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, the report of the M. W. Grand Master was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. McClarty, King and Johnson.

The Grand Lecturer made the following report, which was read, and referred to the same Committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

As the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge, I take pleasure, in accordance with its rules and regulations, in making the following report :—

In the early part of June last I left Houston to perform the duties of my office, and arrived at Swartwout on the 10th instant, where I met the officers and members of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, conferred several Degrees, and gave the Lodge such instruction and information as their circumstances required, together with the several lectures of the different Degrees. On the 13th June, I visited the officers and members of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, held in the town of Jasper. At the time of my arrival, this Lodge was working under Dispensation; but, as they had received a Charter from this Grand Lodge, I installed their officers in due and ancient form. In this Lodge I conferred several Degrees by Dispensation, it being for the benefit of the Craft. During my sojourn here I gave the usual lectures and such information as they required.

Leaving Jasper, I arrived at San Augustine on the 23d June, where I met with the officers and members of Red Land Lodge, No. 24, examined their work, and gave them the lectures of the several Degrees. Here I found some irregularities, which will be brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge during its present Communication.

During my stay here the anniversary of St. John the Baptist's day was celebrated in a manner truly creditable to the Fraternity.

My next visit was to Milam Lodge, No. 2, held in the town of Nacogdoches; and at a called meeting I conferred the three Degrees, gave the usual lectures, and corrected some slight discrepancies in regard to their labor.

Clinton Lodge, No. 23, held at Henderson, Rusk county, having been but recently organized, I spent some time in conferring the several Degrees, giving them such instruction as would enable them to labor in a proper manner.

By the officers and members of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, I was received in a most cordial manner. Meeting with them, I conferred the several Degrees and gave the usual lectures. The corner-stone of a new Masonic hall had been laid a few days previous to my arrival.

On reaching the town of De Kalb, I learned that the Lodge formerly held there had been removed to Boston, a small town about twenty miles distant, and that, a greater part of the officers and members having joined the army, it would be impossible to obtain a meeting. I therefore directed my course to the town of Clarksville. Here, on the 14th July, I called together the officers and members of Friendship Lodge, No. 16, instructed them with regard to their labor, and gave them the usual lectures. At Paris, Lamar county, where I arrived on the 20th of July, I found our worthy District Deputy Grand Master, H. D. Wadsworth, presiding over Paris Lodge, No. 27. At a meeting called for that purpose, we compared our work and lectures, and found no material difference.

The District Deputy Grand Master and myself, on the 22d of July, went through the work and gave the usual lectures to a called meeting of Constantine Lodge, No. 13, held in the town of Bonham, Fannin county.

The officers and members of Lothrop Lodge, No. 21, held in the town of Crockett, with whom I met on the 3d of August, received me with much kindness. Here I went through with the usual routine of my duties, and left, in company with several members of the Lodge, for the town of Cincinnati, which place I reached on the 5th of August, and gave to the officers and members of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 26, such instructions with regard to their labor as their circumstances required,—gave them the usual lectures and conferred the several Degrees.

Leaving Cincinnati, I visited the town of Huntsville on the 9th of August, conferred several Degrees in Forest Lodge, No. 19, instructed them in regard to their labor, and gave the usual lectures.

My next visit was to Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, held in the town of Montgomery. Here, as usual, I lectured, and conferred the several Degrees. Leaving that place, I arrived in Houston on the 17th of August, after an absence of nearly three months.

Detained at Houston by sickness, it was not until the 24th of September that I was enabled to meet the officers and members of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, held at Fanthorp's. Here I lectured as usual, conferred the several Degrees, and gave the necessary instruction with regard to labor.

On the 29th of September, I visited Washington Lodge, No. 18, where I pursued the same course, finding no irregularity, except that of not properly attending to the proper collection of their income. Leaving that place, I reached the town of Independence on the 3d of October, and found the officers and members of Milam Lodge, No. 11, well acquainted with and zealous in the discharge of their several duties. I gave the several lectures, as usual, and conferred all the Degrees.

On arriving at Austin, the morning of the 8th of October, I learned that several candidates were in waiting, upon whom I conferred the Degrees, and gave to the Lodge such instructions as I deemed necessary, together with the usual lectures. At this place I learned that a Dispensation had been granted and a Lodge opened at Gonzales, and the officers installed by the District Deputy Grand Master of that District; and, as they were working under his superintendence, I deemed it unnecessary to visit the same.

Returning to Houston, Bro. Deputy Grand Master and myself visited Graham Lodge, No. 20, examined their work, conferred some Degrees, and gave the usual lectures.

Having been informed that there were not a sufficient number of the members of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, formerly held in the town of Matagorda, to obtain a meeting, and that the members of the Lodge at Corpus Christi, under Dispensation, had generally joined the army, I declined visiting those places.

At Galveston, which city I visited on the first Monday in December, I met the officers and members of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, in a hall which they had recently decorated in a tasteful and appropriate manner. My instructions in regard to labor, and my usual lectures, were here received with much pleasure by the Craft.

In Holland Lodge, No. 1, of which I have the honor to be a member, I have from time to time lectured and given instructions, which were well received.

During the present year I have been called upon, in the discharge of the duties of my office, to grant many Dispensations, but have been most careful not to do so except where extreme necessity or the benefit of the Craft required it. I take much pleasure in congratulating this Grand Lodge on the prosperous and flourishing condition of the several Lodges above enumerated. Few Lodges in any portion of our Union are conducted more in accordance with the ancient landmarks of our institution than those which I have visited, and certainly none can exceed them in the zeal, activity and fraternal feeling evinced by their members. Their kind and hospitable reception of myself entitles them to my most heartfelt thanks.

To your Most Worshipful body I submit this detail of the manner in which I have discharged the arduous duties of this responsible office, in the hope that you will find my labors satisfactory to yourselves and beneficial to the Craft.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your Brother,

W. D. SMITH,
Grand Lecturer.

On motion of Bro. E. W. Taylor, Bro. King was added to the Committee on By-laws, Foreign Correspondence and special Committee on the case of John Chenoweth.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted :—

Resolved, That Lodges now working under Dispensation, and entitled to receive Charters, shall continue to work under their Dispensations until Charters can be furnished them by the Grand Secretary. And further, that the Grand Secretary be instructed to inform each Lodge so situated of this resolution.

Resolved, That a Standing Committee of five be appointed, to be styled the Committee on Education.

Bro. E. W. Cawthon offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the excuse rendered by Bro. Grand Secretary for his non-attendance at the early part of this Grand Annual Communication be deemed entirely satisfactory.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, January 14, 1847, 2 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Same Lodges represented.

On motion of Bro. White,

Resolved, That the annual election for officers of this Grand Lodge be held in this room to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Friday, January 15, 1847, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Milam Lodge, No. 2; Harmony Lodge, No. 6; Milam Lodge, No. 11; Trinity Lodge, No. 14; Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17; Graham Lodge, No. 20; Lothrop Lodge, No. 21; Clinton Lodge, No. 23; Montgomery Lodge, No. 25; De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29; Gonzales Lodge, No. 30.

Bro. J. D. Giddings took his seat as Representative of Graham Lodge, No. 20.

The hour fixed for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the following Brethren were unanimously elected:—

Bro. E. W. Taylor,	M. W. Grand Master.
“ M. Johnson,	R. W. Senior Grand Warden.
“ T. J. Hardeman,	“ Junior Grand Warden.
“ J. C. Tannehill,	“ Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	“ Grand Secretary.
“ W. D. Smith,	“ Grand Lecturer.

The amendment to the Constitution, regulating fees for conferring Degrees, was read third time, passed and became a part of the Constitution.

The amendment to the Constitution, regulating contributions to the Grand Lodge, was read a third time and laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. E. W. Taylor, Bro. Giddings was added to the following Committees:—Committee on Foreign Correspondence; Committee on Finance; special Committee in the case of J. Chenoweth; special Committee for revising the Constitution.

The Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The undersigned Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Lodges have examined the returns from Holland Lodge, No. 1, Milam Lodge, No. 11, Trinity Lodge, No. 14, Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, Clinton Lodge, No. 23, Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, De Witt Clinton and Gonzales Lodges, working under Dispensation. The neat and correct manner in which these returns have come up affords your Committee much satisfaction.

The Committee, however, would take this opportunity to state that, in the returns of subordinate Lodges, none should be reported as members except

Master Masons. Those of an inferior Degree are not subject to the yearly contribution to the Grand Lodge.

The returns of Lothrop Lodge, No. 21, have also been examined and found correct. In consequence of the said Lothrop Lodge having been engaged in the erection of a Masonic hall, they pray that their dues may be remitted for the year A.L. 5846.

As a number of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are engaged in the same laudable purpose of preparing suitable buildings for their comfort and convenience, they feel that the precedent would be bad, and, if countenanced, would render the receipts of the Grand Lodge inadequate to the annual expenditures. They would therefore recommend that the prayer of Lothrop Lodge, No. 21, be not granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. W. TAYLOR,
GEO. M. PATRICK.

The Report of the Grand Secretary was read, and, on motion, referred to a special Committee consisting of Bros. G. M. Patrick, S. McClarty, E. W. Taylor and A. S. Ruthven.

Bro. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Masters be required to visit the several Lodges in their respective districts, examine the work, and give the Lodges such instructions as they may think necessary to produce uniformity in the labor throughout their several districts.

Resolved, That the five principal officers of the Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby, constituted the Standing Committee on Education.

Bro. S. White offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges be requested to solicit, receive and report the names of individuals who are willing to donate and convey lands to this Grand Lodge, the annual proceeds of which are to be applied to establishing a college; and also report the particular location and quantity of each donation to the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, further, That the donors be requested to say whether said lands shall ever be alienated by this Grand Lodge, or leased, and the proceeds applied as above specified.

On motion of Bro. Darden, the resolution relative to the repealing a resolution of the Grand Lodge in reference to Grand Lodge Certificates was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock P.M.

Friday, January 15, 1847, 2 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Milam Lodge, No. 2; Harmony Lodge, No. 6; Milam Lodge, No. 11; Trinity Lodge, No. 14; Orphans' Friend

Lodge, No. 17; Graham Lodge, No. 20; Lothrop Lodge, No. 21; Marshall Lodge, No. 22; Clinton Lodge, No. 23; Montgomery Lodge, No. 25; Olive Branch Lodge, No. 26; De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29; Gonzales Lodge, No. 30.

Bro. W. D. Smith took his seat as proxy for Marshall Lodge, No. 22. Also the proxy for Olive Branch Lodge, No. 26, took his seat.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave respectfully to report,—

That a communication has been received from our Representative near the Grand Lodge of England, in which he begs leave to resign the office, on account of his inability to fulfil the duties, in consequence of other engagements.

Our Representative, (R. Lee Wilson, Esq.,) in the same communication, recommends to us Bro. James Wyld, of the county of Cornwall, to succeed him as our Representative near the Grand Lodge of England.

Your Committee are of opinion that the selection is one that will give general satisfaction and promote the interests of the Fraternity, and therefore recommend his appointment.

Your Committee have also examined the other Foreign as well as the Domestic Correspondence, and recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to embody such portions of the same in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as his judgment may dictate for the benefit of the Fraternity.

W. W. SWAIN,
ISAIAH CALL,
H. KING.

On motion of Bro. S. Darden,

Resolved, That Bro. James Wyld, of the county of Cornwall, England, be appointed to act as the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of England, and his Credentials as such be forwarded to him, with the necessary documents.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was read and received, and the accompanying resolutions adopted:—

Your Committee appointed on Subordinate Lodges ask leave to make the following report:—

They have examined the proceedings of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, U. D., and found the same correct. From the regularity of their work, they have no doubt the officers and members are well qualified to discharge their several duties with credit to themselves and honor to the Fraternity.

Your Committee take pleasure in recommending that a Charter issue to said Lodge upon their paying the customary fees.

They have also examined the proceedings of Palestine Lodge, working under Dispensation, and find the same irregular. The Secretary offers as an excuse the want of a copy of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge ratify the proceedings of said Lodge, and that they continue their labor under Dispensation for the present Masonic year.

The proceedings of Gonzales Lodge, U. D., not having been received, for reasons satisfactory to your Committee, we recommend that said Lodge receive a Charter upon the payment of the usual fees. In the examination of the pro-

Vol. I.—14

ceedings of Sam. Houston Lodge, U. D., they find many irregularities,—among others, that of acting upon petitions at the same meeting on which they were presented. But, in consideration of the zeal and activity of the officers and members of said Lodge, your Committee would recommend that a Charter issue, and that the Grand Lecturer or District Deputy Grand Master be required to give them such instruction as will enable the said Lodge to work more regularly.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. H. DARDEN,
J. MCKNIGHT,
J. SHEA.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

The Committee on By-laws beg leave to report,—

That they have had the By-laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, of Graham Lodge, No. 20, and the amended By-laws of Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, under consideration, and find them all strictly in accordance with the ancient landmarks of the Order, and recommend their approval by this M. W. Grand Lodge.

They have also had under consideration the By-laws of De Witt Clinton Lodge, U. D., and Gonzales Lodge, U. D., both of which they find in accordance with the ancient usages and Constitutions of the Order, and would respectfully recommend their approval.

They have also had the By-laws of Palestine Lodge, U. D., under consideration, and approve the same, except the 17th article, which reads thus :—

“That all regularly-ordained ministers of the gospel shall be initiated, passed and raised free of charge.”

This article they would recommend should be expunged from said By-laws, and the residue, being as they deem in accordance with the Masonic Constitutions, adopted. In making this declaration, they would not wish to be understood as interdicting Palestine Lodge, or any other Lodge subordinate to this jurisdiction, from initiating, passing or raising any minister of the gospel in good standing in his own church, (and who may have received a clear ballot according to the By-laws of such Lodge,) free of charge, but would leave that matter free for the pleasure of the Lodge at the time of conferring such Degrees.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL MCCLARTY,
ISAIAH CALL,
W. D. SMITH.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the report of the Grand Treasurer, made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

Your Committee on Finance offer the following report :—

They have examined the report of the Grand Treasurer and find the same correct. There remains in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the sum of \$269 32 due the Grand Lodge.

E. W. TAYLOR, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following special report, which was read and adopted :—

Your Committee to whom was referred the following resolution,—viz.,

“Resolved, That the resolution passed at an Extra Communication of the Grand Lodge, which interdicts visiting Brethren from subordinate Lodges without a Grand Lodge certificate, be and the same is hereby repealed,”

Ask leave to offer the following substitute :—

Resolved, That the portion of the resolution passed at an Extra Communication of the Grand Lodge, June, 1845, which requires visiting Brethren who are strangers to be in possession of a Certificate of the Grand Lodge under

whose jurisdiction they may have last been a member, be and the same is hereby repealed.

JOHN SHEA,
Chairman.

A petition from Marshall Lodge was read and referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted:—

Resolved, That, in consequence of our late loss by fire, the Grand Secretary be required to correspond with every Grand Lodge and all persons with whom we are in correspondence, asking them to forward duplicates of all their former communications,—of all their printed proceedings, Constitutions, specimens of their Diplomas, seals, all documents and books, both ancient and modern, which it may be convenient for them to do.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to subscribe for the "Free Masons' Monitor," published by C. W. Moore, of Boston, Mass., the "Masonic Journal," published at Albany, N. Y., by L. G. Hoffman, one published at Louisville, Ky., and the one published in the South,—also the "Free Masons' Quarterly Review," published at London, England,—and forward the funds for the same.

The special Committee on the case of Bro. Chenoweth made a report, which was recommitted. Bro. White added to said Committee.

Bro. J. Giddings offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge remit the contributions and fees in all cases due for initiating, passing, raising and affiliating ministers of the gospel in subordinate Lodges, provided they shall have charged no fees for the same.

On motion of Bro. M. Johnson,

Resolved, That \$50 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to relieve the necessities of Bro. Past Deputy Grand Master T. G. Western, and the Grand Secretary be required to pay over the same at his discretion.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at half-past 9 o'clock.

Saturday, January 16, 1847, 9½ o'clock A.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Milam Lodge, No. 2; Harmony Lodge, No. 6; Milam Lodge, No. 11; Austin Lodge, No. 12; Trinity Lodge, No. 14; Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17; Graham Lodge, No. 20; Lothrop Lodge, No. 21; Clinton Lodge, No. 22; Montgomery Lodge, No. 25; De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29; Gonzales Lodge, No. 30.

Bro. Geo. Fisher took his seat as proxy for Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The Committee appointed to confer with Holland Lodge, No. 1, relative to the dedication of their new hall, reported verbally that they

had made the necessary arrangements, and fixed the hour for performing the ceremony at 10 o'clock A.M. on this day.

The hour having arrived, the M. W. Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal to form the Grand Lodge into procession.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the new hall of Holland Lodge, No. 1, which was dedicated in due and ample form and according to the ancient usages of the Fraternity.

The Grand Lodge, together with the officers and members of Holland Lodge, No. 1, then moved in procession to the Methodist Church, where an eloquent and appropriate oration was delivered by Bro. Peter W. Gray.

The M. W. Grand Master installed the M. W. Grand Master elect, who was pleased to make the following appointments :—

R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
" H. D. Woodsworth,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, First District.
" Samuel McClarty,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, Second District.
" Isaiah Call,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, Third District.
" S. H. Darden,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, Fourth District.
" A. J. McGowan,	Grand Chaplain.
" James Riley,	Grand Orator.
" S. B. Dickinson,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" W. W. Swain,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" Jno. McKnight,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" A. Ewing,	Grand Marshal.
" H. C. McIntire,	Grand Pursuivant.
" Z. W. Eddy,	} Grand Stewards.
" W. P. Rutledge,	
W. Thos. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

And proceeded to the installation of the suocrinate officers. The procession then returned to the room occupied by Holland Lodge, No. 1, when the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge request a copy of the address delivered before that body by Bro. P. W. Gray, and that it be appended to the proceedings; and, further, that the thanks of this body be tendered to Bro. Gray for the able manner in which he has discharged the duty required of him.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, January 16, 1847, 2 o'clock P.M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and members present as before.

Same Lodges represented.

The following report was received and adopted :—

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Lecturer ask

leave to state that they have examined the same, and are much pleased with the fidelity and ability with which the duties of that office have been performed during the past year.

SAML. McCLARTY,
S. H. DARDEN,
A. KING,
G. M. PATRICK.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That ten per cent. of all the revenues accruing to this Grand Lodge be appropriated to purposes of *education*; and the same shall not be drawn from the Treasury for any other purpose.

The special Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Secretary made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The special Committee on the Grand Secretary's report would recommend the passage of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That, in consideration of the loss by fire, at Austin, of many valuable papers belonging to the Grand Lodge, including what blank Charters, Dispensations, Commissions, &c. &c. were on hand, that the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized to procure such blanks as may be necessary for immediate use, printed on common paper, and, as soon as circumstances will permit, procure the same on parchment. And he is hereby authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the necessary funds.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

Bro. S. White offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That Marshall Lodge, No. 22, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay their Lodge dues for the year 1846.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the Financial Report of the Grand Secretary, Moses Johnson, have examined the same and find it correct, his receipts having been \$349 67, all correctly accounted for, and nothing remains in his hands.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. Moses Johnson for the prompt and efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge during the past year.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That Bro. Isaiah Call be appointed Representative of this Grand Lodge, to promote our correspondence with the Grand Lodges of other States; and that an additional District Deputy Grand Master be appointed for the Fifth Masonic District, whose jurisdiction shall be west of the Rio Grande.

The Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was read, received and the Committee discharged:—

To the Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges would further report that the returns of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, have been received, examined and found correct. Also those of Graham Lodge, No. 20, Olive-Branch Lodge, No. 26, and Austin Lodge, No. 12. They are all correct, otherwise than the omission of the dates when petitions were presented, Degrees conferred, &c. &c. of Austin Lodge, which, we are informed by the Secretary of the Lodge, is owing to the loss of their minutes, papers, &c. by fire.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, ordered to forward to Bro. C. W. Moore, of Boston, Mass., the sum of \$20, for the purchase of standard works on Masonry, to be placed in the library of this Grand Lodge,—instructing him to procure but one copy of each work. And, further, that \$20 be forwarded to Bro. James Herring, of New York, for the same purpose, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for the said amounts.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of M. A. Montrose made the following report, with the accompanying resolution, which was read and adopted :—

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the communication of M. A. Montrose would respectfully submit the following preamble and resolution :—

Whereas, the proceedings of Milam Lodge, No. 2, had on the application of said Montrose for admission, are not before this Grand Lodge: therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master of that District be furnished with a copy of said Montrose's petition, and be requested to call upon said Milam Lodge for their proceedings in the case; and should it appear to his satisfaction that the applicant requested the withdrawal of his petition for initiation, and that the Lodge, regardless thereof, proceeded to ballot thereon, and rejected him, then, and in that case, it shall be his duty to notify the Grand Lodge of the same, and to notify the said Lodge and the said Montrose that the proceedings in his case, being at variance with the expression of this Grand Lodge in a similar case brought before them from Brenham Lodge, are to be reversed.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Chairman.

Bro. M. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to pay to the Grand Tyler the sum of \$2 per day for each and every day the Grand Lodge has been in session; and also \$10 to Holland Lodge, No. 1, for the use of the Lodge Room, lights, &c.

Bro. S. H. Darden offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the bounds of the 1st and 2d Masonic Districts be so altered as hereafter to place the counties of Panola and Harrison within the 2d District.

Bro. Giddings offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That hereafter no member of the Grand Lodge shall represent more than one subordinate Lodge by proxy at any Grand Annual or Special Communication.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee on By-laws beg leave further to report,—

That they have had the By-laws of Sam. Houston Lodge, U. D., under consideration, and most respectfully recommend that the same be approved by this M. W. Grand Lodge, except Sect. 1st in Article 10th,—which be so amended as to read thus:—

“Any member of this Lodge, in good standing, applying for a demit in open Lodge, and producing the Secretary's receipt for the payment of all dues, shall be entitled to the same in writing, from the Secretary. Any member of this Lodge, in good standing, or on demitting from the Lodge, shall be entitled to a Diploma, on paying the usual fee to the Secretary for endorsing and sealing the same.”

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL McCLARTY,
W. D. SMITH,
ISAIAH CALL.

Bro. Cawthon offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That no Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall allow any petition to be withdrawn after it has been received by the Lodge.

Bro. McClarty offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. A. S. Ruthven, late M. W. Grand Master, for the zeal, ability and dignity with which he has discharged the duties of his station.

No further business appearing before the Grand Lodge, the same was closed in due and ample form, in peace and harmony.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Grand Master.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Eleventh Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas was held on Monday evening, the 10th day of January, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, at the City of Austin, and was opened in ample form and with prayer.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ T. J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>

R. W. Jno. N. Reed, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " Geo. Fisher, Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 W. Thomas Ward, Grand Tyler.

The Lodges being called, the following were found duly represented and with proper Credentials :—

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	Bros. E. B. Nichols, R. Brewster and J. N. Reed.
Harmony Lodge, No. 6,	" R. Bache and E. W. Moore.
Milam Lodge, No. 11,	" V. R. Irion and E. W. Taylor.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	" Geo. Hancock.
Trinity Lodge, No. 14,	" A. S. Ainsworth.
Friendship Lodge, No. 16,	" B. H. Epperson.
Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17,	" Geo. M. Patrick and F. Briggance.
Washington Lodge, No. 18,	" V. R. Irion and T. J. Perryman.
Forest Lodge, No. 19,	" C. G. Keenan and Thos. Caruthers.
Graham Lodge, No. 20,	" John Sayles.
Marshall Lodge, No. 22,	" H. B. Kelsey and R. N. Goode.
Clinton Lodge, No. 23,	" Saml. McClarty.
Red Land Lodge, No. 24,	" O. M. Wheeler.
Montgomery Lodge, No. 25,	" Isaiah Call.
Paris Lodge, No. 27,	" Geo. W. Wright.
De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29,	" Z. W. Eddy.
Gonzales Lodge, No. 30,	" James L. Allen and W. D. Goff.
Palestine Lodge, No. 31,	" Isaac Parker.
Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32,	" J. A. Greer and James Truit.
Lafayette Lodge, U. D., No. 34,	" John Merchison and A. Bostick.
Jackson Lodge, No. 35,	" P. T. Renfrew.
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37,	" A. S. Ainsworth.
Leona Union Lodge, No. 39,	" H. J. Jewett.
Eagle Lodge, No. 41,	" Richard N. Goode.
Clinton Lodge, No. 42,	" H. B. Kelsey.
Douglass Lodge, No. 43,	" Saml. McClarty.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Thomas J. Hardeman and Geo. Fisher.

The M. W. Grand Master, E. W. Taylor, delivered the following

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—Having during the last week been suddenly and most unexpectedly called to follow to the grave a dear and beloved son, I feel disqualified from addressing you upon this occasion; yet, though the fell destroyer

has entered my happy home and deprived it of one of its brightest jewels, still I feel thankful that my own life has been spared to again meet you at our Annual Communication; and let us now, at the commencement of our work, with becoming humility pour forth our gratitude to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for the preservation of our lives during the past year, and earnestly invoke his blessing upon our present labors.

It is with heartfelt pleasure that I am able to say that, throughout our jurisdiction, Masonry has extended and flourished in a manner unprecedented in our history since our last Annual Communication. As an evidence of this fact, Dispersations have been granted to twelve new Lodges,—viz.: Lafayette Lodge, at Lagrange; Jackson Lodge, Sabine county; Lavaca Lodge, at Port Lavaca; Mount Moriah Lodge, Polk county; Jefferson Lodge, Cass county; Leona Union Lodge, in Leon county; Victoria Lodge, at Victoria; Eagle Lodge, in Panola county; Van Zandt Lodge, Cass county; Douglass Lodge, Nacogdoches county; Alamo Lodge, at San Antonio; and Euclid Lodge, at Busk, Cherokee county,—at the organization of several of which I was present, installed their officers, and, placing the proper Masonic implements in the hands of the Masters, gave them such light as they required for the faithful performance of the trust reposed in them; and I feel assured that, when the work of these new Lodges is laid before you, it will be found that the working-tools have been intrusted to faithful hands.

During the year I have received communications from every section of our beloved State, from Lodges and Brethren; and, truly, unanimity and zeal prevail throughout our entire border. This desirable state of things has been produced through the indefatigable exertions of our worthy Bro. Grand Lecturer, W. D. Smith, (who has for two years untiringly labored among the Lodges, encouraging the well informed, and imparting light and Masonic knowledge to the less favored,) aided and assisted by the officers and members of this Grand Lodge throughout the State. I do most earnestly recommend the continuance of a Grand Lecturer.

During the recess of the Grand Lodge, I have received communications, with printed proceedings, from most of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and, feeling deeply the necessity of a comprehensive report upon our foreign correspondence, I passed the papers into the hands of our Most Worshipful Secretary Ruthven and Past Grand Master Barry Gillespie, requesting them to examine them and report at the present Communication. And I would urge upon the Grand Lodge the necessity of a standing committee upon foreign correspondence.

I have received a communication from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana relative to the point at issue between that Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, which will be laid before you.

I trust the Committee appointed at our last Grand Annual Communication to revise the Constitution have performed their duty and will present you with one free from the defects of the one under which we at present labor.

It becomes my painful duty to notify you of the decease, during the past year, of several Past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, who in times past have often assembled with us around this altar. Their lights are forever extinguished in this earthly temple, yet beam with refulgent splendor in that building above, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens:—

R. W. Past Grand Chaplain, Rev. Wm. M. Tryon; R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master, Bro. T. G. Western; R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Wm. G. Cooke; R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master, Bro. John Gillespie.

I am happy in being able to say to you that, during their moments of suffering and distress, they were surrounded by their Brethren of the mystic tie, and by them with the usual honors consigned to the silent grave.

Before closing, permit me to tender to the Grand Lodge my most grateful acknowledgments for the high honor which I have been permitted to enjoy

for the past year, and at the same time most respectfully decline a renomination.

And now, my Brethren, that our deliberations may be blessed by Him who presides over the Grand Lodge above, is my most earnest desire.

E. W. TAYLOR,
Grand Master.

Bro. Wm. M. Taylor presented his Credentials to act as proxy for Bro. James Riley, Grand Orator, which was, on motion, received.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock A.M.

Tuesday morning, 9 o'clock, January 11, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Robert Brewster,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jno. N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. M. Taylor,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, nineteen were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge ready to proceed to labor, and, on motion duly seconded, the following Standing Committees were appointed:—

On By-laws,—Bros. Barry Gillespie, Samuel McClarty, John Sayles.

On Finance,—Bros. E. B. Nichols, James Bourland, John Merchison.

On Subordinate Lodges,—Bros. Samuel McClarty, T. J. Hardeman, W. C. Abbott.

On Returns,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, Isaiah Call, Charles Mason.

On Petitions,—Bros. George Fisher, R. Bache, A. S. Ainsworth.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, the Grand Master's Address was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Samuel McClarty, Isaiah Call and Z. W. Eddy.

The R. W. Grand Secretary read an appeal of Mr. Wm. Dugan, an expelled Mason from Forest Lodge, No. 19, together with sundry documentary evidence appertaining to his expulsion, which were on motion referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. John N. Reed, Van R. Irion and George Hancock.

On motion duly seconded, Bro. Robert Brewster was added to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, and Bro. H. B. Kelsey to the Committee on By-laws.

No further business appearing, the several papers on the Grand Secretary's table were handed to the appropriate committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Tuesday, January 11, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 3 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge resumed its labors.

Officers present as before.

A call of the Lodges being had, there were found nineteen duly represented.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Wm. H. Crutcher, Lafayette Lodge, No. 34; S. D. Hay, Forest, 19; H. Grooms, Austin, 12; L. B. Hanchett, Forest, 19.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Worshipful Grand Lodge ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report from the Grand Secretary was read, and, on motion, referred to a Committee, consisting of Bros. J. A. Greer, Wm. M. Taylor and Isaac Parker:—

AUSTIN, January 11, 1848.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—In presenting my Annual Report as Grand Secretary for the past year, it is extremely gratifying to my feelings that the affairs of the Grand Lodge show a sound and healthy condition. During the past year the receipts have been ten hundred and thirty-four dollars, and the expenditures six hundred and seventeen dollars and sixty-nine cents. Of this amount, however, nearly two hundred dollars have been expended in consequence of the calamity which happened by fire previous to our last Annual Communication. In accordance with a resolution passed at the last session of our Grand Lodge, I transmitted to Bro. Herring, of New York, and Bro. Moore, of Boston, twenty dollars to each, for the purpose of purchasing periodicals and Masonic works; and they are now on board the Herald, which arrived some few days previous to my departure from Houston, and may be expected here by the next mail from that place.

I have received the Constitution and By-laws from nearly all the Grand Lodges throughout the United States, and submitted them to the Committee appointed on the Constitution at the last Communication.

I have also received the proceedings from nearly all the Grand Lodges throughout the United States, and have submitted them to the appropriate Committee, who, I have no doubt, will make from them an able and interesting report.

I also submit my account-current, with vouchers, which I trust will be found satisfactory and correct.

I am yours, fraternally,

A. S. RUTHVEN.

M. W. Past Grand Master J. A. Greer was announced, and took a seat in the east.

The following report from R. W. District Deputy Grand Master Samuel McClarty was read, and on motion duly seconded was referred to the Committee on Petitions :—

The undersigned would respectfully report that Douglass Lodge, owing to the irregularity of the mails, did not receive its Dispensation until the last of December. I immediately repaired to Douglass, and installed the officers and set the Lodge to work, granting them Dispensations for the same; and during the three days that I worked with them we conferred several Degrees in Masonry, and have to make a most favorable report of this Lodge, composed of but few members, but of the finest material. In my Dispensation for conferring Degrees I ordered that the same, with the work done under it, should be returned to the first meeting of the Grand Lodge after the 27th December, 1848, it belonging to the business of the Masonic year then ending, and there not being time for the records to be made out for me to bring up to this Communication. I therefore, deeming this Lodge most worthy, beg leave to recommend that a Charter be granted to them, Bro. James McDonald to be first Master, Bro. Robert E. Wynne Senior Warden, and Bro. John M. Watkins Junior Warden.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAML. MCCLARTY,
D. D. G. M. 2d M. Dis.

CITY OF AUSTIN, January 11, 1848.

R. W. Bro. Samuel McClarty, to whom was referred a petition from M. A. Montrose, at the last Grand Annual Communication, made a report, which was, on motion, again referred to a special committee, together with several other documents appertaining to the same case,—Committee consisting of Bros. H. B. Kelsey, Samuel McClarty and E. B. Nichols.

Three communications from Palestine Lodge were placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary, and, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Wm. M. Taylor offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing in the city be invited to attend the meetings of this Grand Annual Communication during its present session.

R. W. Bro. Geo. M. Patrick, after a few appropriate remarks, offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge dues be remitted to all subordinate Lodges in cases where they have remitted them to members and candidates.

An account from R. W. Bro. Samuel McClarty against the Worshipful Grand Lodge was presented to the Grand Secretary, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, which was read, and, on motion, received and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. G. M. Patrick, C. G. Keenan, H. B. Kelsey, A. S. Ruthven and John Merchison.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Wednesday morning, January 12, 9 o'clock.

Wednesday morning, 9 o'clock, January 12, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.
The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. George M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Isaiah Call,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Robert Brewster,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" E. B. Nichols,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" John N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

T. J. Perryman, Washington Lodge, No. 18; W. C. Edwards, Red Land Lodge, No. 24; E. H. Tarrant, formerly of De Kalb Lodge, No. 9.

A call of the Lodges being had, twenty-one were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Geo. M. Patrick, Bro. Adolphus Sterne was received and took his seat as Representative of Milam Lodge, No. 2.

Bros. James L. Allen and Wm. D. Goff took their seats as Representatives from Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, U. D.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred the case of appeal from Palestine Lodge proceedings, made the following report, which was adopted:—

The Committee to whom was referred the appeal of Samuel G. Wells from the decision of Palestine Lodge beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the proceedings sent up in said case, and are of opinion that the decision of suspension passed against said Bro. Wells is most lenient, and done in much charity towards said Brother, and would respectfully recommend the passage of the following resolution thereon:—

Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That the decision of Palestine Lodge in the case of Samuel G. Wells be affirmed.

All which is respectfully submitted.
January 11, 1848.

SAMUEL MCCLARTY,
Chairman.

M. W. Bro. J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, moved a reconsideration of the vote in the case, but, on further remarks being made by the chairman of the Committee, the motion for reconsideration was withdrawn.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, Bro. John Sayles was added to the Committee on the Constitution appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, and Bro. Moses Johnson added to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges and Returns.

Bro. Z. W. Eddy offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized and required to procure for the Grand Lodge a seal, with a star of five points in the centre, and the words "Grand Lodge of Texas" around the margin.

On motion duly seconded, Bro. E. B. Nichols was added to the Committee on the M. W. Grand Master's Address.

On motion duly seconded, Bro. W. D. Smith was added to the Committee on the Appeal Case from Forest Lodge, No. 19, and also to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Wm. M. Taylor, Bro. O. M. Wheeler was received and took his seat as Representative of Red Land Lodge, No. 24.

Bro. George W. Wright, of Paris Lodge, was announced and took his seat.

R. W. Bro. Samuel McClarty offered the following resolution, which was adopted, and a Committee of Arrangements appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to carry out the object of the resolution, consisting of Bros. Geo. M. Patrick, E. W. Moore and A. S. Ruthven. On further motion, H. B. Kelsey and the M. W. Grand Master were added to the Committee:—

Resolved, That a Brother competent to the task be appointed to deliver an Address and Eulogy on the death of our lamented Past Grand Officers who have died within the last Masonic year, at such time and place as the Most Worshipful Grand Master may direct, and that the members of this Grand Communication wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, January 12, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 8 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor, Grand Master.
 R. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Deputy Grand Master.
 " Moses Johnson, Senior Grand Warden.
 " Robert Brewster, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " W. D. Smith, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " Jno. N. Reed, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " J. C. Tannehill, Grand Treasurer.
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 W. A. S. Ainsworth, Grand Tyler.

A call of the Lodges being had, seventeen were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the last meeting were, on motion, read and adopted.

R. W. Moses Johnson, Senior Grand Warden, took his seat as proxy for Victoria Lodge, No. 40, and as Representative from Lavaca Lodge, No. 36, U. D.

The special Committee to whom was referred the Communication from M. A. Montrose made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

The special Committee to whom was referred the report in the case of M. A. Montrose have had the same under consideration, and respectfully present the following

REPORT.

Your Committee find, from the papers submitted to them by the Grand Secretary, that M. A. Montrose was a petitioner to Milam Lodge, No. 2, some time in the year 1845, for the first degree of Masonry ; that he was duly recommended and vouched for ; that, previous to being balloted for, he asked leave to withdraw his petition, through two Master Masons, and was refused. The balloting was then had, and he was rejected by seven negative votes.

Your Committee are of opinion that, under the rule which governed at that time, said petitioner had the right to withdraw his petition before balloting, and therefore recommend the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the proceedings of Milam Lodge, No. 2, in the case of M. A. Montrose, be, and the same are hereby, annulled.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. B. KELSEY,
SAM'L McCLEARY,
E. B. NICHOLS.

January 12, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

NOTE.—The Committee refer, for authority, to a resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge in the month of January, 1845, annulling certain proceedings of Graham Lodge, No. 20, found on page 23 of the proceedings of Graham Lodge for that year, in the words following :—

“Resolved, That a certain portion of the proceedings of Graham Lodge, No. 20, which decides that a petitioner could not withdraw his petition previous to balloting, be, and the same is hereby, annulled.”

The special Committee to whom was referred the Address of our M. W. Grand Master made the following report, which was read and received :—

REPORT.

The undersigned Committee, to whom was referred the Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, would report that they have had the same under consideration, and, for the deep family afflictions and bereavement so recently endured by our beloved Grand Master through the dispensations of an all-wise and overruling Providence, would offer our heartfelt sympathy and condolence. As Masons, our hearts swell with Masonic pride for the high stand and rapidly-extending usefulness of our ancient and beloved Order of Freemasonry as exhibited in said report. With regard to the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master, that the office of Grand Lecturer be continued, we would say that this matter has for the last year deeply attracted our attention, and we have arrived at the conclusion that the office should be abolished,—and in arriving at this conclusion we have been much influenced by the expression in favor of the measure by the Lodges in our neighborhoods and Masonic Districts,—and in lieu thereof would suggest that it be made the duty of the several District Deputy Grand Masters to visit at least once within the year each Lodge within their respective Districts, giving such instructions and aid to the several Lodges as are in their power and as the necessities of the Lodges may require ; for which they shall

receive no compensation, except that it shall be the duty of the Lodges to bear their travelling-expenses. And, should this suggestion not meet the approbation of the Grand Lodge, we would most respectfully urge a *reduction* of the present salary of the Grand Lecturer.

We are much pleased that a revision of our Constitution is expected at this Communication, and from such able hands. We also heartily concur in the recommendation of a Standing Committee on Foreign Communications, as suggested by our Most Worshipful Grand Master.

It is with sorrowful feelings we learn through the Address of our Grand Master the death of several of our Past Grand Officers, whose memories are dear to Masonry; and we would respectfully recommend that some Brother adequate to the task be appointed to deliver an Address and Eulogy on the occasion, at such time and place as may be directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master; and that the members of the Grand Lodge be requested to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Your Committee cannot close this report without an expression of their sincere thanks to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, E. W. Taylor, for the zeal and Masonic ability with which he has presided over the interests of the Grand and subordinate Lodges during the past Masonic year.

All of which is respectfully submitted. SAM'L MCCLARTY, } *Committee.*
ISAIAH CALL,

The special Committee to whom was referred the case of appeal from the decision of Forest Lodge, No. 19, against Wm. Dugan, made the following report, which was on motion adopted:—

The undersigned, a Committee to whom the petition of Wm. Dugan, and the accompanying papers, were referred, beg leave to report that, in the opinion of your Committee, Forest Lodge have not confined themselves within the ancient landmarks of our institution in the following instances: First, that the Lodge called for the trial of Wm. Dugan on charges preferred by A. McDonald, being called at early candlelight on the 28th of March, met on the afternoon of said day without notifying said Dugan of said change, or any appearance of an order for the change of time; secondly, that the Lodge expelled said Dugan and adjourned without informing said Dugan of the fact, and that when he was told of it, and procured an appeal to the Grand Lodge of said decision, Forest Lodge published his expulsion to the world previous to a hearing in the Grand Lodge; thirdly, that there appear on the minutes of Forest Lodge the names of members of said Lodge as being in attendance at the trial, when said members give certificates that they were not present. Your Committee therefore recommend that the papers be handed to the District Deputy Grand Master, with instructions to grant the said Wm. Dugan a new trial in Forest Lodge, No. 19, at some time appointed by him, when all parties shall be notified, together with all the members of said Lodge; and he, the said Deputy Grand Master, report at the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge such report as he may deem best for the good of Masonry.

All of which is respectfully submitted. J. N. REED, *Chairman.*
VAN. R. IRION,
GEO. HANCOCK,
W. D. SMITH.

M. W. Barry Gillespie, Past Grand Master, was announced, and took a seat in the east.

R. W. Senior Grand Warden offered the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master visit Forest Lodge, No. 19, and preside over the trial of Bro. Wm. Dugan, and that he also summons and

try Bros. A. McDonald, J. G. Shepherd, M. C. Rogers, S. L. McCleny, and J. C. Ransom, for their acts on the former trial of Bro. Wm. Dugan.

M. W. J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, was announced, and took his seat.

R. W. Deputy Grand Master offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the report of the special Committee on the Most Worshipful Grand Master's Address be adopted, excepting that portion appertaining to the labor and office of Grand Lecturer.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That Bros. W. D. Smith and Wm. M. Taylor be requested to exemplify their work before this Grand Lodge at some convenient time.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee, appointed to examine the returns of subordinate Lodges, ask leave to make the following report :—They have examined the returns of the following Lodges, and find the same correct,—viz. : Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, Clinton Lodge, No. 23, Washington Lodge, No. 18, Graham Lodge, No. 20, De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, Austin Lodge, No. 12, Marshal Lodge, No. 22, Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, Forest Lodge, No. 19, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37, U. D., Eagle Lodge, No. 41, U. D., Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, U. D., Trinity Lodge, No. 14, Lavaca Lodge, No. 36, U. D., Milam Lodge, No. 11, Euclid Lodge, No. 45, U. D. and Jackson Lodge, No. 35, U. D.

The returns from Victoria Lodge, U. D., Jefferson Lodge, U. D., Clinton Lodge, No. 42, U. D., and Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32, have come up informal, from the fact (as your Committee are informed and believe) that the Secretaries of said Lodges have not been furnished with a proper form for making returns. Your Committee have therefore made the necessary corrections in said reports.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ISAIAH CALL,
WM. M. TAYLOR,
R. BREWSTER.

Bro. H. B. Kelsey offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That the contribution-fees of Clinton Lodge, No. 42, Eagle Lodge, No. 41, and Victoria Lodge, No. 40, for the past year, be remitted, and that the said Lodges be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay the dues for work done, having been organized but a short period of time.

On motion duly seconded, it was

Resolved, That the name of Clinton Lodge, No. 42, be changed to "Van Zandt," and that its place of meeting in future be at Williams's Bluff, Cass county.

R. W. Bro. Isaiah Call offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That we feel a deep sympathy for our worthy Reverend Bro. Ochiltree in his deepest afflictions,—the loss of both his eyes, so that he cannot be brought to light until he enters the Grand Lodge above; and this Grand

VOL. I.—15

Lodge remit the contribution and fee paid by Montgomery Lodge for him, and the same be transferred to his benefit.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolutions, which were read and referred to the Committee on the Constitution:—

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, when the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Masonry, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution.

Resolved, That an annual sum of money, equal in value to the annual dues *per capita* of the subordinate Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside, be collected from all Masons not members of a Lodge, and the Lodges under whose jurisdiction they shall reside are hereby empowered to collect the same. And said tax shall be appropriated especially to the charity-fund of such Lodge; and at the next Communication the Lodges be required to transmit the account of all moneys received for such fund, and the names of persons from whom received, and the names of all that failed to pay the same.

Resolved, That the names of the Brethren so refusing, when returned, be published in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Petitions made a report, which was adopted, and recommended that a Charter be granted to Douglass Lodge upon the payment of the charges established by the Constitution.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called to refreshment, until 9 o'clock, Thursday morning, January 13.

Thursday morning, 9 o'clock, January 13, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Moses Johnson,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Geo. Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jno. N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. B. Kelsey,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

On a call of the Lodges there were found nineteen duly represented. There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

Bro. Andrew Neill, Gonzales Lodge, was announced, and took his seat as one of the original members of the Grand Lodge.

On motion duly seconded, the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

On motion of R. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Bro. T. J. Perryman was re-

ceived, and took his seat as Representative of Washington Lodge, No. 18; and, on further motion of Bro. Grooms, Bro. Andrew Neill was accredited as Representative of Gonzales Lodge.

On motion of Bro. John Merchison, Bro. Bostick took his seat as Representative of Lafayette Lodge, U. D.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

The undersigned Committee on Subordinate Lodges would beg leave further to report, that they have had the work of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, U. D., under examination, and find it correct; also, that they have examined the work of Euclid Lodge, U. D., and find it correct; also, the work of Lavaca Lodge has been examined,—all of which appears to be in accordance with the regulations and landmarks of the Order,—and would recommend that the same be received by this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and Charters issue respectively to each on payment of the constitutional dues. Also the proceedings of Lafayette Lodge, held at Lagrange, which we find generally correct and within the landmarks, but a little confused, owing perhaps to a change of Secretaries; but would recommend its adoption, and that a Charter issue on payment of the constitutional charges.

SAMUEL McCLARTY, *Chairman*,
MOSES JOHNSON,
W. D. SMITH.

The special Committee appointed to procure a Brother to deliver an Address and Eulogy on the deceased Past Grand Officers made the following report :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the resolution of the Grand Lodge recommending that some Brother adequate to the task be appointed to deliver an Address and Eulogy to the memory of our departed Brethren, Past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that we have selected Bro. John Sayles, who has consented to perform that duty. E. W. MOORE,

One of the Committee.

The M. W. Grand Master gave orders from the Chair that there would be a public Installation of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, on the morning of Saturday, at 11 o'clock A.M., after which the Address to be delivered by Bro. John Sayles would be heard.

A communication from R. W. Bro. Geo. Fisher, Past Grand Secretary, was read, and, on motion, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. E. B. Nichols, A. S. Ruthven, A. Neill, Isaiah Call, and Wm. M. Taylor; and, on further motion, the Committee were allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to make a report.

R. W. Bro. Sam'l McClarty offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a Committee on Printing be appointed, whose duty it shall be to contract for and superintend the printing for this Grand Lodge during the present Masonic year.

Bro. H. B. Kelsey offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing Masonic year be held on Friday evening next, at 8 o'clock P.M.

R. W. Bro. Sam'l McClarty offered the following resolution, and respectfully requested that it might remain on the Grand Secretary's table for further action:—

Whereas, From the vast extent of territory embraced within the limits of the State of Texas, and the unparalleled rapidity with which Free Masonry is spreading its benign influence within our several Masonic Districts,—and from the remote and inconvenient distance of the great Eastern division of our State from the seat of the Grand Lodge,—and as the foundations of our Order are laid in charity and justice: Therefore be it

Resolved, by this Grand Communication, That the Lodges subordinate thereto situated within the following boundary—to wit: All east of the Trinity River and north of the same, including the county of Dallas and the country west of the same, as far as Lodges have been or may be formed—shall have the right to meet in Convention by their delegates, on the 24th day of June next, at the town of Henderson and county of Rusk, and then and there to form and erect a new Grand Lodge, to be called and known by the name and style of THE GRAND LODGE OF EASTERN TEXAS. The same to hold Masonic jurisdiction over that portion of the State of Texas above described. And said Convention shall have power to meet and adjourn from day to day until the object of such Convention shall be accomplished or abandoned.

The Committee on By-laws made the following report, which was on motion adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws would respectfully represent that they have carefully examined the By-laws of the following Lodges and recommend the adoption, after having received the following amendments:—

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE.

Under the head of Fees, we recommend that they fill the blanks at their own discretion, so as not thereby making the charge less than twenty dollars for the three Degrees; also, under the head of Visiting Brethren, strike out the words “a committee to be appointed by the Worshipful Master,” and insert “the Senior Deacon,” or “a committee under the direction of the Worshipful Master.”

LAFAYETTE LODGE.

Strike out all of art. 5 which relates to rejections, and insert in lieu thereof the resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge in A.D. 1845; also, art. 11, strike out the words “a committee,” and insert “Senior Deacon,” or “a committee under the direction of the Worshipful Master.”

MARSHALL LODGE.

In these By-laws we find nothing at variance with the Constitutions of Masonry or the special requirements of this Grand Lodge; therefore we recommend their approval.

EUCLID LODGE.

Art. 4, sec. 2, strike out “fifty cents” and insert “three dollars for affiliation.” Art. 6, sec. 8, insert “any member in good standing.” Also, art. 10 of same section, strike out the entire article,—not that we object to the practice, but to publishing to the world that ministers of the gospel could be admitted free of charge,—bearing too much the aspect of an invitation to the honors of the Order.

EAGLE LODGE.

Art. 3 requires the election of officers to be on the Wednesday preceding the festival of St. John the Evangelist. Strike out, and insert, in lieu thereof, "at the last regular meeting."

DOUGLASS LODGE.

In these By-laws, under the head of Dismissions, insert the words "in good standing" after the words "any member." Also, under the head of Initiations, strike out all the article after the words "he may be admitted to initiation," and insert the resolution of this Grand Lodge which governs in such cases, passed A.D. 1846. Also, insert "petitions to be presented at a regular meeting."

LAVACA LODGE.

We have also examined the By-laws of Lavaca Lodge,—find them correct and recommend their adoption.

VAN ZANDT LODGE.

In the By-laws of Van Zandt Lodge, after the words "petition in writing," insert "at a regular meeting," under the head of Initiations

JEFFERSON LODGE.

Under the head of Petitions, strike out all in relation to balloting, and insert the resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge, A.D. 1845, in relation thereto.

JACKSON LODGE.

The certificate of the Secretary of this Lodge shows that they have adopted the By-laws of Holland Lodge, No. 1, except the articles 1st, 2d and 4th. The substitutes of these articles we approve; and although we have not a copy of the By-laws of Holland Lodge before us, yet, as we are assured that all their provisions have been ratified by this Grand Lodge, we recommend their adoption.

All of which is respectfully submitted,—recommending the adoption of all the above-named By-laws, after receiving the various specified amendments.

We cannot close our report in justice to those new Lodges, without congratulating them upon the evidences set forth in their By-laws of their Masonic knowledge, and doubt not their skill and ability to do credit to themselves and honor to your body.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Z. WM'S EDDY,
H. B. KELSEY.

The Grand Secretary read a communication from Red Land Lodge, which was, on motion, referred to a special Committee consisting of Bros. O. M. Wheeler, T. J. Perryman and H. B. Kelsey.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That they will be ready by 3 o'clock P.M. to hear the report of the Committee on the new Constitution who were appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication.

Which was, on motion, adopted.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Thursday evening, 3 o'clock, January 13, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor, Grand Master.
 R. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Deputy Grand Master.
 " Moses Johnson, Senior Grand Warden.
 " T. J. Hardeman, Junior Grand Warden.
 " W. D. Smith, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " Isaiah Call, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " J. C. Tannehill, Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 W. Thomas Ward, Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges there were found twenty-seven duly represented. The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented, and the Craft were ready to proceed to labor.

M. W. Bro. B. Gillespie, Past Grand Master, was announced, and took a seat in the east.

The Committee appointed to draft a new Constitution reported progress, and asked further time to pursue their labor, which was granted.

On motion of Bro. H. B. Kelsey, the Ancient Charges which were reported by the Committee on the Constitution were read and adopted.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance have had under consideration the report of the R. W. Grand Treasurer, showing \$610 63 in his hands at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication, and we beg leave to report that we have examined the same and found it correct.

We have also examined Bro. District Deputy Grand Master Samuel McClarty's account against this Grand Lodge for expenses incurred whilst collecting dues from subordinate Lodges, which account we believe to be just, and would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay Bro. District Deputy Grand Master Samuel McClarty \$15,—it being the amount of his account against this Grand Lodge for expenses incurred whilst collecting dues from subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

E. B. NICHOLS.

AUSTIN, January 12, 1848.

Bro. E. W. Moore, Representative from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, offered the following preamble and resolution, which were read and unanimously adopted :—

Be it remembered, That in consideration of the eminent services rendered our Fraternity in this State and abroad by the R. W. Bro. Richard L. Wilson, of the Grand Lodge of England, and late Representative of this Grand Lodge in that body : therefore,

Be it Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, That the R. W. Bro. Richard Lee Wilson, of the Grand Lodge of England, be, and he is hereby, created an Honorary Member of this Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. W. D. Smith, Grand Lecturer, made the following annual report of his labors, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

During the past year, in pursuance of my duty under the Constitution, I have had the pleasure of visiting all the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and am thereby enabled to communicate the pleasing intelligence that I have found them all working together with zeal in peace and harmony, and in satisfactory conformity and observance of the ancient usages and landmarks of the Fraternity, and uniformly cherishing a high degree of respect, veneration and affection for the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction they labor.

I have had the honor during the past year to establish many new Lodges under this jurisdiction, and also an opportunity to witness in each of them a warm and zealous interest in the cause of Masonry, and an anxious desire for Masonic knowledge, and a due appreciation of its benign influence and tendencies, and a cheerful disposition promptly to receive light and correct whatever errors had crept into their system or mode of work. To witness the exhibition of these traits in our newly-established Lodges, united with earnest desires to extend the field of Masonic usefulness and benevolence, cannot but leave upon the mind pleasing impressions of their present condition and flattering assurances of their future usefulness and honor.

In every portion of the jurisdiction I was cordially received by all the Fraternity,—individually and officially extending me every facility and attention, affording on every occasion this gratifying evidence of their desire to receive light and be instructed in Masonry. How far I may have been able to meet this desire on my part, it does not become me to speak; but, if I have failed to serve the cause of Masonry to the most desirable extent, it is that my abilities to do so are not in proportion to my desires.

Many of our subordinate Lodges are now building or have completed neat, convenient and appropriate edifices for Masonic halls. In view of their great convenience and safety, edifices constructed upon proper plans and expressly for these purposes are highly desirable, independent of the evidence which they carry to the mind of an existing high regard for the Masonic order and its principles and practices.

The flourishing condition of Masonry in Texas leaves no room for doubt that our institution is rapidly approaching a dignity and importance scarcely hoped for by its most ardent friends. To keep alive the spirit which has given our Order this onward impulse, and which promises to achieve so much in the cause of benevolence and love, will no doubt be the highest pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

To my Brethren in every region that I have visited, I feel it due to express to the Grand Lodge, as an evidence of their brotherly feeling and Masonic interest, the profound sense of thankfulness and gratitude I feel for the civility, courtesy and kindness uniformly extended to me throughout this jurisdiction, and through this medium to convey to them how deeply sensible I am of these marks of their kindness to me individually, and their deference and respect to this Grand Lodge under whose authority I had the honor to act in my relations with them.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

W. D. SMITH,
Grand Lecturer.

R. W. Bro. Samuel M'Clarty offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be printed with the proceedings of this Annual Communication.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Secretary made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee appointed to examine the report of the Grand Secretary beg leave to report that they have made due examination of the same and find it correct, and the moneys all properly accounted for.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. GREER,
ISAAC PARKER, } *Committee.*
WM. M. TAYLOR, }

R. W. Bro. W. D. Smith offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That Bro. Andrew Neill, of Gonzales Lodge, be admitted as proxy for Alamo Lodge (at San Antonio) during the present Communication.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 6½ o'clock P.M.

Thursday evening, January 13, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 6½ o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master
" Moses Johnson,	Senior Grand Warden.
" T. J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden.
" W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Jno. N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Hill,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, twenty-four were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

Bro. Thomas Sterne took his seat as Representative of Victoria Lodge, and Bro. James H. Ralston as Representative of Alamo Lodge.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appoint a Delegate to represent the Fraternity at the next meeting of the "Texas Literary Institute," to be held at the City of Houston.

The Committee appointed to draft a new Constitution made the following report, and were, on motion, discharged from further consideration :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the duty of drafting a Constitution for the government of this Grand Lodge beg leave to report that they have per-

formed the duty assigned them, and herewith return for the consideration of the Grand Lodge the result of their labor, and beg to be discharged therefrom.

Fraternally yours,

B. GILLESPIE,
Chairman.

Bro. H. B. Kelsey moved the reading of the Constitution reported by the Committee, which was done, and passed to its second reading.

No further business appearing on the Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 9 o'clock, Friday morning, January 14.

Friday morning, Jan. 14, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 9 o'clock.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Moses Johnson,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Robt. Brewster,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Jno. N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Isaiah Call,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

On a call of the Lodges, there were found seventeen duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the meetings of the previous day were, on motion, read and adopted.

On motion of Bro. H. B. Kelsey, the new Constitution, as reported by the Committee, was taken up, read by section, and, after several amendments, was adopted and passed to the third and final reading.

The Grand Secretary read a petition from a number of Master Masons residing near Cummins's Creek, Fayette county, which was on motion referred to the M. W. Grand Master elect for his action.

On motion of Bro. Andrew Neill, a special committee was appointed to draft a fee bill for the several officers connected with the Grand Lodge.

The following communication from Washington Lodge, No. 18, was read, and, on motion, received:—

LODGE ROOM, December 18, A.D. 1847, A.L. 5847.

At a regular Communication of Washington Lodge, on motion of Bro. Kiger, a committee of three was appointed to draw up proposals to be submitted to the Grand Lodge, tendering to that body the use of our Lodge Room, furniture,

jewels, lights, &c., provided they saw proper to locate the Grand Lodge at this place: whereupon the Worshipful Master appointed on said Committee Bros. Heard, Kiger and Shepard.
 (A true copy, from the minutes.)

H. B. HURLBERT,
Secretary p. t.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

We, the Committee appointed by Washington Lodge, No. 18, on the 18th day of December, 1847, to make propositions to your Most Worshipful body for the permanent location of said Grand Lodge at this place, would respectfully represent that we have a room now under contract, which will be completed by the first day of May next.

Said house is to be two stories high, 48 feet long and 22 feet wide: the lower room is to be occupied as a Masonic school-room, and the upper exclusively for a Lodge and Chapter Room: the upper story to be furnished in the following manner,—viz.: Lodge Room is to be 28 by 22 feet, Preparatory Room 10 feet square, Secretary's Room 10 feet square, Tyler's Room 12 by 20 feet,—all of which is to be finished in the best style by the above-named time, and is to be the exclusive property of Washington Lodge, No. 18, and Washington Chapter, No. 5, and is to be situated on a beautiful plot of five acres of land, near the southern end of Ferry Street, the title to which has already been obtained.

In accordance with our instructions, we offer to your Most Worshipful body the free and unreserved use of said building, with all its appurtenances, so long as your Most Worshipful body may find it to your interest to occupy the same, without fee or charge. We also offer to your Most Worshipful body the use of our jewels, and agree to furnish fuel and lights, during your Grand Communications. All which we submit to the consideration of your Most Worshipful body, in accordance with the resolution contained in the above transcript of the minutes of Washington Lodge, No. 18. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

Yours fraternally,

T. J. HEARD,
 D. S. KIGER,
 T. P. SHEPARD, } *Committee.*

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor until 3 o'clock P.M.

Friday evening, January 14, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 3 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor, Grand Master.
 R. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Deputy Grand Master.
 " Moses Johnson, Senior Grand Warden.
 " E. B. Nichols, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
 " Isaiah Call, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " Jno. N. Reed, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " A. Bostick, Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 W. Thomas Ward, Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, there were found fifteen duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented, and the Craft were ready to proceed to labor.

The special Committee appointed on the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, with resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:—

To the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that, since the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, they have received from the Grand Secretary the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas. Also, a Circular from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, containing a statement of the difficulties between that Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

It is regretted that the proceedings of all the Grand Lodges have not been received, since, in the absence of one general head to inform, direct, and control all, it is only by the interchange of these and other documents that the acts of each are made known to the others,—that their views upon the various important questions which have elicited, and still continue to excite, discussion, are caused to harmonize, and concert of action insured.

The peace and harmony of the great Masonic family would be better promoted if there was one common *altar*, around which its members, each within its own jurisdiction independent and sovereign, could at stated periods assemble, there adjust their differences, if any should unfortunately exist, and discuss and agree upon those measures in which all should unite for the promotion of their mutual welfare: then from no part of the Temple would there be heard the sound of “axe, hammer, or other iron tool;” no harsh or discordant cries arising from interfering hands of workmen would break upon the ear if designs for the whole Craft were drawn upon the Trestle-Board by one Master Workman.

By the correspondence thus spread before your Committee, cheering evidence is furnished of the general prosperity of our institution: its principles are becoming to be better understood and more consistently illustrated by its practical workings; the ancient landmarks are more carefully studied and rigidly observed, while its bounds are rapidly extending by receiving within its ample fold those who by their conduct exemplify the value of its teachings. The storm of prejudice that for fifteen years so violently assailed and almost overwhelmed it has at length subsided, and Free Masonry has come forth from the contest purified and holier. Assailed by bitter, malignant enemies without, betrayed by pretended friends within, encountering persecution in every form, it has at last triumphed over its foes. By the immaculate purity of its principles, by its silent, unobtrusive labors of love and charity, it has silenced the slanderous tongue, and now, comparatively unobscured by abuses, shines in its own native lustre. “The Masonic Craft never occupied a loftier position than at the present time. Like a moral Pharos, the institution lifts itself above the stormy ocean of prejudice and passion, shedding its pure light upon the agitated water. A sublime memorial of the inflexible virtue of the past, a temple and a sanctuary for the woes of the present, like hope it smiles earthward, while it lifts its calm eye heavenward and by the intensity of its gaze shows that *its trust is in God*. It has been rocked by tempests, seared by the lightnings,—it has been a butt for the shafts of bigotry,—the waters of party strife have tried its strong foundations; yet it stands as firm as when the pealing notes of praise first resounded in its courts, and the Solomons and Hiram bowed before its altars.”

Your Committee, in the discharge of the duty imposed upon them, will proceed

to call your attention to such subjects of general interest as have excited discussion in the different Grand Lodges.

Paramount in importance is the effort that has been made in behalf of a General Grand Lodge. Its establishment was proposed by the Grand Lodge of Georgia as early as the year 1790, and again proposed by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina in 1799. The question was again mooted and discussed in 1803, 1807, and in 1822, but without producing uniformity of views as to its expediency or practicability. The proposition once more emanated from the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1845, and, as heretofore, has met with warm support or decided opposition from different quarters. In defence of the position assumed by themselves, our Brethren of Maryland say, "Every observing and candid man must admit that the progress of mind has, within the last twenty years, effected a mighty revolution of sentiment, of feeling and action, civil, political, social and individual. No thinking man can hope that our Order will pass through this unchanged; none such do believe that this spirit of change has not already been knocking at our doors. What then, as rational beings, becomes our duty, if it is not to establish the best guards we can devise to ward off this spirit of encroachment on old established usages, to elevate the institution above the reach of the practices of political and other bodies? Is the measure under consideration adapted to the nature of the case, and can it afford protection against the threatened evil? is the appropriate inquiry. On this subject your Committee think the sun of Experience sheds her rays, and that we are not about to embark in a new and untried experiment. We are in the habit of looking upon the Grand Lodge of England as the nursing-mother of Free Masonry: read her Constitution and let truth answer if she be not a GENERAL GRAND LODGE, exerting authority legislative, judicial and executive in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. Is she not prosperous? are not all her Provincial Grand Lodges and the subordinates under them and herself prosperous? And why is it so? There is a supreme head watchful of its trusts and prerogatives placed high above the petty strifes of faction, beyond the reach of popular feelings and practices, which, though they make their appearance in their subordinates, are promptly, firmly and kindly repressed by the ruling head."

On the same subject, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Illinois urge, "that the organization of some similar tribunal with carefully-guarded powers—having authority to decide upon and provide for the means of instruction in the mystic works and ceremonies of Masonry—is probably the best, if not the only, means now remaining to us, whereby the necessary and indispensable uniformity among us can be maintained and perpetuated; whereby our mystic rites and universal language may be freed from hurtful interpretations, and be continued to us pure and uncontaminated. It is obvious that unless a supreme authority shall be established to whose decisions questions respecting our mysteries and traditions, our constitutions and our principles, may be referred, and whose final judgment shall be obligatory upon all, the greatest and most ruinous disparity must continue to prevail. One form will be adopted and taught here, another and different one there,—each refusing to yield to either of those differing from him; each, claiming to possess the 'true light,' will set forth and contend for his long-cherished *system*; and thus, at no distant period, we shall hear of not only York and English, French and Scotch rites, but of New England Masonry, Missouri Masonry and Pennsylvania Masonry; of Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia *Rites*; thus rendering that which is now, and which might be continued to us and our descendants for all time to come, ONE in form and precisely similar in expression, as variant in both as are the features of those that constitute the several Grand Lodges."

"It is only necessary," say the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida, "for them to cast their eyes over the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, to satisfy them that we imperiously require some Masonic head. Masonry, which boasts of its unchange-

ableness through all time and places, is not the same in any two States, or at any two periods of time even in the same State. The reports of our Committees on Foreign Correspondence, instead of harmonizing like the music of the spheres, are discordant as harsh thunder; and, instead of Masonic arguments and mild persuasive language, which should ever characterize the intelligent Mason, our ears are astounded with declamation, crimination and recrimination. Can any reflecting Mason believe that order can reign where there is no intelligent head to govern and direct? As well might we expect that the planets of our system would revolve in beauty and harmony if the sun were stricken from the firmament."

Since the foregoing was written, your Committee have received the proceedings of a Convention to form a *Supreme Grand Lodge* for the United States, held in the City of Baltimore on the 23d of September, 1847. We recommend that this Grand Lodge adopt the "Constitution" framed by the Convention.

In this connection it may be proper to remark that, while some of the Grand Lodges condemn the Representative system on account of the expense attending it and the slight benefits to be derived, others affirm that it is producing the most happy effects on the Order by the brotherly intercourse it has opened and the harmony it has established. It was first recommended by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1838: the amount of European and other foreign intelligence contained in the minutes of the proceedings of that Lodge demonstrate that so far the system has produced the desired result.

Several Grand Lodges complain of a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1833, requiring every applicant for admission into a subordinate Lodge as visitor to exhibit a Grand Lodge certificate properly attested, pronouncing such a test unusual and in direct violation of the fundamental principles of our Order, professing as it does to possess one universal language by means of which Masons are able to make themselves known as such wherever dispersed throughout the globe. "There are rules and rites coexistent with Masoury itself, by which every Lodge may and should guard itself against all imposition; and to be imposed upon by a clandestine-made Mason or one who is under the sentence of expulsion or suspension, or in any other manner, must show a very great forgetfulness of the obligations by which the Fraternity are bound."

As an illustration of the practical operation of the doctrine of Grand Lodge certificates, it is stated that a Delegate of the Grand Lodge of Michigan to the National Masonic Convention proposed to be held in Virginia, who was a Past Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, a High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter, with his Credentials as a Delegate signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary and under the great seal of the Grand Lodge, was refused admittance into a subordinate Lodge in the City of New York because he had not a peculiar kind of Grand Lodge certificate. In explanation of this circumstance, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York say, "We would respectfully suggest to the writer of the report quoted, that the practical operation of the best of remedies for a diseased system is apt to be disagreeable, especially when administered in error, as in this case. The Tyler at the door of the Lodge in the City of New York took it upon himself to refuse an announcement of the Delegate of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, for which he was reproved so soon as the facts were known, on the next day."

As this requisition was first made by the Grand Lodge of New York, we quote at length from a report setting forth the reasons that led to the adoption of the obnoxious resolution:—

"The State of New York, for a number of years previous to the adoption of that resolution, had been the field in which the spirit of Anti-Masonry had most extensively prevailed. Under its withering influences neither private worth nor acknowledged public virtue, neither the rank nor station, profession nor occupation, of the man who was a Mason, afforded either a shield or protection from

the malevolence of that persecution. Would he escape the fury of his assailants, he must renounce and forever abjure all allegiance and fidelity to our beloved institution, and denounce it and its adherents as infamous. Under the excitement produced by a spirit so intolerant, many, with a view to private gain or political preferment, publicly renounced all connection with the Fraternity, and, uniting with our enemies, became active and zealous opponents of our Order.

"Others, from causes which we will not pretend to assign, silently seceded from our Craft, and have remained unknown to us as Masons, or have been known only as the applicants for and the recipients of our charities.

"And a third class, consisting chiefly of expelled Masons, and those whom they have instructed in the mysteries of our Order, abound in this State, especially in and about the City of New York, where several subordinate Lodges of clandestine Masons have been established and continue to work, having no Charter from any regularly-constituted Grand Lodge of Masons.

"These different classes of persons have travelled the length and breadth of our country, have levied contributions upon individuals and Lodges as regular members in good standing with the Masonic Fraternity, and by an artful tale told with apparent truth and candor; and, having sufficient knowledge to deceive, they have abstracted funds from the pockets of members and the treasuries of Lodges of which they were unworthy recipients, and to the great injury of the poor and needy who are worthy. The design of that resolution is to prevent fraud and imposition upon our Fraternity by the unworthy,—to exclude all applicants for admission, unless known or approved to be Masons in regular standing."

With this statement before them, your Committee can see no impropriety in the course pursued by our Brethren of New York. While as Master Masons we should feel ourselves bound to go to the assistance of a worthy Brother in distress and relieve his necessities so far as our ability would permit, without too critically examining his claims upon our charity, we believe it is within the province of the Grand Lodge, and, in the absence of Grand Lodge regulations, of the subordinate Lodges, to prescribe the terms upon which they will receive visiting Brethren. A certificate is not to be regarded as evidence that the person possessing it is a Mason; but, if upon examination he *proves* himself to be one, it shows that he is a member in good standing of a regularly-constituted Lodge. If these certificates serve as a check upon the impositions practised by the expelled or clandestine Masons,—if they are found to be an additional safeguard against the entrance of the unworthy into our midst,—then, although in some instances they may operate to deprive a Brother of a privilege, yet in the end they will be found beneficial to the whole Craft.

The subject of education is one of peculiar interest to the Fraternity. In several States, efficient measures have been adopted for the establishment of schools and colleges under the patronage of their Grand Lodges, and in Kentucky and Missouri have been attended with distinguished success.

It is needless for your Committee to dilate upon such a subject as this. In our country, where the safety of the government, the perpetuity of our institutions, depend upon the virtue and intelligence of the people, its paramount importance is daily felt. "But it especially devolves on the Masonic Fraternity as a sacred duty, growing out of the principles of their institution, to advance by every means in their power the cause of education, and particularly to educate those of our own household." The Grand Master of Tennessee urges "the adoption of some system of education that shall reach the wants of all the poor and destitute children of Masons in the State, so that no Mason's child in its limits shall be reared in ignorance. Many Masons have died among you leaving their children penniless and friendless save in the Fraternity. To provide not only for the physical wants, but moral ones, of such children, is a duty devolving upon you as members of that benevolent institution that claims to be the widow's solace and the orphan's friend."

We as Texans may justly be proud of the munificent provision made by our State for the future education of her children. It would be a noble rivalry for us to engage emulously with her in this noble enterprise. "Free Masonry then would be lifted up on high in the sight of all men, taking her own proud stand in the estimation of all, and, clad in her own pure and spotless garments, appear as an angel of light on an errand of mercy. And when the Supreme Grand Master shall come to inspect the work of her hands, the widow and the fatherless, the poor and the destitute, millions will rise up and call her blessed."

The question has been discussed, whether the Lodges in our State can receive persons residing within the jurisdiction of another State. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee say they "believe such a practice to be wholly inconsistent with the paramount duty of amicable and friendly regard which every co-ordinate department of the great Masonic family owes to each other."

Our Brethren of Virginia say, "He who is worthy of the high distinction of a Mason can best secure it where he is best known. A distant Lodge should not be permitted to extend its jurisdiction and authority over those who reside within the peculiar jurisdiction and limits of another Lodge, but especially should such conflicting jurisdiction be denied when the attempt is made to extend it from one State to another."

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has adopted the following resolution,—viz.: "*Resolved*, That no Lodge working under the authority of this Grand Lodge be allowed to admit a candidate applying from another jurisdiction, either within this or any other State, and whether he be rejected or not, without first obtaining the consent of such nearer Lodge, or of the Grand Lodge of the State from which he hails."

Great difference of opinion exists as to the requisite physical qualifications of the candidate for the mysteries of our Order,—some insisting that he should be a man, sound in mind and members, upright in body, not deformed or dismembered, while others contend that it is sufficient if he possesses the senses and faculties upon which mental action is dependent. The discrepancy of views upon this subject furnishes a strong argument in favor of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge with power to pronounce an authoritative decision upon this and similar questions.

A disbelief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Bible has been declared an offence against Masonry, and consequently none but those who can receive this test should be admitted within its pale. The Grand Lodge of Ohio, through its Committee on Foreign Correspondence, affirm "that, after looking at the foundations on which all our work is constructed, and contemplating the teachings of Masonry in her lectures, charges and so forth, they can come to but one conclusion on this subject,—namely, that the Holy Bible is the great standard of truth and duty in Masonry, and consequently that an humble and sincere acknowledgment of its divine origin is indispensable, in the very nature of the case, on the part of all who come to seek or dispense light among us."

The views of your Committee are expressed in the following extract from the report of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina—"Such a requisition is manifestly at variance with the tolerant spirit of our institution. Although in this country there are but few Masons who deny the divine authority of the Holy Writings, yet to require the expression of such a belief is in direct opposition to the express regulations of the Order, which demand a belief in God as the only legitimate religious test. If any other less general and more partial one be adopted, it is impossible to foresee where so dangerous a precedent will cease to exert its influence; and the same authority which establishes a belief in the authenticity and divine authority of all the Holy Writings as a qualification for initiation, which would at once throw every one but Christians out of the pale of our Order, might subsequently extend its claims for religious

conformity, and demand with equal justice adhesion to some sectarian interpretation of the doctrines of this holy volume."

For the same reason, let us exclude the Jew, who pronounces two of the most eminent patrons of our Order to be the followers of an impostor. Let us exclude from our communion the Turk, the Arab and the Moor, who, though they believe that Allah is just and all-powerful, yet acknowledge Mahomet as his prophet, and take the Koran for their spiritual guide. And the Indian, too, is an unworthy recipient of the honors of Masonry, because, forsooth, he can read of the attributes and perfections of his Creator only in the "Book of Nature."

With the following views on the matter of balloting for candidates, expressed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, your Committee fully concur:—"The Masonic institution is, as it professes to be, Catholic or Universal. Indeed, Catholicity is of the essence of its character, giving it a feature of striking and almost peculiar interest, beauty and glory. Therefore it is that there is—there can be, properly and truly—but one family of Masons on the wide earth; that the Masonic Fraternity everywhere is one band of BROTHERS,—the children of one FATHER,—united by one Fundamental Constitution and one sacred covenant. Portions or branches of the family exist in different places, under local organizations; but it is to be borne in mind that all are or should be governed by the same common principles, speak the same language, work for the same end and enjoy the same benefits. Hence is it so often seen that if one member suffers all the members suffer with him, and if one member rejoices all the members rejoice with him. The Masonic institution presents in theory, and realizes the same to some extent practically, the beautiful spectacle of a UNIVERSAL FAMILY, the throbbing of the heart of every member of which is but as it were the pulse of the mighty heart of the whole, beating only to the common good. The introduction of a new member into the institution is therefore a matter of singular interest to the entire Fraternity. From the moment of initiation a new heart beats within the family, whose claims for a responsive recognition are founded on ties which are the same the world over, and which may in any clime or country thereafter demand the performance of the vows of a common covenant. In accordance herewith, your Committee deem it a right inherent in every member of the Masonic family to raise his voice and free his conscience in view of such an introduction; they deem it the inalienable privilege of every Mason present on a given occasion, when a candidate is balloted for, to deposit his ballot. They hold to be most strictly true the language of a former committee of this Grand Lodge, that 'the privilege of balloting for or against an applicant is one of the inalienable rights of our time-honored institution.' This subject has been brought to the especial notice of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, wherein they discover that the Grand Lodge of Hanover has formally recognised the great principle here asserted, enacting that, in balloting for a candidate for initiation, every visiting Brother shall have a right to vote, because the candidate when initiated becomes a member of the Craft in general."

Your Committee would in this place most unequivocally condemn the practice, which they fear has prevailed to a great extent not only within the jurisdiction of this but of other Grand Lodges, of hurrying candidates through the different Degrees of Masonry. Our Constitution requires that the petition should be presented one month at least before final action is had upon it, in order to furnish the Brethren with an opportunity of ascertaining the character and habits of the applicant; and, further, requires that the initiate shall serve until he has made suitable proficiency in each Degree before advancing; but the kind feelings of the Brethren induce them to declare the case of some person desiring to travel, or to leave the State, an emergency. A Dispensation is applied for, the requisite number of workmen assembled, the candidate balloted for, initiated, passed and raised in one night. He leaves the institution with an imperfect knowledge of its object or its nature. Its forms and ceremonies, its signs and

symbols, are to him without meaning,—without instruction. The consequence is, as evidenced by the long experience of accurate observers, that a small proportion of those who are made Masons by Dispensation ever become members of Lodges, or are of any subsequent use to the institution.

The character of the applicant should be fully ascertained; if he has recently removed from another county or State, his standing there should be ascertained through the proper sources. He who is actuated by selfish motives—who is desirous of some pecuniary benefit, or of the facilities it may afford in travelling—*should in all cases be rejected*; he alone who has long entertained a favorable opinion of our institution—who is willing to conform to its regulations, and is actuated by the desire of benefiting his fellows—is worthy of being made a Mason.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Illinois are the following resolutions,—viz.:

“Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge shall report to the Grand Lodge, at each Annual Communication, all Master Masons that may be within its jurisdiction and are not members of any Lodge, and shall pay dues for the same.

“Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge shall collect, of all Master Masons that may be under its jurisdiction and are not members of any Lodge, the dues its By-laws require of its members, and shall at its discretion suspend from Masonic privileges all such as neglect to pay the same: Provided, That where two or more Lodges exist in the same city or county, the oldest Lodge shall have jurisdiction.”

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee state:—“In the By-laws of the Missouri Grand Lodge is a provision requiring Masons who are not members of any subordinate Lodge to pay over three dollars annually to the Grand Lodge, to be deposited in her Education-fund and be appropriated exclusively to educational purposes. It has been suggested, by eminent members of the Fraternity, that a more summary, convenient and equally efficient remedy would be to know them no longer as Masons,—to regard them as having forfeited all claims to the peculiar charities and courtesies of the Order which they will not contribute to support. The obligations of Masonry, it is freely conceded, are perpetual in themselves, but, like other moral obligations, to be operative must be reciprocal.”

The following extract from an address of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, taken from the Foreign Correspondence of Illinois, your Committee commend to the consideration of this Grand Lodge:—

“I learn with unmingled feelings of gratification that some of our subordinate Lodges have lately adopted a system of action which secures to every sick Brother, during his illness, the constant attendance of a Master Mason. The Masters of these subordinate Lodges are required to appoint monthly a committee, whose sole duty consists in ascertaining the invalids among them and appointing daily two Master Masons to attend each indisposed Brother.”

“To visit the sick, and to supply their wants and administer comfort, is one of the grand charities of our Order; but, to effect this, organization and system are essentially necessary. Divided duty is seldom performed, and that which should be the duty of all usually receives the attention of none. Let us, Brethren, adopt effective measures to free ourselves from the charge of negligence in this particular. Let us not apply the speculative character of our work to our charity, but rather let us practise out of our Lodges the excellent lessons of brotherly love, relief and charity which are taught us in them. Let us look through the emblems and symbols of Free Masonry to the discharge of the great moral duties which they inculcate, and we may confidently anticipate the day when the uniform and salutary, though silent and unseen, influence of our principles will effectually silence the tongue of calumny, and weaken, if not forever extinguish, the unjustifiable rancor and hatred of our enemies.”

Vol. I.—16

We have received a communication stating that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has appointed as their Representative in this Grand Lodge the Brother recommended by it, and at the same time recommended Bro. J. H. Holland as a suitable person to be the Representative of this Grand Lodge.

Through the Grand Secretary your Committee have received the following communication from J. Grant, Provincial Grand Master of Bengal:—

No. 47 of 1846.

To the Most Worshipful JOHN A. GREER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER:—You will have been no doubt informed by the late Very Worshipful Bro. Teulon of his reception in the Provincial and District Grand Lodge of Bengal, on St. John's Day, the 27th December, 1844, and of his recognition therein as the Representative from the Grand Lodge of Texas, under the authority of his appointment thereto bearing your signature and the seal of the Grand Lodge, dated the 1st of February, 1842.

On my return from Europe after an absence of more than three years, I had the gratification to meet Bro. Teulon in the Grand Lodge, and to greet him as your Representative; but, ere five days had elapsed, I was grieved to learn that it had pleased the Grand Disposer of all events to remove him suddenly from among us to the Grand Lodge above, where the Grand Architect lives and reigns forever!

As a proof of the estimate in which our deceased Brother was held in this city, I enclose, for the satisfaction of yourself and the Brethren of Texas, extracts from the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, under dates the 23d of April and 24th of June last; and will only add, on the present occasion, that it will always afford me pleasure to be honored with communications from yourself and the several Grand Lodges in the United States of America, with a view of drawing closer between the Brethren of our respective hemispheres the bond of fraternal affection which is the true characteristic of a Free Mason in every part of the globe.

With sentiments of high esteem, I have the honor to subscribe myself, Most Worshipful Brother,

Your faithful servant and Brother,

J. J. L. HOFF,

J. GRANT,

Past Grand Secretary.

Provincial Grand Master of Bengal.

CALCUTTA, FREE MASONS' HALL, July 28, 1846.

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal,
April 23, 1846.*

V. W. Bro. Teulon, the Representative from the Grand Lodge of Texas, was then introduced by R. W. Bro. Burlton, and cordially received by the Provincial Grand Master, who expressed his gratification at seeing him in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, not only on his own account, but that of giving him the opportunity of saying how glad he was to see any one connected with the State of Texas in the Grand Lodge of Bengal, and of acknowledging the great kindness he had experienced at Paris at the hands of Bro. Ashbel Smith, Envoy at the court of the Tuilleries from that State.

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal,
June 24, 1846.*

The Provincial Grand Secretary then brought to the notice of the Provincial Grand Master, that soon after they had met in Grand Lodge on the occasion of

celebrating his return from Europe, at which V. W. Bro. Teulon was present, they had to deplore the loss by cholera of that distinguished Brother, which melancholy event occurred on the 28th of April last, when his remains were interred in Masonic form, by the Lodge "Kilwinning in the East," of which he was a member, assisted by R. W. Bros. Birch, Blaquiere and Chaunce, V. W. Bro. Samuel Smith, W. Bro. Montrion, the Provincial Grand Secretary, and several other Brethren from other Lodges. He further observed, that, as the deceased Brother was an eminent Mason and of high moral worth,—though, from his unobtrusive character and circumstances in life, he was not generally known to the Craft,—also that as he had been accredited by the Grand Lodge of Texas as its Representative at this Provincial Grand Lodge, he would suggest that the particulars stated by him be entered upon the minutes of the present meeting, and communicated in a suitable letter of condolence to the Grand Lodge of Texas. The Provincial Grand Master heartily approved of the suggestion, and proposed that it be adopted as a resolution of the Provincial Grand Lodge; and he took the opportunity to express his deep regret for the loss of so distinguished a Mason as V. W. Bro. Teulon, who but for his talents and excellent character could not have attained to that eminence, and who closed his life in the performance of his Masonic duties at a Lodge held on the evening previous to his demise. This proposition, having been seconded by R. W. Bro. Torrens, was carried *nem. con.* (True extracts.)

J. J. L. HOFF,
Past Grand Secretary.

In the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida is the following notice of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge,—viz.: "Your Committee regret to see the following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Texas, to which we alluded in our last Annual Communication, are still in force:—

"*Resolved*, That a certain portion of the proceedings of Graham Lodge, No. 20, which decides that a petitioner could not withdraw his petition previous to balloting, be, and the same is hereby, annulled.

"*Resolved*, That, in balloting for Degrees in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one black ball shall reject the candidate for one year, two black balls shall reject for two years, and three or more for four years."

"It does seem to your Committee a little remarkable that so intelligent a body as the Grand Lodge of Texas should continue these resolutions in force, which are so manifestly violations of the ancient rules, regulations and constitutions of the Order. We take it for granted that the attention of the Grand Lodge has not been directed to these subjects.

"The Committee congratulate the Brethren of Texas on the rapid rise and progress of Masonry in their flourishing State."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Maryland say they cannot comprehend the philosophy of the second of the above resolutions. Their misapprehension of its meaning has arisen from the substitution of the word "officers" for "Degrees."

The Grand Lodge of Indiana has expressed its entire disapprobation of the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Texas in working in Lodge on the Sabbath-day; and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Illinois concur in such disapprobation, and would extend the same to a similar practice prevailing among the Lodges of New Orleans.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in the report for the year 1846, state, "In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas your Committee observe the name of D. D. Crumpler as Grand Sword-Bearer of that Grand Lodge. In the report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year 1839, p. 28, D. D. Crumpler is named as having been expelled from Astra Lodge, No. 85, in Virginia. We mention this circumstance in order that it may be brought to the notice of our Brethren in Texas. A

prompt investigation of the matter is due both to the Brother implicated and to this Grand Lodge."

Your Committee have thus, briefly as the case would admit, alluded to some of the topics that have engaged the attention of the various Grand Lodges: an abstract, or even a succinct history, of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges would have rendered this report by far too voluminous. While the bounds of Masonry have been rapidly extended by the addition of new members, the rejection, suspension or expulsion of the unworthy proves that the high moral principles that characterize our Order have not been forgotten. Our institution, for its excellencies, for its perfect adaptation to the wants of society, is the wisest, the best, ever conceived by man. It enjoins no duty, it teaches no precept, forbidden by sound morality, nor does it justify the neglect of any duty growing out of the multifarious relations of life. It has no will but that of God,—no purpose to subserve but the good of man. It does not, like religion, claim for itself a divine author, nor does it profess to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation; but it enforces the practice of those precepts enjoined in general terms by Christianity, that tend so much to ameliorate and improve the condition of man. By every emblem delineated upon the wall, by every ornament and support and jewel of the Lodge, the Mason is taught some important lesson. In every natural object by which he is surrounded, the Mason traces the forming hand of the Grand Architect of the universe, and draws from it some lesson replete with instruction. The glorious orb of day, the fountain whence emanates all light, the blazing star once welcomed by the shepherds upon the plains of Galilee, and the cloudless canopy of the heavens, are to him sources of wisdom, hope and encouragement. But it is to be remembered that it is not by the possession of the words and signs by which admittance is gained through the guarded portals of the Lodge that men are constituted Masons. A Mason—one who is really a Mason in heart as well as in profession, who not theoretically but practically applies to himself the square, the level and the plumb—has a work to do that must bear the inspection of our Grand Master,—has active duties to perform in all the varied relations of life. With jealous care should the unworthy be excluded from our midst. The libertine, the habitual drunkard and the professed gambler should never be allowed to approach the holy altar of Masonry,—never should be allowed to mingle with those worshipping in a temple of which truth, justice, charity and good-will to man are the pillars, and brotherly love the keystone of the grand arch.

B. GILLESPIE,
SAMUEL MCCLARTY, } Committee.
JOHN SAYLES,

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the report of the special Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration, and respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint a Delegate to represent this Grand Lodge at the first meeting of the General Grand Lodge of the United States, to be held at Baltimore, on ———, upon whose report this Grand Lodge may or may not, at its discretion, adopt their Constitution.

Resolved, That the matters set forth in the Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi cannot affect the standing of Bro. D. D. Crumpler among Masons,—he having received all the Degrees in a Lodge of that State, hailing from there as a Mason in good standing, and having while among us conducted himself as an upright Brother, devoted to the principles of the institution.

The other most important subjects recommended in this report having been referred to and disposed of by your Committee on the Constitution, we would conclude

by recommending the publication of the very able report on Foreign Correspondence, with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and that not less than ten copies be sent to each subordinate Lodge, and one to each member of this Grand Lodge.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Chairman.

The M. W. Master appointed as the Printing Committee Bros. A. S. Ruthven, E. B. Nichols and Wm. M. Taylor.

The Committee on By-laws made the following further report, which was read and adopted:—

Your Committee beg leave further to report, that they have examined the By-laws of Victoria Lodge, find them to be correct and recommend their adoption. Also, those of Red Land Lodge we approve and recommend, with the exception of sec. 3, art. 3.

Also, Alamo Lodge, which has adopted the By-laws of Gonzales Lodge, we have examined, approved and recommend their adoption, with permission to change the articles relating to the name, style, time and place of its meetings, as circumstances require.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your Committee for your consideration and action.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Z. WM'S EDDY,
H. B. KELSEY.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made a further report, which was, on motion, adopted, as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Subordinate Lodges would beg leave to report, that they have had the proceedings of Alamo Lodge, U. D., held in the City of San Antonio, under examination, and find the same correct; and would here ask leave to present their acknowledgments to Bro. Edward Everett, Secretary of said new Lodge, for the handsome and business-like manner in which he has made out and sent up the records of the proceedings of his Lodge; and would recommend that a Charter be granted for said Lodge on payment of the constitutional dues.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL McCLARTY,
Chairman of Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

They would also submit the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the dues for membership from Alamo Lodge to this Grand Lodge for the Masonic year ending 27th Dec. 1847, be remitted,—the Brethren having been at work only a few weeks.

W. D. SMITH.

Bro. Moses Johnson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the dues from Lavaca Lodge and Leona Union Lodge be remitted, in consequence of said Lodges having been at work but a short time.

The Committee on Returns made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges ask leave to report, further, that they have examined the returns from Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, and find the same correct. They have examined the returns from Leona Union

Lodge, U. D., which we find irregular, owing doubtless to the Lodge not having been furnished with a form for making out said returns. Your Committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue a Charter to said Leona Union Lodge, so soon as the District Deputy Grand Master shall have examined the work and furnished the Grand Secretary with a certificate of the correctness of their work,—until which time said Lodge is to continue under Dispensation.

The returns from Red Land Lodge, No. 24, are irregular in this,—that they have not given the dates when petitions were received, nor the time when the candidates were initiated, passed or raised. We have also examined the returns of Alamo Lodge, U. D., and take great pleasure in saying that the same are correct and made out in a neat, orderly and masterlike manner which reflects great credit upon the Secretary of the said Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I. CALL,
R. BREWSTER,
WM. M. TAYLOR.

The special Committee to whom was assigned the duty of presenting a bill of fees made the following report, which was, on motion, adopted after amendment:—

To the Grand Lodge.

The special Committee to whom was referred the resolution to report a fee bill for the respective Grand Officers have had the same under consideration, and report the following as the result thereof, and recommend the adoption of the annexed resolution:—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer shall be allowed five per cent. on amount of moneys received and disbursed, except the Education-fund.

That the Grand Secretary be allowed one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, and stationary and expense account.

The Grand Lecturer shall be paid annually one hundred dollars out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and the sum of ten dollars from each subordinate Lodge visited officially, and expenses to the nearest adjoining Lodge.

The District Deputy Grand Master shall be allowed all travelling-expenses, to be paid by the Lodges in their Districts, when required or called on to act officially.

The Grand Tyler shall be allowed three dollars per day during the sessions of the Grand Lodge.

A. NEILL, *Chairman*,
B. H. EPPERSON,
T. STERNE.

The special Committee on the Communication from Red Land Lodge made the following report, which was on motion adopted:—

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:—Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of Bros. Ochiltree and McKee, relative to the injustice done Bro. A. B. Patton by balloting in Red Land Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted, and Bro. Patton stand in the same relation to that Lodge and all regular Masons as he did before that balloting, and that Lodge take such action upon his case as Masonic justice may require.

O. M. WHEELER,
H. B. KELSEY.

No further business appearing, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until half-past 7 o'clock P.M.

Friday evening, 7½ o'clock, January 14, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. George M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Moses Johnson,	Senior Grand Warden.
" T. J. Hardeman,	Junior Grand Warden.
" W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" John N. Reed,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

Andrew Neill, Thomas J. Hardeman and A. Sterne.

VISITING BRETHREN.

S. D. Hay, Forest Lodge; James Kellum, De Kalb Lodge; W. S. Rayner, Scot. Neck Lodge, N.C.; R. C. Wheeler, Clinton Lodge; W. C. Edwards, Red Land Lodge; W. C. Abbott, Trinity Lodge; G. A. Evarts, Constantine Lodge; W. H. Crutcher, Lafayette Lodge; S. A. Miller, Lothrop Lodge; S. G. Newton, Washington Lodge, Ark.; E. M. Millikin, H. L. Upshur, Austin Lodge; E. M. Pease, formerly St. John Lodge; B. E. Tarver, Graham Lodge; J. W. Henderson, Holland Lodge.

On a call of the Lodges, thirty-three were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The Grand Secretary read the following communication from the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

NEW ORLEANS, December 15, 1847.

Grande Loge de l'Etat de la Louisiane, to the Right Worshipful Grand Master and Members of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, Houston.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN:—Annexed to your circular of the 31st of July, 1847, the Grand Lodge has received a copy of your proceedings, of which it has taken cognizance in its sitting of the 29th November last, and whereof it has ordered the deposit in its archives.

We are sorry to learn the total destruction of your archives by fire; and be assured, dear Brethren, that for the interest of Masonry in general, and the prosperity of your Grand Lodge in particular, we feel deeply afflicted on account of the irreparable loss you have sustained.

In order to act in accordance with your intentions, we forward you, under cover and hereto annexed, first, a copy of your ancient Constitution, which we are happy in being able to dispose of in your behalf, together with a copy of the general By-laws of our Grand Lodge.

We forward you likewise two copies of the annuaries of this Grand Lodge for the years 1846 and 1847, to which we add three copies of our report and resolutions concerning the lamentable schism created in this State by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and also a copy of the resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in regard to this unfortunate occurrence,

And remain fraternally yours.

(By order of the Lodge,)

F. VERRIER,
Grand Secretary.

The following report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was read and adopted :—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that they have received and examined a communication from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, under date the 15th December, 1847, accompanying certain documents. Your Committee take occasion to express their gratification at the kind and fraternal feelings evinced by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in the promptitude with which they responded to the request of this Lodge.

B. GILLESPIE,
Chairman.

On motion of Bro. H. B. Kelsey, the question for the location of the Grand Lodge was appointed for to-morrow evening, at early candle-light.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Adolphus Sterne, the hour for installation of officers was changed from 11 o'clock to 3 o'clock, on Saturday, the 15th instant.

The M. W. Grand Master then declared that the hour had arrived for the Grand Lodge to proceed to elect their officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows :—

M. W. George M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. T. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ E. H. Tarrant,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ Wm. M. Taylor,	Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until Saturday morning, 9 o'clock, January 15.

Saturday morning, January 15, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848, 9 o'clock.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor,	Grand Master.
R. W. George M. Patrick,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Moses Johnson,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Robert Brewster,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ W. D. Smith,	Senior Grand Deacon.

R. W. John N. Reed. Junior Grand Deacon.
 " A. Neill, Grand Treasurer.
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 " A. S. Ainsworth, Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, there were found seventeen duly represented. There being a constitutional number, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the meetings of yesterday were read, and, on motion, adopted.

On motion of Bro. H. B. Kelsey, the new Constitution was then taken up for its third and final reading, and, on further motion by Bro. Andrew Neill, the same was adopted by its caption.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary issue charters to the following Lodges now working under Dispensations,—to wit: Victoria, Eagle, Palestine and Van Zandt, upon the certificate of the Grand Master, or either of the Deputy Grand Masters, that he has examined their work and found the same correct and that their constitutional dues are paid; and that until such examination said Lodges be directed to suspend their labors.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL McCLARTY,

Chairman of Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. H. B. Kelsey offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master shall appoint some competent and worthy Master Mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who shall be styled the *Superintendent of Education*, and shall hold his appointment during good behavior and the pleasure of the Grand Lodge. He shall have the custody and management of the EDUCATIONAL FUND created by the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and shall loan out the same, at lawful interest, for periods not exceeding one year, taking sufficient security therefor; and he shall be personally liable and responsible for the same. And it is hereby made the duty of the Treasurer to pay over to said Superintendent, at each Grand Annual Communication, all the Educational funds in his hands, and take his receipt therefor.

The Superintendent of Education shall have the general supervision of all the educational interests connected with this Grand Lodge, and shall report to each Grand Annual Communication the amount and condition of said fund, and recommend, for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, such measures for the promotion of education as he may deem advisable; and he shall perform such other duties as the Grand Lodge may hereafter prescribe. But in no case shall he expend any portion of said fund, except by order of the Grand Lodge. He shall, furthermore, be required, whenever the Grand Lodge shall think proper, to give bond and sufficient security for the faithful discharge of his trust.

The following resolution was read from the Secretary's table :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be paid for his services during the past year one hundred dollars, together with his expense-account.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bro. John Sayles the Representative of this Grand Lodge at the Texas Literary Institute to be held at Houston.

Bro. H. B. Kelsey offered the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draft a code of By-laws for the government of this Grand Lodge, and to report the same to the next Grand Annual Communication.

The following Brothers were appointed said Committee :—Bros. E. W. Moore, A. S. Ruthven and John Sayles, and Bro. Wm. M. Taylor was added to the Committee.

On motion of Bro. John N. Reed, a Committee of Arrangements was appointed for the public installation, consisting of Bros. Robert Brewster, John N. Reed and Thomas Sterne; and, on further motion, Bro. George Hancock was added to said Committee.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions regulating funeral processions for all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

Committee consisting of Bros. Wm. M. Taylor, H. B. Kelsey and Moses Johnson, and Bro. Andrew Neill was added to the same.

Bro. Andrew Neill offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. A. S. Ruthven for the efficient and able manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Secretary for the past year.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 2 o'clock, January 15, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. E. W. Taylor, Grand Master.
 R. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Deputy Grand Master.
 " Moses Johnson, Senior Grand Warden.
 " T. J. Hardeman, Junior Grand Warden.
 " Chas. Mason, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " Jno. N. Reed, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
 " J. M. Swisher, Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
 " A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
 W. Thomas Ward, Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, thirty were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The Grand Secretary then read the following appointments made by the M. W. Grand Master elect :—

Moses Johnson, Deputy Grand Master.
 H. B. Kelsey, D. D. Grand Master, 1st District.

Saml. McClarty,	D. D. Grand Master, 2d District.
Z. W. Eddy,	D. D. Grand Master, 3d District.
E. W. Moore,	D. D. Grand Master, 4th District.
Barry Gillespie,	D. D. Grand Master, 5th District.
S. H. Darden,	D. D. Grand Master, 6th District.
Geo. Rottenstien,	} Grand Chaplains.
M. M. Estell,	
Andrew Neill,	} Grand Marshals.
Alex. Ewing,	
Geo. Fisher,	Grand Orator.
Edwd. Burleson,	Grand Standard-Bearer.
Adolphus Sterne,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
Charles Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
O. M. Wheeler,	Junior Grand Deacon.
Geo. W. Wright,	} Grand Stewards.
John Murchison,	
E. S. C. Robertson,	Grand Pursuivant.
Thos. Ward,	Grand Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then called from labor, and repaired to the M. E. Church for the purpose of installation of officers and hearing the address and eulogy to be delivered by Bro. John Sayles.

Saturday evening, 7 o'clock, January 15, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Moses Johnson,	Deputy Grand Master.
" T. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
" E. H. Tarrant,	Junior Grand Warden.
" Charles Mason,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" O. M. Wheeler,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. Thomas Ward,	Grand Tyler.

Lodges represented as at the previous meeting.

R. W. Saml. McClarty offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That a copy of the able and eloquent address and eulogy, delivered this day by Bro. Sayles, be requested for publication, and that the Committee on Printing cause the same to be printed with and appended to the proceedings of this Grand Communication; and that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to him for the eloquent and satisfactory manner in which it was delivered by him, being prepared on so short notice.

R. W. Bro. Geo. Fisher offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized, under the direction of the Grand Master, to procure a banner with proper Masonic emblems thereon for the use of this Grand Lodge, to be borne by the Grand Standard-Bearer at all public processions of this Grand Lodge, according to the ancient usages of the Craft.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw his draft on the Grand Treasurer for the amount of the said banner.

On motion, duly seconded, Bros. Wm. M. Taylor, Moses Johnson and Saml. McClarty were appointed to correspond with Bro. John Sayles relative to obtaining a copy of his address for publication.

The following answer was received from Bro. John Sayles by the Committee :—

AUSTIN, January 17, 1848.

BRETHREN :—Your letter communicating to me a resolution of the Grand Lodge has been received. The eulogy, of which the Grand Lodge has been pleased to speak in such flattering terms, was very hastily prepared, without time or opportunity for collecting information concerning our deceased Brethren, and consequently as a sketch of their characters was very imperfect.

For the present, therefore, I shall decline publication.

With assurances of respect and fraternal regard,

I remain yours, &c.,

JOHN SAYLES.

Bro. Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted, and the Committee required to present the gentlemen with a copy of this resolution :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to Messrs. Robertson and Davis for their kindness in furnishing music on occasion of installation.

The following communication from Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, was read and received :—

STATE OF TEXAS, }
GRIMES COUNTY. }

I do hereby certify that at a meeting of the Brethren of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, held at Fanthorp's, the following resolution was passed :—

Resolved, That Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, at Fanthorp's, make through its Representatives a tender to the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas the use of her Lodge Room for the purpose of holding her annual sessions free from all charges, lights and fuel included.

(A true copy from the record.)

T. H. M. ROGERS,

Secretary Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17.

January 4, 1848.

P.S.—The size of the above-proffered room, which is now in progress of building, is twenty-four feet in width and forty-two feet in length, and will be furnished with suitable rooms to secure the jewels, &c. of the Grand Lodge.

The following resolution was, on motion, read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Tyler be paid twelve dollars for services rendered during the session of this Grand Lodge, and that six dollars be paid Bro. Ainsworth for services as Tyler.

R. W. Bro. B. Gillespie offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to furnish a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to the nearest relatives of our deceased Brethren, Wm. G. Cooke, Thomas G. Western, Wm. M. Tryon, John Gillespie and Geo. K. Teulon.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That R. W. Bro. J. H. Holland be appointed the Representative of this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana.

Bro. Andrew Neill offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks and fraternal regards of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. E. W. Taylor, late M. W. Grand Master, for the zeal, ability and dignity with which he has discharged the duties of his station.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted: on which the M. W. Grand Lodge proceeded to determine by ballot at what place the next Grand Annual Communication should be held, which resulted in the selection of the City of Houston, in the room occupied by Holland Lodge, No. 1. It was therefore determined by this Grand Lodge that the next Grand Annual Communication should be held at the City of Houston, on the third Monday in January, eighteen hundred and forty-nine.

Resolved, That, in order to select a place for holding the next Communication of this Grand Lodge, the Lodge proceed to ballot for such places as shall be nominated. If no place receive a majority of all the votes, the Lodge shall proceed to ballot for the two places receiving the highest number.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to all the officers of the past year for the zeal and fidelity with which they have performed their duties in those several stations.

Bro. J. M. Swisher offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Annual Communication to be held in the year 1850 be held at the City of Austin.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed as the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present Masonic year Bros. Barry Gillespie, A. S. Ruthven and John Sayles.

No further business appearing, the minutes were, on motion, read and adopted, and the M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form and with prayer.

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Grand Secretary.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Grand Master.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

CITY OF AUSTIN, Jan. 11, 1848.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Grand Treasurer, would most respectfully beg leave to submit the following report:—

He has since the last Grand Annual Communication received the following sums:—

Balance in the hands of Grand Treasurer at the date of the last Annual Report.....	\$269 32
Amount received from the Grand Secretary on the 12th day of March last.....	84 00
Amount received from same on the 11th inst.....	416 81

Total	\$719 63
-------------	----------

Disbursements by Grand Treasurer, as per vouchers,—viz.:

Cash paid Lamar Moore for freight.....	\$9 00
Cash paid Grand Lecturer.....	100 00
	<hr/> \$109 00

Balance in the Treasury.....	\$610 63
------------------------------	----------

Leaving a balance up to this date in the Treasury of six hundred and ten dollars and sixty-three cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted. J. C. TANNEHILL,
Grand Treasurer Grand Lodge of Texas.

 THE CONSTITUTION

Of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, adopted at the Grand Annual Communication held in the City of Austin, January, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

 THE OLD CHARGES

Of the Free and Accepted Masons, extracted from the Ancient Records of Lodges, and ordered to be printed by the Grand Lodge of England, in their [revised] editions of the Constitutions of 1738 and 1746

I. CHARGE.

Concerning God and Religion.

A MASON is obliged by his Tenure to observe the Moral Law, as a true *Noachida*; and if he rightly understands the *Craft*, he will never be a Stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Libertin, nor act against Conscience.

In ancient Times the *Christian Masons* were charged to comply with the *Christian Usages* of each country where they travell'd or work'd: But *Masonry* being found in all Nations, even of divers Religions, they are now only charged to adhere to that Religion in which all Men agree, (leaving each Brother to his own particular Opinions,) that is, to be Good Men and True, Men of Honour

and Honesty, by whatever Names, Religions or Persuasions they may be distinguish'd: For they all agree in the 3 great *Articles* of the NOAH, enough to preserve the Cement of the Lodge. Thus *Masonry* is the Centre of their Union, and the happy means of conciliating Persons that otherwise must have remained at a perpetual Distance.

II. CHARGE.

Of the Civil MAGISTRATE, Supreme and Subordinate.

A *Mason* is a peaceable Subject, never to be concern'd in Plots against the State, nor disrespectful to *Inferior* Magistrates. Of old, Kings, Princes and States encourag'd the Fraternity for their *Loyalty*, who ever flourish'd most in Times of Peace. But tho' a *Brother* is not to be countenanced in his *Rebellion* against the State; yet if convicted of no other Crime, his Relation to the *Lodge* remains indefeasible.

III. CHARGE.

Concerning LODGES.

A *LODGE* is a Place where *Masons* meet to work in: Hence the *Assembly*, or duly organiz'd Body of *Masons*, is call'd a *LODGE*; just as the Word *Church* is expressive both of the *Congregation* and of the place of Worship.

Every *Brother* should belong to some *particular Lodge*, and cannot be absent without incurring Censure, if not necessarily detain'd.

IV. CHARGE.

Of MASTERS, WARDENS, Fellows and Prentices.

All Preferment among *Masons* is grounded upon real Worth and personal *Merit* only, not upon *Seniority*. No *MASTER* should take a *Prentice* that is not a Son of honest Parents, and capable of learning the *Mysteries* of the *Art*.

The *WARDENS* are chosen from among the *Master-Masons*, and no *Brother* can be a *Master* of a *Lodge* till he has acted as *Warden* somewhere, except in extraordinary Cases; or where a *Lodge* is to be form'd where none such can be had: For then 3 *Master-Masons*, tho' never *Masters* or *Wardens* of *Lodges* before, may be constituted *Master* and *Wardens* of that *New Lodge*.

But no number without 3 *Master-Masons* can form a *Lodge*, and none can be the *GRAND MASTER*, or a *GRAND WARDEN*, who has not acted as the *Master* of a *particular Lodge*.

V. CHARGE.

Of the MANAGEMENT of the CRAFT in Working.

All *Masons* should work hard and honestly on Working-Days, that they may live reputably on Holy-Days; and the Working-Hours appointed by Law, or confirm'd by custom, shall be observ'd.

A *Master-Mason* only must be the Surveyor or *Master of Work*, who shall undertake the *Lord's Work* reasonably, shall truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own, and shall not give more Wages than just to any Fellow or *Prentice*.

The *Wardens* shall be true both to *Master* and *Fellows*, taking Care of all Things, both within and without the *Lodge*, especially in the *Master's Absence*; and their *Brethren* shall obey them.

The *Master* and the *Masons* shall faithfully finish the *Lord's Work*, whether *Task* or *Journey*; nor shall take the *Work at Task* which hath been accustomed to *Journey*.

None shall shew *Envy* at a *Brother's Prosperity*, nor supplant him or put him out of his *Work*, if capable to finish it.

All *Masons* shall meekly receive their Wages without *Murmuring* or *Mutiny*, and not desert the *Master* till the *Lord's Work* is finish'd. They must avoid ill

Language, calling each Other Brother or Fellow, with much Courtesy, both within and without the Lodge. They shall instruct a younger Brother to become bright and expert, that the Lord's Materials may not be spoiled.

VI. CHARGE.

Concerning Masons' BEHAVIOUR.

1. BEHAVIOUR in the Lodge before Closing.

You must not hold private Committees or separate Conversation without Leave from the Master; nor talk of any Thing impertinent; nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Chair; nor act ludicrously while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn: But you are to pay due Reverence to the Master, Wardens and Fellows, and put them to worship.

Every Brother found guilty of a Fault shall stand to the *Award* of the Lodge, unless he appeals to the Grand Lodge, or unless a Lord's work is retarded: For then a particular Reference may be made.

No private Piques, no Quarrels about Nations, Families, Religions or Politicks must be brought within the Door of the Lodge: For as Masons, we are of the oldest Catholick Religion above hinted, and of all Nations upon the Square, Level and Plumb; and, like our Predecessors in all Ages, we are resolved against political Disputes, as contrary to the Peace and Welfare of the Lodge.

2. BEHAVIOUR after the LODGE is closed and the BRETHREN not gone.

You may enjoy yourselves with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess; not forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his own Inclination, (according to the Old Regulation of King ANASHUERUS,) nor hindering him from going home when he pleases: For tho' after Lodge Hours you are like other men, yet the Blame of your Excess may be thrown upon the Fraternity, tho' unjustly.

3. BEHAVIOUR at meeting without STRANGERS, but not in a FORMED LODGE.

You are to salute one another as you have been or shall be instructed, freely communicating Hints of Knowledge, but without disclosing *Secrets*, unless to those that have given long Proof of their Taciturnity and Honour; and without derogating from the Respect due to any Brother, were he not a Mason.

4. BEHAVIOUR in Presence of STRANGERS not MASONS.

You must be cautious in your Words, Carriage and Motions, so that the most penetrating Stranger may not be able to discover what is not proper to be intimated; and the impertinent or insnaring Questions, or ignorant Discourse of Strangers, must be prudently manag'd by Free-Masons.

5. BEHAVIOUR at HOME and in your Neighbourhood.

Masons ought to be Moral Men, as above charged; consequently good Husbands, good Parents, good Sons and good Neighbours, not staying too long from Home, and avoiding all Excess; yet wise Men, too, for certain Reasons known to themselves.

6. BEHAVIOUR towards a FOREIGN Brother or STRANGER.

You are cautiously to examine him, as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by a *Pretender*, whom you are to reject with Derision, and beware of giving him any Hints. But if you discover him to be true and faithful, you are to respect him as a *Brother*; and, if in want, you are to relieve him, if you can, or else to direct him how he may be reliev'd: you must employ him, if you can, or else recommend him to be employ'd; but you are not charg'd to do beyond Ability.

7. BEHAVIOUR behind a Brother's BACK as well as before his FACE.

Free and Accepted Masons have ever been charged to avoid all Slandering and Backbiting of a true and faithful Brother, or talking disrespectful of his Person or Performances; and all Malice or unjust Resentment: Nay, you must not suffer any others to reproach an honest Brother, but shall defend his character as far as is consistent with Honour, Safety and Prudence; tho' no farther.

VII. CHARGE.

Concerning LAW-SUITS.

If a Brother do you Injury, apply first to your own or his Lodge, and if you are not satisfy'd, you may appeal to the Grand Lodge; but you must never take a legal Course till the Cause cannot be otherwise decided: For if the Affair is only between *Masons* and about *Masonry*, Law-Suits ought to be prevented by the good Advice of prudent Brethren, who are the best Referees of such Differences.

But if that Reference is either impracticable or unsuccessful, and the Affair must be brought into the Courts of *Law* or *Equity*; yet still you must avoid all Wrath, Malice and Rancor in carrying on the Suit, nor saying nor doing any Thing that may hinder either the Continuance or the Renewal of Brotherly Love and Friendship, which is the *Glory* and *Cement* of this antient *Fraternity*; that we may shew to all the World the benign Influence of *Masonry*, as all wise, true and faithful Brothers have done from the Beginning of Time, and will do till *Architecture* shall be dissolved in the General Conflagration.

AMEN! SO MOTE IT BE!

All these *Charges* you are to observe, and also Those that shall be communicated unto you in a way that cannot be written.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

OF THE GRAND LODGE.

ARTICLE I.

The jurisdiction of THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS shall be coextensive with the limits of the State, and may be extended to such neighboring territory as have no Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE II.

The Grand Lodge of Texas shall hereafter consist and be composed of the Master and Wardens of chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction, or their regularly-authorized Proxies, Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, District Deputy Grand Masters, and Past Masters of regular Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, while members of any such Lodge.

ARTICLE III.

The Grand Officers shall be elected and appointed annually on the third day of the Grand Annual Communication, and shall be styled and take rank as follows:—

VOL. I.—17

The Most Worshipful Grand Master.
 The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
 The Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
 The Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
 Six District Deputy Grand Masters.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer.
 Two Right Worshipful Grand Chaplains.
 Two Right Worshipful Grand Marshals.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Orator.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Standard-Bearer.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Sword-Bearer.
 One Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon.
 One Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon.
 Two Worshipful Grand Stewards.
 One Grand Pursuivant.
 The Grand Tyler.

ARTICLE IV.

The Grand Lodge shall meet annually at the Seat of Government of the State, on the third Monday in January, or at such other place as may be selected by the Grand Lodge; and on the Wednesday following shall proceed to elect by ballot a Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, a Senior and Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer; and the Grand Master shall appoint the District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Chaplains, Grand Marshals, Grand Standard-Bearer, Grand Orator, Grand Sword-Bearer, Senior Grand Deacon, Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler. The Senior Grand Warden shall appoint the Junior Grand Deacon, and the Junior Grand Warden shall appoint the Grand Stewards, and all the officers shall be installed as soon thereafter as convenient.

ARTICLE V.

Every Brother who was a member of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas at the time of the adoption of that Constitution shall continue to be a member of this Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VI.

Five Lodges shall be required to form a quorum for the transaction of business, and each regular member of the Grand Lodge shall have one vote as such: and no second vote shall be allowed to the same person, (unless as Representative of a Lodge,) except to the Grand Master or Presiding Officer in case of a tie, when he shall be entitled to a second vote. Each Lodge shall be entitled to three votes, if represented by the Master and Wardens, or either of them, or by proxy.

ARTICLE VII.

Each member of the Grand Lodge should appear therein with his proper jewel and clothing.

ARTICLE VIII.

Special meetings of the Grand Lodge may be called whenever in the opinion of the Grand Master the interests of the institution may require.

ARTICLE IX.

In case of death, resignation, or removal from office, the chair of the Grand Lodge should become vacated, it is to be filled by the Deputy Grand Master,

with authority to appoint his Deputy Grand Master, who shall serve until the next Grand Annual Communication.

ARTICLE X.

The Grand Master, when present, shall indispensably fill the Chair; in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master; in the absence of both, the Senior Grand Warden; in the absence of those, the Junior Grand Warden; in case of absence of all those officers, the senior Grand Officer in the Lodge shall fill the Chair.

ARTICLE XI.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Wardens shall severally, at the time of their installation, make the following declaration:—"I, A B, do solemnly promise, on the honor of a Mason, that in the office of _____ I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all ancient Masonic usages.

ARTICLE XII.

The several Lodges within this Masonic jurisdiction shall be divided into six Districts, and the Grand Master shall appoint a District Deputy Grand Master for each District, whose duty it shall be to visit the several Lodges within his District; and they are hereby empowered to correct errors and discrepancies in the work or lectures of any Lodge differing from the system recognised by the Grand Lodge, and to grant Dispensations for the initiating, passing and raising of candidates in cases of emergency, when in their judgment the good of the Craft shall require the same; and the District Deputy Grand Masters are further empowered to collect the amounts due from subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge; and it is made the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish annually each District Deputy Grand Master with a statement of the amount due from each Lodge under his jurisdiction; and it is further made the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters to consult with the Grand Lecturer in relation to a uniformity of work, and they shall make annual returns of their proceedings, as well as of the state of the Lodges under their jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and District Deputy Grand Masters only shall have power to grant Dispensations for new Lodges, upon petition that the Brethren to whom such Dispensation shall be granted make application to the Grand Lodge at the Grand Annual Communication for a Charter; and if such application shall not be made, or such Charter not granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such Dispensation shall be deemed dissolved.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Grand Treasurer shall be intrusted with the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge. He shall always keep a fair record of his accounts and transactions, and the uses to which the moneys are appropriated, and shall lay the same when required before the Grand Lodge, and account for the moneys as may be directed; and he shall give bond with security to the Grand Lodge, to be approved by the Committee on Finance.

ARTICLE XV.

The Grand Secretary must be a Brother who can write a fair hand, and shall keep accurate records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge. He shall present all votes and orders of the Grand Lodge, after they are entered, to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature, and shall attest them. He

shall issue summons as the Grand Master may direct, and shall give a seasonable notice in at least one public newspaper of any stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, and shall be rewarded for his services from time to time as the Lodge may direct.

ARTICLE XVI.

The Grand Sword-Bearer shall attend on all public occasions. The Grand Marshals shall arrange all public processions, and shall attend the Grand Feast and assist the Grand Master in the order and arrangements of the day. The Grand Pursuivant shall attend on all public occasions. The Grand Stewards shall, on a regular summons, superintend all preparations for the Feasts, and shall always see that the tables are regularly and Masonically spread.

ARTICLE XVII.

The Grand Tyler shall attend every call of the Grand Master, and be present at every meeting of the Grand Lodge, for which services he shall be rewarded, from time to time, according to his merit.

ARTICLE XVIII.

This Grand Lodge shall have power to make such laws for their own government as they may deem proper.

OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

ARTICLE XIX.

The Grand Lodge shall have power, by Charter under their seal, to constitute new Lodges and to exercise Masonic jurisdiction throughout the State of Texas; to establish a uniform mode of working in all the Lodges within its jurisdiction, and to superintend and regulate the general affairs of Masonry, according to the ancient usages and customs of Masons, carefully regarding the ancient landmarks, which are on no account to be moved or defaced.

ARTICLE XX.

The Grand Lodge shall have power to call on the several Lodges under its jurisdiction for the annual customary dues, and to establish a minimum rate as to the sums to be paid in the several Lodges within its jurisdiction for entering, passing and raising a Brother.

ARTICLE XXI.

No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted but upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons; nor shall a new Warrant issue to any number of Masons residing within less than ten miles of the usual place of meeting of any regularly-constituted Lodge, unless by *special Dispensation* of the Grand Lodge; and the petition shall contain the causes which render it expedient that such Dispensation or Charter should be granted, with the nomination of Master and Wardens, and shall be approved by some regularly-constituted Lodge in the vicinity of the petitioners.

ARTICLE XXII.

Each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall make out its annual returns to the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary by the third Monday in January; and said returns shall show the names of their officers and members, and the names of their Brethren who have been initiated, passed, raised, affiliated, demitted, suspended, ex-

pelled, reinstated or deceased, also of the candidates rejected, in order that the same may be duly noticed in the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXIII.

It shall be the duty of the subordinate Lodges to report to the Grand Secretary and to their sister Lodges throughout the State immediately the rejection of an applicant, the expulsion, suspension or reinstatement of a Brother; and for every neglect thereof they shall be subject to a reprimand from the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XXIV.

Upon the demise of any Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the last Secretary and Treasurer of said Lodge shall, within three months afterwards, surrender to the Grand Secretary, or to the District Deputy Grand Master, the books, papers, jewels, funds and furniture of said Lodge so demised; and, in case this is not voluntarily done, it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Master to demand the same.

ARTICLE XXV.

No Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in this State shall be recognised as a regular Lodge, unless it holds its Charter from the Grand Lodge of Texas.

ARTICLE XXVI.

The subordinate Lodges shall each submit their By-laws, at the first Grand Annual Communication after the Dispensation or Charter is obtained, to the Grand Lodge for its ratification; and all subsequent additions and amendments shall in like manner be presented for approval. No By-laws shall be adopted by any subordinate Lodge, which are not in strict conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. Every newly-organized Lodge shall adopt the By-laws of the nearest Lodge for their government until their own be ratified by the Grand Lodge, adopting their own time for stated meetings.

ARTICLE XXVII.

All new Lodges shall be installed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, one of the Grand Wardens, or one of the District Deputy Grand Masters; and, if they cannot attend to this work, they shall severally have power to appoint one or more proxies to perform the same.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

All petitions for initiation actually signed by the applicant shall be presented by a Master Mason, and shall be recommended by two Master Masons in a regular meeting of the Lodge, which petition shall lie over until the next regular meeting of the Lodge, and, when the Committee appointed for that purpose shall report thereon, the ballot shall be taken, and, if unanimous in his favor, the petition shall be granted, and the applicant initiated as soon as convenient.

ARTICLE XXIX.

Every newly-initiated Brother shall serve as Entered Apprentice at least one month before passing to the more honorable Degree of Fellow-Craft; and every Fellow-Craft shall labor at least one month before raising to the Degree of Master Mason, unless by Dispensation from the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lecturer, or one of the District Deputy Grand Masters; and in no case shall a Dispensation be granted to confer Degrees, unless by the unanimous consent of the Lodge; and for every such Dispensation granted the said

Lodge will pay the sum of two dollars to the Grand Lodge for each Degree. No Fellow-Craft or Entered Apprentice shall be raised or passed without being first examined, in open Lodge, as to his proficiency in the preceding Degree; and, unless he shall acquit himself to the entire satisfaction of a majority of the Lodge, he shall be remanded to serve until he shall have made himself thoroughly proficient in such preceding Degree.

ARTICLE XXX.

No Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall confer any Degree of Masonry upon any Brother who has received a Degree in any other Lodge, or upon any person who resides within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, without the knowledge and unanimous consent of such Lodge.

ARTICLE XXXI.

All discussions shall be carried on, and all ballotings taken, in a Master's Lodge; and no business shall be transacted in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or Fellow-Crafts, but such as appertain to the Degree.

ARTICLE XXXII.

The amount to be received by the several Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge for initiation, passing and raising shall be not less than thirty dollars for the three Degrees, and for affiliation three dollars,—it being left optional with each Lodge to fix its maximum rate.

ARTICLE XXXIII.

No vote upon any question shall be reconsidered at a subsequent meeting of any subordinate Lodge, when a less number of members are present than when the vote was first taken.

OF THE FINANCES.

ARTICLE XXXIV.

There shall be collected for the use of the Grand Lodge, from each subordinate Lodge, the following fees and contributions: For each Dispensation twenty-five dollars; for each Charter, an additional twenty-five dollars,—to accompany the petition when the application is made, and if not granted the same will be returned; for each Degree conferred, and for each affiliation, fifty cents; for each member annually, one dollar; for each Diploma, two dollars.

ARTICLE XXXV.

There shall be ten per cent. of all the revenues accruing to this Grand Lodge appropriated to purposes of education; and the same shall not be drawn from the treasury for any other purpose.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

ARTICLE XXXVI.

No Free Mason chosen into any office can refuse to serve (unless he has before filled the same office) without incurring the penalties established by the By-laws.

ARTICLE XXXVII.

Every Free Mason is amenable to the Constitutions, Laws and Regulations of the Masonic jurisdiction in which he resides, whether he be a member of a Lodge or not.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.

Upon any subject that may come before this Grand Lodge or any subordinate Lodge, and upon which the foregoing articles are silent, reference shall be had to Jeremy Cross's Masonic Chart, which is established as the Book of Constitutions for the Masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

ARTICLE XXXIX.

All Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge in arrears for dues on the first day of July of each and every year, beginning with the present year, shall be suspended until all arrearages are settled, unless the Grand Lodge shall grant them further time; and it is hereby made the especial duty of the Grand Secretary to notify the several Lodges on the first day of July, all then in arrears, of their suspension; and it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters, on receipt of said lists, forthwith to demand of the delinquent Lodges within their respective districts, the surrender of their Charter, jewels, &c.; and any Lodge so suspended, by settling up such arrearages, shall have its Charter, jewels, &c. returned, and be restored to its previous standing: *Provided*, however, such settlement shall take place previous to the next Grand Annual Communication after its suspension; otherwise its Charter shall be deemed forfeited, and its name erased from the rolls,—its jewels, &c. becoming the property of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XL.

No Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall take or receive individual promissory notes in payment of fees for the several Degrees,—being in violation of the Constitution of Free Masonry, and a removal of ancient landmarks.

ARTICLE XLI.

The use of spirituous liquors in Lodge Rooms is of evil example and productive of pernicious effects: the same is therefore expressly and absolutely forbidden; and the practice of repairing to drinking-houses after Lodge, by members, is reprehensible in the highest degree.

ARTICLE XLII.

On the first day of each Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall appoint Committees consisting of five members each, as follows:—

1. On Work and Returns of Lodges U. D.
2. On Finances and Accounts.
3. On Returns of Chartered Lodges.
4. On Petitions.
5. On Grievances and Appeals.
6. On Foreign Correspondence, to continue for the year; and a Committee of Charity shall be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE XLIII.

In balloting for Degrees in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, one black ball shall reject the candidate for one year; two black balls shall reject for two years; and three or more for four years.

ARTICLE XLIV.

No Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall confer any Degree upon any person who has been rejected by another sister Lodge, without the unanimous consent of said Lodge, if in existence; and in balloting for candidates for initiation, passing or raising, every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be entitled to a vote: *Provided*, that no reconsideration of a vote where an applicant has been rejected shall be taken, unless by unanimous consent of the Lodge and at the same meeting.

ARTICLE XLV.

In the adoption of this Constitution and all amendments hereafter made, and in the election of officers, the vote shall be taken according to the rights of the several Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge: all other matters in the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present, and in case of a tie the Brother in the Chair shall have the casting vote.

ARTICLE XLVI.

The First District shall embrace all the territory east of the Trinity River and north of Big Cypress Bayou, including Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

The Second District shall embrace all the territory east of the Trinity River and between the Big Cypress Bayou and the San Antonio Road.

The Third District shall embrace all the territory east of the Trinity and below the San Antonio Road, including Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32.

The Fourth District shall embrace all the territory between the Trinity and Brazos Rivers, and including Galveston.

The Fifth District shall embrace all the territory between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers.

The Sixth District shall embrace all the territory west and south of the Colorado.

ARTICLE XLVII.

All amendments to this Constitution shall be made at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall be read on three different days; and the concurrence of two-thirds of the votes of the subordinate Lodges represented shall be necessary to make it a part of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XLVIII.

All propositions made in the Grand Lodge, except such as are merely incidental, shall be made by the proponent in writing, and must be read by the Grand Secretary before the same is offered for discussion and adoption.

ARTICLE XLIX.

In the event of any failure of this Grand Lodge to meet and elect and install their officers at the appointed time, those in office shall continue therein and exercise full authority until their successors are duly installed.

Resolved, That this Constitution go into effect from and after its passage, and be binding on the subordinate Lodges so soon as they receive the same.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Grand Master.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

The following communication was received after the close of the Grand Lodge :—

GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, }
NEW YORK, January, A.L. 5848. }

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRO. A. S. RUTHVEN :—Horewith is transmitted to you a list of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of this State, together with a list of the regular Lodges under its jurisdiction.

The object is to place your Grand Lodge and your subordinate Lodges in possession of every information, to guard against the clandestine Masons infesting this city and its vicinity, hailing under ST. JOHN'S GRAND LODGE,—a body formed by Masons expelled by us for their un-Masonic acts, and who receive with open arms all our delinquent members whom we are compelled from time to time to suspend or expel.

We beg you will cause a copy of this communication to be sent to every Lodge in your jurisdiction, and with a request that no Brother be examined, hailing from this State, unless he produces a regular Grand Lodge Certificate from this Grand Lodge, and hailing from a Lodge under its jurisdiction.

M. W. John D. Willard,	Grand Master.
R. W. Isaac Phillips,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Richard Carrique,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Ezra S. Barnum,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ R. R. Boyd,	Grand Secretary.
“ John Horspool,	Grand Treasurer.
“ Rev. Salem Town,	} Grand Chaplains.
“ John Coffin,	
“ John Solemons,	} Grand Secretaries.
“ Daniel West,	
“ E. G. Triquet,	
“ Daniel Wishart,	
“ W. H. Walling,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ Rudolph Aeby,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ Wm. Boardman,	Grand Pursuivant.
W. Greenfield Pote,	Grand Tyler.

List of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, January, A.L. 5845.

- 1 St. Johns', City of New York.
- 2 Independent Royal Arch, City of New York.
- 3 Mount Vernon, City of Albany.
- 4 St. Patrick's, Johnstown, Fulton.
- 5 Masters, City of Albany.
- 6 St. George's, Schenectady.
- 7 Hudson, Hudson.
- 8 Holland, City of New York.
- 9 Unity, New Lebanon, Columbia.
- 12 Trinity, City of New York.
- 13 Apollo, City of Troy.
- 14 Temple, City of Albany.
- 15 Western Star, Bridgewater.
- 17 L'Union Française, New York City.
- 19 Fortitude, City of Brooklyn.
- 20 Abrams, City of New York.
- 21 Washington, do.
- 22 St. Johns', Greenfield, Saratoga.
- 23 Adelphi, City of New York.

- 26 Albion, City of New York.
- 27 Mount Moriah, do.
- 28 Benevolent, do.
- 29 Champion, Champion, Jefferson.
- 30 Farmer's, Clifton Park, Saratoga.
- 32 Warren, Pine Plains, Dutchess.
- 33 Ark, Geneva, Ontario.
- 38 Columbia, New Paltz, Ulster.
- 39 Olive-Branch, Attica, Wyoming.
- 40 Olive-Branch, Frankfort, Herkimer.
- 41 Sylvan, Moravia, Cayuga.
- 44 Evening Star, Hornellsville, Steuben.
- 45 Union, Lima, Livingston.
- 47 Utica, Utica, Ontario.
- 48 Ark, Coxsackie, Greene.
- 49 Watertown, Watertown, Jefferson.
- 51 Fidelity, Ithaca.
- 53 Brownville, Brownville, Jefferson.
- 54 German Union, City of New York.
- 56 Hohenlinden, City of Brooklyn.
- 58 Phoenix, Lansingburg, Rensselaer.
- 62 Manhattan, City of New York.
- 64 Lafayette, City of New York.
- 65 Morning Star, Canisteo, Steuben.
- 66 Richmond, Castleton, Richmond.
- 67 Mariners', City of New York.
- 68 Montgomery, do.
- 69 Naval, do.
- 73 Lockport, Lockport, Niagara.
- 75 Evening Star, West Troy, Albany.
- 79 Hamilton, Canajoharie, Montgomery.
- 80 Montgomery, Stillwater, Saratoga.
- 85 Washington, Albany, Albany.
- 86 Pythagoras, City of New York.
- 87 Schodac Union, Schodac, Rensselaer.
- 90 Franklin, Ballston Springs, Saratoga.
- 91 King Solomon's Primitive, Troy.
- 94 Lodge of Strict Observance, City of New York.
- 95 Union, Elmira, Chemung.
- 96 Phoenix, Whitehall, Washington.
- 97 Renovation, Murray, Orleans.
- 98 Eureka, Chatham Four Corners, Columbia.
- 102 Syracuse, Syracuse, Onondaga.
- 103 Rising Sun, Saratoga Springs.
- 104 Lewis, Howard, Steuben.
- 105 Hiram, Buffalo, Erie.
- 106 Manitou, City of New York.
- 107 North Star, Lawrence, St. Lawrence.
- 108 Milo, Milo, Yates.
- 109 Valley, Rochester, Monroe.
- 110 Scipio, Aurora, Cayuga.
- 111 St. Lawrence, Canton, St. Lawrence.
- 112 Steuben, Bath, Steuben.
- 113 Seneca, Waterloo, Seneca.
- 114 Union, Ovid, Seneca.
- 115 Phoenix of Dansville, Dansville.
- 116 Cohoes, Watervliet, Albany.

- 117 Painted Post, Corning, Steuben.
- 118 Addison Union, Addison, Steuben.
- 119 Prattsville, Prattsville, Greene.
- 120 Hamilton, Hamilton, Madison.
- 121 Glen Falls, Glen Falls, Warren.
- 122 Mt. Morris, Mt. Morris, Livingston.
- 123 Reading, Starkey, Yates.
- 124 St. Paul's, Auburn, Cayuga.
- 125 Friendship, Hillsdale, Columbia.
- 126 Eastern Light, Greene, Chenango.
- 127 Oswego, Oswego, Oswego.
- U. D., Ogdensburg Lodge, at Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence county.

Fraternally yours,

R. R. BOYD,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas met at the Masonic Hall of Holland Lodge, No. 1, in the City of Houston, January 15, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, being the Twelfth Grand Annual Communication.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

- M. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Grand Master.
- R. W. E. W. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master *p. t.*
- “ Henry King, Senior Grand Warden *p. t.*
- “ W. D. Smith, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*
- “ Wm. M. Taylor, Senior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
- “ John Shea, Junior Grand Deacon *p. t.*
- “ John N. Reed, Grand Treasurer *p. t.*
- “ A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.
- W. Wm. H. King, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

ORIGINAL MEMBER.

John Shea.

MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

- R. W. Geo. Fisher, Grand Orator.
- “ Wm. M. Taylor, Grand Lecturer.
- “ Alex. Ewing, Grand Marshal.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

- Holland Lodge, No. 1, Bros. Robt. Brewster, Jno. N. Reed and P. W. Gray.
- Milam Lodge, No. 11, “ E. W. Taylor and John McKnight.
- Trinity Lodge, No. 14, “ A. S. Ainsworth.

Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, Bros. Jas. L. Green, Samuel Deve-
reux and C. W. Buckley.

Washington Lodge, No. 18,	"	J. C. Harrison.
Forest Lodge, No. 19,	"	S. D. Hay.
Graham Lodge, No. 20,	"	John Sayles and L. P. Rucker.
Lothrop Lodge, No. 21,	"	James M. Hall.
Marshal Lodge, No. 22,	"	C. A. Frazier.
Clinton Lodge, No. 23,	"	John McClarty.
Montgomery Lodge, No. 25,	"	E. J. Arnold.
Olive-Branch Lodge, No. 26,	"	James M. Hall.
De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29,	"	A. S. Ruthven.
Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32,	"	Robert R. Graves.
Jackson Lodge, No. 35,	"	W. B. Frazier.
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37,	"	A. S. Ainsworth.
Victoria Lodge, No. 40,	"	J. L. Nickelson.
Euclid Lodge, No. 45,	"	James M. Hall.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in the Master's Degree, in ample form and with prayer, by the R. W. Past Grand Chaplain, Bro. A. J. McGown.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to attend the Grand Annual Communication during its present session.

The following resolution was offered by the R. W. John Shea :—

Resolved, That Bro. Alex. Ewing's name be entered among the number of the original members of this Grand Lodge, as having been present—and as member of Holland Lodge, No. 1—at the time of the adoption of the first Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

Which was, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. John Shea, George Fisher and A. S. Ruthven.

The following communication from several Brethren, formerly of Matagorda, was read by the Secretary, and, on motion, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Geo. Fisher and John Sayles :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Wardens of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your petitioners would most respectfully represent that, previous to the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in 1846, by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, was suspended in its work and operations for non-payment of its dues to the Grand Lodge. That, from a representation made to the Grand Lodge at its Grand Annual Communication in 1846, it was

Resolved, That Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, be reinstated under its former Master, and that all dues to the Grand Lodge up to the 27th December, 1845, be remitted.

Under the boon granted by the aforesaid resolution, Matagorda Lodge was convened together on the 9th of April, 1846, in order to recommence its labors,

when but two of its officers elect (Worshipful Master and Senior Deacon) were present, the other officers' places being filled *pro tem*. Other meetings of the Lodge were attempted to be had, but resulted in a total failure in every instance, owing to the demise or dispersion of the Brethren and other causes over which the Lodge had no control, and which has resulted greatly to the injury of the institution of Masonry in this quarter, as many persons were then waiting and anxious to join the Craft, and would, no doubt, have made zealous and honorable members of our glorious institution.

From verbal reports, (never having received notice of a suspension,) your petitioners hopelessly believed their Charter to be irrecoverably lost, until very lately, through the kindness of a Brother, they received a copy of the late Constitution of the Grand Lodge; and, on reading Art. XXXIX., we therein saw relief extended to us by settling up our dues by the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge: and we would further represent, that the members of the Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, have been at considerable trouble and expense to erect a *hall* for the Craft to meet and work in, which has been erected upon grounds especially donated to Matagorda Lodge, No. 7; and should the institution die, or should we lose our number, the ground, in all probability, would be forfeited to the original donor, to the great injury of your petitioners and the Craft generally.

And we would further represent, that lately several of the Honorable and Ancient Fraternity of Masons, who appear zealous in the cause of Masonry, are also desirous that our institution should be revived under its original Charter.

Of our Lodge, which once numbered fifty-four members, there are but eight remaining here, and members of the Lodge. The last installation of officers took place on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, 1842. Of the officers then installed, now present, are—Seth Ingram, Worshipful Master; Thomas H. Forrester, Steward; Galen Hodges, Secretary; H. Kendrick, Tyler.

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT.

Rev. C. S. Ives, W. W. Stewart, H. L. Cook, D. E. E. Braman, Master Masons.

We therefore most humbly request permission for the Craft of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, to go to work under their original Charter. Also, that they may be informed of the date of their last suspension, that they may know the amount they are in arrears to the Grand Lodge, which shall be punctually forwarded, in accordance with the provisions of Art. XXXIX. of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas. Should the M. W. Grand Master conclude to appoint the Worshipful Master and Wardens, we would respectfully recommend to his favorable consideration Bro. Rev. C. S. Ives Worshipful Master, and W. W. Stewart and D. E. E. Braman Wardens: and your petitioners will, fraternally, ever pray.

SETH INGRAM, W. M.,
W. W. STEWART,
THOS. H. FORRESTER,
D. E. E. BRAMAN,
GALEN HODGES,
H. L. COOK.

[The other signatures could not be had, the persons being absent from town.]

MATAGORDA, July 19, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following Standing Committees:—

On Work and Returns of Lodges under Dispensation,—Bros. Wm M. Taylor, C. W. Buckley, S. D. Hay, E. J. Arnold, J. L. Green.

On Finance and Accounts,—Bros. Henry King, John Shea, L. P. Rucker, Jno. N. Reed, A. S. Ainsworth.

On Returns from Charter Lodges,—Bros. W. D. Smith, P. W. Gray, J. L. Nickelson, S. G. Devereux, Jno. McClarty.

On Petitions,—Bros. Geo. Fisher, J. C. Harrison, Rob't Brewster, R. R. Graves, W. B. Frazier.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. E. W. Taylor, Jno. Sayles, J. M. Hall, Alex'r Ewing, A. S. Ruthven.

The report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was laid before the Secretary, and, on motion, was made the first business of to-morrow evening's meeting.

The several documents on the Secretary's table, consisting of returns from Lodges, petitions, applications for Charters, appeals and grievances, having been appropriated to their several Committees, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock A.M. on Tuesday, 5849.

Tuesday, 10 o'clock A.M., January 16.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
“ Henry King,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. D. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Wm. M. Taylor,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. L. Nickelson,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

After an address to the Throne of Grace by the R. W. Past Grand Chaplain, the Lodges were called and sixteen found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master then declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to business.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

The Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. presented the following report:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns and By-laws of Lodges U. D. would respectfully ask leave to report, that they have examined the work, returns and By-laws of Boonville Lodge, No. , U. D.: we find their work and returns

correct, and would recommend the approval of their By-laws, and also that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
C. W. BUCKLEY,
J. L. GREEN, } Committee.

Which, on motion, was read and adopted.

The special Committee appointed on the communication from Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, presented the following report and resolutions, which were read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your special Committee, to whom was referred the petition from Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, wherein certain numerous and important grievances were enumerated, caused by circumstances by which the Brethren composing the said Lodge were surrounded, and which jeopardized the existence of the said Lodge, and over which they had no control, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the said petition under consideration, and have, after referring to the records of proceedings of your M. W. Grand Lodge, cited in the said petition, found the facts as therein referred to; and that after mature consideration upon the same they have come to the following conclusions,—viz. :

That Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, was, by a resolution passed on the 19th Feb. A.D. 1846, reinstated, and that all dues to the Grand Lodge up to the 27th Dec. 1845, were remitted. Therefore the said Lodge from that date was in good standing with this Grand Lodge, and authorized to work under its Charter; and that on the 9th of April, 1846, it met for that purpose; that subsequent meetings were attempted to be held, but from circumstances beyond the control of the members of said Lodge, as set forth in their petition, they were unable to meet and work, and therefore they fell into a torpid or dormant state, but not extinct, in which state they remained until by a subsequent order of the M. W. Grand Master they were aroused, and by the assistance of the R. W. Grand Lecturer they were again set to work, after being duly organized; and at this period, according to the report of the R. W. Grand Lecturer, the said Lodge is composed of good materials and in successful operation, with a promise of doing great good for the cause of the Craft within the limits of its influence. For these reasons, and in consideration of the sufferings and afflictions of the said Lodge under the many trying circumstances to preserve its existence as a body, and that the wishes and decrees of the donors of the real estate upon which the Masonic edifice of the said Lodge is reared be fully carried out; and that the said Lodge, by preserving the temporal interests in the said edifice for Masonic and charitable purposes, be enabled to do much good and to discharge those high duties which are imposed upon all Lodges by the principles of our Craft,—the Committee beg leave to offer the following resolutions for consideration and adoption :—

Resolved, That Matigorda Lodge, No. 7, is hereby declared to be one of the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and in existence under its original Charter; and that the election of the officers last held by said Lodge is hereby confirmed, and the organization of the same recognised.

Resolved, That all dues to the Grand Lodge by the said Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, up to the 27th December, A.D. 1848, be and the same are hereby remitted,—except \$16 50.

Resolved, That the said Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, transmit to the Grand Secretary, so soon as practicable, a list of the officers of the said Lodge as elected at their last election; also the names and degrees of the members of said Lodge at the time of their reorganization.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary furnish the said Lodge with a copy of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge and the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication, when printed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. FISHER, }
JNO. SAYLES, } *Committee.*

Houston, 15th January, A.D. 1849.

The following report from the R. W. Samuel McClarty, District Deputy Grand Master for the Second Masonic District, was read and, on motion, adopted :—

HENDERSON, January 3, A.L. 5849.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned would respectfully report, that during the past Masonic year he has visited all the Lodges within this District except one, all of which are in a prosperous and improving condition. That nothing has occurred in any of them to mar their peace and harmony except in Eagle Lodge, where some local difficulty did exist, but which I am now happy to learn is removed, and the Lodge, I trust, will hereafter be prosperous and united. Since the last Communication of the Grand Lodge, in exercise of the power to me delegated by the Constitution, I have granted Dispensations for the following new Lodges, to wit:—For Saint John's Lodge, in the town of Tyler, Smith county, where I attended and installed their officers, and constituted the Lodge on the 12th day of August last; also, Grand Bluff Lodge, in the town of Grand Bluff and county of Panola, where I installed their officers and constituted their Lodge on the 12th day of September last. I am happy to inform you that both of these young Lodges are working harmoniously, and, although their members are not numerous, they are of the best material, and I would respectfully recommend that Charters be granted them in due form.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful Sir and Brothers, it gives me pleasure to say to you that our beloved institution is steadily on the advance within my District, and is rapidly attaining that high moral tone and attitude which its pure, moral, benevolent and brotherly precepts inculcate; and no man, however exalted his standing among his fellow-men, need blush to own that he "belongs unto the Order of the Holy St. John." Nor can I close this communication without bearing testimony for myself, and in behalf of the Lodges in my District, to the able and faithful manner in which Bro. Taylor, Grand Lecturer, has performed and fulfilled his office among us; and his visits with us will long be remembered with pleasure and profit. Deeply regretting that private business, which I cannot dispense with, prevents me from meeting you at the present Grand Annual Communication,

I remain, Worshipful Sir and Brothers,
Respectfully and fraternally yours,
SAMUEL McCLARTY,
D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

The R. W. Grand Lecturer, Bro. W. M. Taylor, presented his Annual Report, which was, on motion, read and received :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In accordance with the established custom of your Ancient and Honorable body, it now becomes my duty to lay before you, in as brief a manner as possible, my actions as Grand Lecturer for the present Masonic year.

Soon after the adjournment of the last Grand Lodge I repaired to the town

of La Grange, where I commenced my labors as Grand Lecturer, and continued laboring, from day to day and from place to place, until about the middle of September last, during which time I visited all the chartered Lodges in the State, with one exception, and a majority of the Lodges now working under Dispensation.

I did not visit Van Zandt Lodge, from the fact that, whilst in that portion of the State, I was informed by the Worshipful Master of said Lodge (whom I met at Jefferson) that they had no suitable room either to work or lecture in. They were then building a Lodge Room, and expected to have it in a situation to hold their next regular meeting in. These buildings were then erected and covered but not weatherboarded, and they could procure no room suitable for Lodge purposes. Under these circumstances I thought it inexpedient to visit said Lodge at that time: since then other Masonic duties have prevented my doing so.

I am happy to say that all the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge are now in a healthy and flourishing condition. A large majority of said Lodges are doing much work and working very well. I found some irregularities and discrepancies in their mode of work which it is not proper for me to point out here. I, however, endeavored to correct them, and did so, as far as time and my abilities would permit.

Of one fact I am fully and thoroughly convinced, and I think it speaks volumes for Masonry in Texas: it is that all the Lodges under your jurisdiction are cautious in admitting candidates. They scrutinize and examine well a man's character before they initiate him into the secrets of our Order.

Many of the Lodges in the State have erected or are now erecting large and commodious buildings for Lodge purposes, which argues much for their financial prosperity, and shows a proper determination on the part of the Brethren to provide themselves with rooms suitable for lecturing and working in.

The Lodges under Dispensation which I have visited are working regularly and well. They have done much work, yet have been careful in selecting their material to work upon. It will, however, be unnecessary for me to make any comments upon their work, as it will be before your honorable body for inspection.

During my labors as Grand Lecturer I have been called upon to decide many difficult and important questions, not only in regard to the mode of work, but also in regard to the proper manner of conducting the regular business of a Lodge. Upon some of these questions I shall ask the decision of the Grand Lodge.

The duties of a Grand Lecturer are difficult, responsible and arduous; yet they were rendered pleasant from the fact that I was cordially received by every Lodge that I visited, made welcome whilst there, and my lectures were listened to with attention and a desire to profit; yea, all the Brethren manifested and expressed a wish to improve and extend their Masonic information.

The last duty which I was called upon to discharge during the present Masonic year was to visit Matagorda for the purpose of setting Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, to work again under their former Charter, they having obtained authority from the M. W. Grand Master to resume labor under said Charter.

I have but recently returned from said Lodge; and it affords me much pleasure to say that I found the members there quite zealous in the cause of Masonry, and I am satisfied that their Lodge will now prosper, and, ere long, work as well as any Lodge in the State.

In conclusion, I would ask leave to return my sincere thanks to the members of the various Lodges which I visited for the liberality with which they rewarded me for my labors whilst with them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,

Grand Lecturer.

The R. W. J. H. Walton offered the following resolution, which was

VOL. I.—18

read and adopted, and the following Committee appointed :—Bros. John H. Walton, Geo. Fisher, Henry King, A. S. Ruthven and W. D. Smith.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to dispose of the present regalia of the Grand Lodge, the color being inappropriate, and to report the best means of providing a regalia of a proper color.

January 18.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. J. C. Harrison, from Washington Lodge, No. 18, and adopted :—

Resolved, That Washington Lodge, No. 18, be authorized to hold their meetings on Masonic Hill.

R. W. Bro. W. M. Taylor presented his Credentials as proxy for Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, and took his seat.

On motion, a special Committee, consisting of Bros. S. D. Hay, A. J. McGown and Chas. A. Frazier, was appointed to examine the Domestic Correspondence in the hands of the Grand Secretary and report upon the same.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to elect the officers for the ensuing year, to-morrow evening, 7 o'clock.

Bro. E. M. Smith presented his Credentials as a Representative from Eagle Lodge, No. 44, and also as proxy for Grand Bluff Lodge, No. 54, and took his seat.

Notice having been given to the M. W. Grand Lodge of the death of the R. W. H. B. Kelsey, District Deputy Grand Master for the first Masonic District, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. E. W. Taylor, John McClarty and John Shea a Committee to draft suitable resolutions to express the feelings and sense of this Grand Lodge on the loss it has sustained by his death.

The following copy of a resolution from Washington Lodge, No. 18, was read and received, and, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Domestic Correspondence :—

Resolved, That our Representative be authorized to renew the proposition made last year for the location of the Grand Lodge at this place.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. John Shea, and a Committee, consisting of Bros. John Shea, C. W. Buckley and P. W. Gray, appointed to carry out the object of said resolution :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appoint a committee of three to draft a Code of Laws to govern subordinate Lodges in the trial of such, against whom charges may be preferred.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. C. A. Frazier :—

Resolved, That the jurisdiction of each Lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge be declared to be the boundary-lines of the county in which it is situated;

And, after some discussion, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. P. W. Gray, John Sayles and C. A. Frazier.

The following communication from Jackson Lodge, No. 35, was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances.

MILAM, SABINE COUNTY, TEXAS, December 30, 1848.

To the Most Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

We, the officers and Brethren of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, held in the town of Milam, Sabine county, Texas, beg leave to state that Clinton Lodge, No. 23, held in the town of Henderson, on or about the 18th instant, without our knowledge or consent did confer the Degree of Master Mason upon Bro. Jacob Crawford, Jr., who had been regularly initiated and passed in this Lodge.

Now, as we are bound to obey the Constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge, and to suffer no infringement of the same, and as we feel that the above act was a palpable violation of the 30th Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, we therefore enter our solemn protest against it, and would respectfully inquire of the Grand Lodge how we are to regard the above-named Bro. Crawford,—whether as a member of this Lodge, or the Lodge of Henderson. Bro. Crawford still resides among us, and we feel at a loss to know how we ought to regard him.

D. W. WARRINER, *Master.*

JOHN BOYD, *Senior Warden.*

G. A. NORFORD, *Junior Warden.*

J. S. NOBLE, *Secretary.*

The following resolution was offered by R. W. Bro. E. W. Taylor, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That by the request of Milam Lodge, No. 2, held at Nacogdoches, it be declared under the 2d Masonic District.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, Bro. John N. Reed was added to the Committee on Grievances.

There being no further business on the Grand Secretary's table ready for action, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock this evening.

Tuesday evening, January 16, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, 7 o'clock.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by the Grand Master.

Officers and Lodges represented as in the morning.

The Grand Secretary read the following report, which was, on motion, received, and his account referred to the appropriate Committee:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—In submitting my Annual Report as Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, it seems becoming and proper that I should state the manner in which I have conducted the affairs of the important trust submitted to my charge, and the advancement which may have taken place in the still brightening prospects of our time-honored institution.

It seems but as yesterday when the institution of Masonry in our infant State was called into existence, at a time when wars and rumors of wars were prevalent throughout the land, when no guarantee of safety could be given to our assemblies or the performance of those sacred and hallowed duties which it is our privilege to perform. Still, it has been seen by numbers who from year to

year have assembled at the accustomed period of our Annual Communication, that the increase of zeal, the thirst for Masonic knowledge, the anxiety manifested for a further advancement in those sacred mysteries, all betoken a sincere love and abiding interest in the welfare of our charitable and benevolent institution of brotherly love and affection.

The annals of history cannot furnish one instance that can compare with the steady increase, the rapid advancement, and, above all, the high moral influence which has followed the workings of our noble art in the minds of men, than have been exhibited throughout our young and rising State.

Only six years ago there were but ten Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and now, in the face of all the difficulties which then presented themselves, in a state of warfare, alone amidst a world of nations, all seemingly more anxious than another to secure the young and rising country for its prey, we have come forth and are continuing to proceed in the paths of moral rectitude and Masonic excellence, thereby proving to those who were wont to look upon Texas and Texas Masons as did the sages of old, when it was said, "Can aught of good come out of Nazareth?" That from them will spread the benign influences of our beloved Order through the length and breadth of a country hitherto known only as the hunting-grounds of the red man.

We have now, working under Charter, forty-five Lodges, and under Dispensation, nine,—in all fifty-four Lodges; and to the credit of all and every one be it said that not one unsettled account remains on the Secretary's books. All have been punctual, and from my account-current herewith transmitted it will be shown that the amount of receipts for the Masonic year which has just closed is \$1,625 00.

Since the close of our last Grand Annual Communication, Dispensations have been granted for the following Lodges, to wit:—

Florida Lodge, No. 46, Fayette county; Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, Galveston; Liberty Lodge, No. 48, Liberty; St. John Lodge, No. 49, Columbia; Tyler Lodge, No. 50, Town Bluff, Tyler county; St. John's Lodge, No. 51, McKinney, Collin county; Tannehill Lodge, No. 52, Dallas, Dallas county; St. John Lodge, No. 53, Tyler, Smith county; Grand Bluff Lodge, No. 54, Grand Bluff, Panola county.

All of which I trust will be forthcoming during the present session and show an account of their labors.

Before closing my report, I beg leave to return my sincere thanks to the Lodges throughout the State for the punctuality and precision which have characterized their action with regard to their duty to the Grand Lodge, in furnishing their Returns, Proceedings, By-laws, &c. &c. And that the same spirit may long continue is the sincere desire of

Yours, fraternally,

A. S. RUTHVEN.

The following report was read from the special Committee appointed in the case of Bro. Alex. Ewing, and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the case of Bro. A. Ewing, why his name is not inscribed on the roll of the original members of your M. W. Grand Lodge, beg leave to report, that they have referred to the records of this Grand Lodge, and to the evidence of Brethren, original members of this M. W. Grand Lodge, and have upon mature reflection and deliberation come to the conviction, from lawful Masonic information, that the records of the Grand Lodge in this case are deficient, and that a clerical omission or error crept in on the part of the Grand Secretary in not enrolling Bro. A. Ewing's name as an original member. They also have before them the evidence of Brethren, original

members of this Grand Lodge, that they sat with Bro. Ewing in the Convention that organized the Grand Lodge in 1837. In view of these facts, the Committee respectfully offer the following resolution for adoption,—viz.:

Resolved, That upon satisfactory evidence had before this Grand Lodge, that Bro. A. Ewing, of Holland Lodge, No. 1, at Houston, is an original member of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary be instructed by the M. W. Grand Master to enroll his name as such.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. FISHER,
JOHN SHEA,
A. S. RUTHVEN.

Houston, January 16, 1849.

The Foreign Correspondence Committee presented their Annual Report, which was read, and, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. H. King, J. H. Walton, Geo. Fisher, A. Ewing and P. W. Gray.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report, that from the documents transmitted to them from our sister Grand Lodges, they learn with pleasure that the Craft is everywhere flourishing even to the extent that the most ardent Mason could desire, and that peace, harmony and union almost universally prevail. While the sun of Masonry now illumines the entire South, freely and uninterruptedly shedding abroad its glorious light, its rays are rapidly dispersing those dark and portentous clouds that so recently veiled our Northern horizon: the "forlorn hope" that, a few years since, gathered around the almost deserted altar, during the gloomy reign of Anti-Masonic persecution and calumny, with faint and sorrowful hearts, to devise the means of preserving the treasure committed to them, is now succeeded by a joyous band, who are boldly engaging in their great work of love and charity. "The tenets of our Order are no longer the subject of reproach in any portion of the Union. An inquiring and intelligent people perceive, and are ready to remedy, the past wrong and cruel injustice which have been inflicted on our unpretending and meek institution. Its capacity for good and impotence for evil are appreciated and understood, and it now depends on ourselves whether the springing prosperity of the Order shall continue to strengthen and cement the ties that bind us together, or be retarded and arrested by our own errors and indifference."

In the United States there are now about 2000 Lodges, and over 60,000 members, among whom are men distinguished for their high attainments in literature, for the prominent positions they occupy, for their manly qualities, and for every virtue which can dignify and ennoble the character of man.

The following are the names of the Grand Lodges whose proceedings have been received by your Committee,—viz.: The Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Florida, Kentucky, Iowa, Missouri and Arkansas, together with a circular from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Also the proceedings and other documents from the Grand Orient of France, from the Mother-Lodge of Prussia, and from Switzerland, which from the want of time we have been unable to examine. Your Committee would most earnestly recommend the appointment of Representatives near our own and foreign Grand Lodges, as the most certain means of insuring a speedy and regular interchange of documents, valuable for the information they contain, and at the same time tending to produce mutual good feeling, and to prevent differences or facilitate their speedy and satisfactory settlement. The amount of foreign intelligence, valuable and interesting, that may be thus transmitted, is to us conclusive proof of the utility and practicability of the system.

First in importance among the various topics discussed in the Foreign Correspondence is the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge,—a subject which has

been agitated in the various Grand Lodges for several years, but upon which there is still a great diversity of opinion. In September, 1847, a Convention of Delegates from several Grand Lodges was held in the City of Baltimore, and adopted a Constitution, which, if ratified by sixteen Grand Lodges by the first day of January, 1849, was to be of full force, and not otherwise. And the Grand Lodges ratifying the same are to meet in Convention at the City of Baltimore on the second Tuesday in July, 1849, for the purpose of organizing the Supreme Grand Lodge. At the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, a Delegate was appointed to attend this Convention, with instructions to report the proceedings therein had; but no expression was made in regard to the expediency of the measure, or authority given to the Delegate to ratify the Constitution in behalf of this Grand Lodge.

Although the subject was discussed at some length in a previous report, the great—nay, vital—importance of the proposed organization will justify your Committee in presenting at large the arguments used by its advocates and opponents, so that, when action is taken, it may be with a full understanding of the merits of the question.

In an address to the officers and members of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, it is urged that “within the last few years the Masonic institution has arisen to an importance to which it had never before attained in this country. It has taken a deep hold on the public mind, and is attracting the attention of those who heretofore have been accustomed to look upon it with indifference, not to say distrust. It therefore becomes those whose duty it is to guide and direct its movements, to see to it that the great principles of truth and justice, philanthropy and benevolence, which it teaches, be inculcated and practised,—to see to it that the foundation upon which it rests is preserved intact by the restless and changeable, and that the fair fabric be kept in good and healthful condition. To accomplish this desirable end, there must be unity of action as well as oneness of object. But there can be no unity without uniformity,—no stability without a recognition of the same principles of action. And that uniformity can be had, and those principles of action known and maintained, only through the medium of an acknowledged head, to which all may look in confidence for direction.

“It is a well-known fact that difficulties are constantly arising between Grand Lodges as to their respective jurisdiction, nay, even as to what shall constitute a Grand Lodge, how to be organized, and what its powers when established. The Fraternity in some States have organized what they term Grand Lodges, and yet other Grand Lodges have pronounced them irregular and spurious, and have gone so far as to establish Lodges in those States subordinate to their own, whilst others, equally entitled to sit in judgment in the matter, have reprobated the course of the latter, denominating their proceedings acts of injustice and usurpation.

“To guard against conflicting interests among the Grand Lodges, and to prevent the mischief likely to result from the organization of Lodges by different Grand Lodges in the same State or Territory, should be the ardent desire of every Mason. New States and Territories are being rapidly introduced into the Union. New Lodges will be established, and, if there be no general head to the institution, Charters will be granted by different Grand Lodges in the same State or Territory; competition will be excited, interests will conflict, jealousies spring up; and that which has been will again be seen,—two Grand Lodges, formed by Lodges deriving their authority from different sources, both claiming the supreme power within one and the same political community.

“The want of uniformity in the work and lectures has long been a subject of regret; and various ways have been suggested by which it was hoped the evil might be remedied. These have hitherto failed,—so much so, that Masons who were thought sufficiently skilful to conduct the business of Lodges at home have found difficulty in obtaining admission as visitors, in others abroad, even

in an adjacent State. All of these evils, and many others not enumerated, it is believed, a Supreme Grand Lodge might prevent or correct."

A special Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, in their report, say, "It is well known that there are in this Confederation thirty separate and independent Grand Lodges, exercising authority over the territorial limits of their respective States and Territories. The journals of these Grand Lodges show that each Grand Lodge has laws and regulations differing more or less from other Grand Lodges, from which there inevitably results a contrariety of usage and action among the Grand Lodges. These journals also show that among the subordinates of the same Grand Lodge there exists a difference of law, and also of work and lectures in the several Degrees. These differences also exist between the subordinates of the several Grand Lodges. In consequence of this state of things, that universality which we profess, and which the profane expect to find after their initiation into Masonry, is not found. Masonry, in many Lodges, has dwindled into a ritual, itself not uniform, of unmeaning and unexplained ceremonies, for which the initiated often unsuccessfully seeks some explanation. Many persons who have passed through the ceremonies of such Lodges find that even the most temporal and selfish advantages of Masonry cannot be obtained by them when from home, because from the want of proper instruction they cannot make themselves known. These are evils progressive in their tendency, and must inevitably involve our time-honored institution in that ruin inseparable from all ungoverned or unwisely-governed human institutions. The spirit of encroachment, so characteristic of the times in which we live, aided by the causes above named, admonish us that the best remedy which the nature of the case will admit should be promptly adopted." And, in conclusion, they recommend the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge as the only remedy adapted to the emergency.

In the opinion of your Committee, the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge *cannot* obviate or remedy the difficulties and evils above suggested. There *cannot* be a want of uniformity in the work and lectures in the different States, if those who profess to teach are *competent*; and it cannot be denied that in every portion of the Union *some* can be found well qualified to impart all necessary Masonic information and diffuse light. The inability of travelling Brethren to make themselves known wherever they are arises not from any discrepancy in the work and lectures, but from their own ignorance and negligence in availing themselves of the means of instruction within their reach at home. Such would probably find as great difficulty in gaining admission into Lodges in their own as they would into Lodges in the most distant States. It cannot be hoped that vigor and energy will be infused into the Fraternity at large, and encroachments upon the ancient landmarks restrained, by a deliberative body meeting triennially and legislating only upon general subjects. This can alone be effected by diffusing light and information among the Craftsmen who are actually laboring with the gavel in their hands. Let the history, principles and objects of Free Masonry be made known to *them*, and there is little danger of their relaxing in their work or deviating from the designs laid down on the trestle-board. The only advantage we perceive that will result from the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge is the adjustment of difficulties between the several Grand Lodges; and we believe this object can be better effected by a friendly correspondence, carried on in a spirit of mutual kindness and forbearance that should characterize all Masons. The enormous expense attending this *new* institution, and the sacrifice of the rights and authority of the several Grand Lodges that is required, are objections that can be overcome only by great and apparent advantages; what they are we cannot discover.

The subject of education is now deservedly attracting the attention of nearly every Grand Lodge, and strenuous and persevering efforts are made by its steadfast friends and eloquent advocates to cherish liberally and munificently sustain this worthy and necessary branch of charity. In Missouri and Ken-

tucky there are flourishing colleges, amply endowed by donations from the Grand Lodges and contributions from benevolent citizens. The Board of Trustees of the latter institution say, "No longer may the question be sneeringly asked of the members of the Craft, 'Where is your fruit?' The ample boughs of our young educational tree—planted and nourished by Masonic munificence—already bend beneath the weight of golden fruit which hangs upon them. Already have the orphan and the destitute partaken largely of that fruit. Already the prayers of widowed mothers ascend to the God of the husbandless, in grateful acknowledgment of the benefits conferred through its means, and in fervent supplications for a continuance of the blessings of the Most High upon it in future. Our noble institution, standing upon a foundation deep, wide and enduring, lifts its majestic front high above the malice of the foes of the Order, and affords a silent but eloquent and irrefragable refutation of their impotent scoffings." Your Committee earnestly recommend the adoption by this Grand Lodge (the youngest, yet one of the most flourishing, in the United States) of energetic and practical measures for the education of the orphans of Masons. It is not deemed necessary or expedient to organize schools and colleges exclusively Masonic, but provision should be made for the education of the helpless and unprovided children of our departed Brethren in the schools in their immediate neighborhood, and thus in a quiet and unpretending form carry this blessing to the home and hearthstone of the afflicted.

There is much contrariety of opinion as to the power of a Lodge to initiate persons who are not citizens of the State. On this subject the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York use the following language:—"Before a man becomes a member he is subject to no law which any Grand Lodge can enact. No Grand Lodge has a right to make a law to compel any citizen who desires to be made a Mason to be initiated in any particular Lodge, or in the town or State of his residence; neither can any Grand Lodge forbid a citizen to go where he pleases to seek acceptance into fellowship with the Craft; and, while there is no right to compel or to forbid, there can be no right to punish: such laws are unconstitutional; there is neither warrant nor necessity for them." From these views, though coming from so high an authority, your Committee *unreservedly* dissent. Every candidate seeking admittance should possess *all* the qualifications prescribed in our ritual. His *standing and character* should be well known, and it is the right and *duty* of every Grand Lodge to prescribe the means by which they shall be ascertained; and there is no better test than that furnished by a long residence and intimate acquaintance. "He who is worthy of the high distinction of a Mason can best secure it where he is best known," while the rule adopted by most of the Grand Lodges can never act as a hardship. The doctrine of the New York Committee, if generally received, would lead to the greatest evils. A person, against whom the doors of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he has resided for years were forever closed on account of the gross immorality of his conduct, might seek and gain admission into a Lodge in a distant country or State, where he was but slightly known, on the recommendation of some warm personal friend, and then return and demand, as of right, those privileges and immunities before justly refused him. We believe that the doors of our Lodge cannot be too rigidly guarded,—that too many checks cannot be devised to prevent the incoming of the unworthy. The prosperity of our institution depends not upon its members, nor the amount of money in its treasury, but upon the respectability and moral character of its members.

There is, we believe, a uniformity of opinion, with one or two exceptions, as to the "additional test" requiring a belief in the authority of the Scriptures "as a prerequisite to Masonic admission." The Grand Lodge of Illinois, which first sanctioned this doctrine, *now* say, "We heartily believe the Bible to be the first *great light* of Masonry, and that it is and should be the constant guide of Christian men; yet being aware that, at the period of the institution of the Order

by King Solomon, only a small portion of the Holy Scriptures were in existence, and that Masonry is designed to be universal in the existence of its benefits, and to embrace within its bosom all, whether Jew or Gentile, Christian or Pagan, who avow a 'steadfast belief in the existence and perfection of Deity,' we are unwilling to close the door against those whom our first and Most Illustrious Grand Master would have admitted, by imposing a test which would exclude from the Lodge every person not a professor of Christianity. According to our understanding of our ancient landmarks, the imposition of such a test might be a dangerous innovation upon the well-established principles of Masonry,—one that may sever the *mystic tie* which binds together all the Craftsmen where-soever scattered over the surface of the globe, and confine to a comparatively small portion of the human family benefits obviously designed for the whole race. It is not unreasonable to suppose that if 'a distinct avowal of a belief in the divine authority of the Holy Scriptures'—including of course the New as well as the Old Testament—be deemed indispensable to admission to the privileges of Masonry, and, as a necessary consequence, operates to the exclusion of the original founders and patrons of the Order, it may hereafter be found practicable to introduce other tests, requiring 'a belief in one of the numerous creeds into which the Christian world is now divided, and rejecting all others.'"

The physical qualifications of candidates have been discussed with considerable acrimony. The Grand Lodge of New York on one side advocates a rigid construction of the ancient rule, excluding from admission every man who has a "maim, defect of body," or deformity, and say they cannot admit,—“that our work as Masons was originally strictly operative, and that *more* attention was paid to the physical than mental condition of a candidate. Free Masonry in its original institution was not formed by an association of men *exclusively* for the protection of *physical* labors. It has always been speculative and moral. The secret societies of antiquity, from which we can trace a lineal descent, were not devoted exclusively to the physical labors attendant upon the erection of buildings, whether of wood or stone. They were the depositories of other arts and sciences beyond architecture. They moreover taught sublime truths and duties towards God and regarding the world to come, as well as towards our neighbors and the Brethren of the mystic tie.” Our ancient Brethren were in effect *more* eminently speculative or spiritual than operative or practical Masons. Those take too contracted a view of the subject who infer that because, in the sixteenth century and previous, York architects in England were the almost exclusive conservators of certain essentials in our mysteries, therefore the *reason* of the law in question had reference in olden times to operative Masons only. The *rationale* of the law excluding persons physically deformed and imperfect lies deeper and is more ancient than the source ascribed to it. It is grounded on a principle recognised in the earliest ages of the world, and will be found identified with that which obtained among the ancient Egyptians. In this respect the Levitical law was the same as the Masonic, which would not allow any “to go in unto the veil” who had a blemish,—a blind man, or a lame, or a man that was broken-footed or broken-handed, or a dwarf, &c.

The learned and studious in Free Masonic Antiquity can satisfactorily explain the metaphysics of this requisition in our book of Constitutions. For the true and faithful Brother it sufficeth to know that such a requisition exists. He will prize it the more because of its antiquity. He will acknowledge its force at the present day, and strive to perpetuate it, because he knows “that it is not in the power of any man to make innovations or alterations in the body of Masonry,—that Free Masonry cannot change or be changed, and that its principles and fundamental laws must be handed down to posterity as we have received them,—integral and pure.”

On the contrary, the Grand Lodges of Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Alabama and Florida contend “that Masonry originated in an age of the world comparatively rude and laborious,—at a time when strength of body was more

valued than vigor of intellect. It was instituted by an association of men united together for the protection of physical labors. But, even at this early period, their ties and obligations were fraternal. This made them solicitous to exclude from the Fraternity all who were likely to become burdensome rather than useful, and, consequently, to require that initiates should be whole in body as well as sound in mind. But the world has changed. This institution has now become speculative and moral. It has entirely lost its operative character. The reason for requiring bodily perfection in candidates has ceased to exist: to continue the regulation would be absurd. The Grand Lodges in the United States and Europe have generally dispensed with it."

We leave this subject with the remark that great changes and innovations have been made and sanctioned, not in the "body," but in the details, of Masonry; not in its principles, but in their interpretation and application. The Grand Lodge of New York herself—that insists so much upon a strict construction of our Ancient Constitution—has adopted the greatest of all innovations,—one without a single precedent, but rendered necessary by her peculiar situation: we mean *Grand Lodge Certificates*. No Grand Lodge in the United States requires that an Entered Apprentice shall serve seven years before becoming a Fellow-Craft; yet that period of service is required by the Ancient Constitution. There is a *reason* for every form and ceremony and requisition in Masonry: when the *reason* fails the *law* fails with it.

Some dissatisfaction has been created in consequence of the establishment of Lodges composed of colored persons in Illinois and Ohio, with the supposed sanction of the Grand Lodge. The difficulty has been completely and happily removed by the solemn declaration of the Grand Lodge of Illinois "that she is unqualifiedly opposed to the admission of negroes or mulattoes into Lodges under her jurisdiction." The Grand Lodge of Ohio "*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it would be inexpedient, and tend to mar the present harmony of the Fraternity, to admit any of the persons of color, so called, into the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge."

The Grand Master of Missouri makes the following just remarks in regard to the practice of publishing the names of rejected applicants which has been sanctioned by some of our sister Grand Lodges:—

"It is a practice founded in error. It fails to accomplish the end desired. It takes from the petitioner—in the eyes of the world, at least—that which it cannot give; and, therefore, it ought to be abandoned. If we were a band of *perfect* men ourselves, living fully up to the sublime principles we profess, then, indeed, there might be a seeming necessity for this practice; but even then it would be fraught with more evil than good. The principles of Masonry (or I have been taught in vain) seek to bless, not to injure, man; and, having exercised the right of saying to a petitioner, 'You cannot be associated with us,' we should be content to leave him where we found him,—in the full enjoyment of all he possessed. If he has been no gainer, he certainly should be no loser, by any confidence he may have reposed in us."

In the opinion of your Committee, it would be arrogating too much perfection in ourselves to affirm that we always judge rightly or reject only the unworthy. Many who possess *all* the prerequisites prescribed by our ritual and have a *right* to admission have knocked at our doors and found them closed, in consequence of the *secret* ballot of one or two who have been influenced by private pique, or actuated by base and unworthy motives which they dared not avow.

The practice of initiating two candidates at a time,—of initiating, passing and raising, by virtue of a Dispensation, in one night,—of advancing the initiate to a succeeding degree before he has become proficient in the preceding,—is universally and *justly* condemned. The M. W. Grand Master of Kentucky has expressed his views on this subject in forcible terms, which we

commend to the careful consideration of this Grand Lodge; and we earnestly urge the adoption of some measures calculated to check these great and growing evils. "The grand and primary object of our society is the erection of a spiritual temple by means of moral instruction, and thereby promote the glory of God and the temporal and eternal happiness of man. And the grand and primary object of our Grand Annual Communications is to instruct in this great and glorious undertaking the subordinate Lodges under our jurisdiction, and, indeed, all our Brethren,—those who are engaged in the quarries and forests, in polishing the rough ashlar, or in fitting and putting together the stones and timbers of this glorious edifice;—to see, by examining the reports sent up by the Lodges, that all work and execute their work according to the ancient landmarks and instructions, and to ascertain if the virtues, brotherly love, relief, truth, temperance, prudence, fortitude, justice, benevolence, charity, &c.,—the legitimate fruits of our system of moral instruction,—are produced, and to what extent. To make money is not our object, and we do not, as a society, desire more than is necessary to enable us to live while at work, and enable us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and administer to the wants of the distressed. We should, then, at our great annual meetings turn our attention and devote our time and our energies mainly to the grand object of speculative Masonry. Remember that our subordinate Lodges will advance in numbers, usefulness and respectability as they advance in morality, and their strength and influence will depend more upon their morality than their numbers. Remember that it was by this same system of symbolic moral instruction that peace and harmony were preserved for seven years, during the building of Solomon's Temple, among the great multitude of persons engaged in it. If you would have a beautiful temple, be sure that each stone taken from the quarry is well polished before you receive it, and continue to examine carefully and particularly each stone after it is received and built in the wall, and, if you discover any material defects which had been overlooked and which cannot be removed, tear it out and throw it over in the rubbish, for it is better to lose one stone than to mar the beauty of the whole building. We often hear it said by our opponents that such and such members of our Order have not been improved by our moral teachings and influence. This, unfortunately, is often true, and the obvious reason is this:—They have not been properly instructed: they have never understood the principles and objects of Masonry, and perhaps not enough of its forms to enter a Lodge without aid. They have received the three Degrees, or, rather, an *outline* of the forms and ceremonies of the three Degrees, in one night, and leave the Lodge perfectly satisfied to learn no more; and what little they heard and saw is all jumbled together in their brain in a confused mass, from which they never can derive pleasure, profit or instruction."

Your Committee recommend that some competent person exemplify before this Grand Lodge the several Degrees, at each annual meeting, so that the delegates of the different Lodges can carry home and adopt the work as approved by this Grand Lodge; that the office of Grand Lecturer be continued, and he be required to visit every Lodge and remain a sufficient time to render the members proficient in the work and lectures, and that he report accurately the condition of the Lodge and the ability of the officers to perform their duties; that the Master of the Lodge be required to report the time devoted by the Grand Lecturer to his Lodge and the advancement made under his instructions, and also every case in which a candidate was advanced before being fully instructed, and the emergency which induced it, and, if the Grand Lodge is not satisfied that circumstances required it, let the Lodge be censured. In no case should a Degree be conferred without the *lectures and charges in full*: the lessons they teach and the duties they inculcate are too important ever to be dispensed with. Each District Deputy Grand Master should inspect the work of every Lodge within his jurisdiction at least *once* a year, that the

ancient landmarks may not be defaced or removed. We further recommend that a Dispensation or Charter be granted in *no case*, however regular the application may be, unless the officer to whom the application is made is fully *satisfied* that the petitioners *understand* the whole work of the first three Degrees. If these or similar measures are pursued, the Craft in our State may execute work that will bear the inspection of the Grand Overseers.

The expediency of taxing Masons not members of any Lodge has received the consideration of several Grand Lodges, and the decision against the measure has been unanimous. Much well-founded complaint has been excited by the conduct of many members of our Order, who refuse to attend our meetings or contribute to our charity fund,—who give us neither counsel nor support, but on the contrary speak coldly or in disrespectful terms of the institution, and yet often require, for themselves or their families, assistance and relief. While every genuine Mason, if circumstances permit, will attach himself to some Lodge, we have neither the *right* nor power to *compel* him to do so; and the attempt to collect a tax as proposed, for any purpose, might alienate many who are devotedly attached to, and for years have faithfully served, the institution.

It has also been proposed that no Brother should be allowed to demit, except for the purpose of becoming connected with another Lodge; and until he shall be admitted as a member of such other Lodge he shall continue to be a member of the Lodge from which he demits.

In the opinion of your Committee, every Brother in good standing at the time, and for good reasons, (and we can conceive of many,) has the right to withdraw from the Lodge: by so doing, he does not absolve himself from any restraints, and is still amenable to the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, and subject to be punished for any un-Masonic act or offence. It is optional with every Lodge whether she will receive, as visitors, Masons who are not members of some Lodge,—whether she will relieve their wants, or, in case of death, bury them with Masonic honors; for none but the *worthy* can claim these as *rights*. Even *good* gifts should not be *forced* upon men: if the principles and tenets of our Order do not command the esteem of its members, if they, of their own free will, do not zealously engage in the active duties of the Lodge, their presence among us can do little good, their absence no harm.

The course of the Grand Lodge of Indiana in suspending their Grand Master without a trial or investigation of the charges against him, simply because he has been expelled from a Royal Arch Chapter, has met with the just disapprobation of every Grand Lodge that has expressed an opinion upon the subject. "We hold," says the Grand Lodge of Missouri, "that, as members of the Grand or subordinate Lodges, we know nothing properly of the causes which lead to suspension or expulsion in Degrees above. That a suspension or expulsion from a Master's Lodge suspends Masonic communication in all the Degrees above, is true; because all are Master Masons in these bodies, and bound by the same ties, and because, if the root be cut off, the *tree* will die. But if a Master's Lodge cannot, as such, know the ties above, how is it to determine whether the Brother has not been suspended for the violation of a rule with which Master Masons have nothing to do?"

In the language of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, "The Chapter is a distinct, separately-organized body of Masons from the Lodge. The opinions and judgments of the former ought to be respected by the latter, *but are entitled to no binding obligation to obedience*. Such opinions and judgments might well form the foundation for the charges and specifications against an offender; but beyond this they ought to possess no controlling influence."

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has decided that a member of a subordinate Lodge may appeal from the decision of the Master, and that the Lodge may reverse the Master's decision. In our opinion, the power of the Master is absolute, and his decision conclusive and binding: he is compelled to see that the laws and edicts of the Grand Lodge are enforced, and is responsible to that body

alone for the government of his Lodge. The introduction of such a principle as this is in palpable violation of the rights and duties of the Master, and must produce an entire subversion of Masonic discipline. In conformity with this, it has been generally decided that the Lodge has no power to try its Master, but that he must be impeached before the Grand Lodge and tried by that tribunal. In regard to the impeachment and trial of the Grand Master, we find the following information in the Report of the New York Committee on Foreign Correspondence. In the first Book of Constitutions ever published by the Grand Lodge of England, in 1723, we find the following regulation as adopted in 1721, and which is still retained by the Grand Lodges of this country which retain the Ahiman Rezon as their Book of Constitutions:—"If the Grand Master should abuse his great power and render himself unworthy of the obedience and subjection of the Lodges, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed upon in a new regulation, because hitherto the Ancient Fraternity have had no occasion for it." In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, published in 1800, it was declared that, "The Masonic institution being founded upon the best affections of our nature, and having for its object the exercise of those affections, such has been the influence of its principles upon those who have been called to stations of honor in the Society, and such hitherto has been the confidence reposed by the Brethren in the Grand Master, that no regulation hath yet been adopted or found necessary to render him amenable to the Fraternity for any abuse of his high authority. In the same spirit of confidence in the virtues of those who shall hereafter be called to fill the high and important station of Grand Master, it is hereby declared that the Grand Master, during his continuance in office, is not responsible to any tribunal whatever for his Masonic conduct. The love and respect of the Brethren being his highest rewards, the loss of that respect and affection shall constitute his only punishment for any aberration from duty."

The Past Master's Degree has given rise to some controversy. The ceremony of installation of the actual Master of a Lodge constitutes him not a nominal but *actual* Past Master, and can be properly performed only by one who has filled the Oriental Chair. It is often difficult—nay, impracticable—to convoke a Lodge of actual Past Masters; and the Degree was made *honorary* to abolish this difficulty, as well as to prepare the candidate for exaltation to the Degree of a Royal Arch Mason, as a prerequisite for which actual instruction and service as a Master of a Lodge were formerly necessary. We do not believe that Past Masters made such in Chapters for the purpose of receiving the succeeding Degrees are entitled to any of the rights or privileges of those who have actually presided over a Lodge. As such they have no right to a seat or vote in the Grand Lodge, or as Past Masters amenable to its laws and regulations.

The Grand Master of Missouri, in his Annual Address, says, "There is a subject which requires that power be somewhere vested for its correction. Some of our Brethren have caught the *spirit* of the *age*, and are manufacturing and conferring Degrees on Masons, their wives and daughters, with an avidity deserving of a better cause; so much so that the fame thereof has gone abroad, and delegates have been sent from another jurisdiction to receive these *novelties* of the age, with as much concern and desire as was manifested by the Queen of Sheba on her notable visit to Solomon. Freed from these evils and of this spirit, our Grand Lodge will occupy such a stand in the Masonic world that none of us need blush to hail from its jurisdiction."

We cannot concur in the foregoing views: these honorary or side Degrees, as they are termed, are undoubtedly novelties, and have no necessary connection with Masonry: but they, so far as we are acquainted with them, teach important lessons, have a valuable use and can do no harm. While there would be an impropriety in the Grand Lodge recognising or authorizing them, we see no necessity for their being discountenanced or prohibited. Masons' wives and daughters have peculiar claims, which every genuine Mason will cheerfully

acknowledge; nor will he object to the use of any means, if they are novel, which enable them to make themselves known as such; and we recommend that each subordinate Lodge be required to furnish each deceased Brother Master Mason's widow, who is in good standing, with a certificate of such Brother's membership and standing at his death, that she may derive the advantage belonging to a Master Mason's widow.

The following questions were submitted to the Grand Lodge of Virginia and referred to a special committee for decision:—

If a Mason falls in a duel or private combat voluntarily held by him, is it the duty of the Master of the Lodge having jurisdiction over the member to call out the Brethren to perform Masonic service at the funeral of the deceased?

If a Mason be guilty of an open violation of any municipal law of the community in which he resides, is it the duty of the Master of the Lodge having jurisdiction over the member to call out the Lodge to perform the rites of Masonic burial at his decease?

If a Mason withdraws his membership from a Lodge, and continues to reside in a community where there is a Lodge without affiliating himself with the institution, has he the right to prefer charges against an affiliated Brother?

If a Mason should die and leave a widow, and the widow should again marry a gentleman who is not a Mason, at the death of the second husband has the widow a claim upon the institution for charity or other relief?

An unhappy controversy exists between the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Louisiana, which has completely destroyed the harmony that should exist between our sister Grand Lodges, and may lead to deplorable consequences. We will present a succinct history of the difficulty, with the hope that this Grand Lodge will take such action in the premises as to you may seem proper. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana was constituted in A.L. 5812, as a Lodge of Ancient York Masons, according to the old Constitution as revised by Prince Edwin at the City of York, was chartered by the Legislature of the State, has ever since exercised supreme and exclusive jurisdiction within its territorial limits, and has "been recognised by all the Grand Lodges in the world, with the exception of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. About the time of the organization of the Grand Lodges of Louisiana, formed from Lodges holding Charters from Pennsylvania, there were Lodges existing in New Orleans, under the sanction of the Grand Orient of France, and working according to the French or modern and Scottish rites. To prevent a conflict of authority which had arisen from the existence of independent bodies in the same State, which was likely to create misunderstanding, a concordat was entered into, in A.L. 5813, between the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and the Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Prince of the Royal Secret, thirty-second Degree, by which these different bodies were united under one jurisdiction, with the permission to each to continue the use of its particular ceremonies, with the power, if thought proper, to cumulate either or both of the other rites, provided they were kept separate and distinct." It is affirmed that the differences between the several ceremonies is trifling, and that this proviso was made merely to appease prejudice and gratify the predilections of those who, from birth or education, might be partial to any particular form: this was rendered peculiarly necessary in New Orleans, where there were Lodges working in different languages, and composed of men of different nations, habits and opinions.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, conceiving that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had so far departed from the ancient landmarks as to forfeit all right to control Ancient Masonry, declared that territory vacant, and issued a Dispensation for a subordinate Lodge in that State, but for some reason afterwards withdrew it. In A.L. 5837, she sent a committee to New Orleans to examine the condition of the institution there, and on their report declared that there was no Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana, and again issued Dispensations for Lodges.

The ground assumed by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is, that no Grand Lodge of Scotch, French or cumulation rites can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodges. But the Grand Lodge of Louisiana expressly claims to be an Ancient York Lodge, and issued Charters only for the formation of such; and if she errs in cumulating rites (she does not mix or blend them) she has as authority for her proceedings the precedent of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, who made use of what are styled the "ancient" and modern rites; of the Grand Lodge of England, where it is stipulated in the Articles of the Union that "each party having opened in separate apartments a just and perfect Lodge, agreeably to their regulations, they shall give and receive mutually the obligations of both Fraternities;" of the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of Holland. We have been taught to believe that Masonry was one and the same everywhere, and that Brethren hailing from England, Scotland, Ireland or France belonged to the same household.

Another of the enumerated grievances is, that persons, the sons of Masons, under twenty-one years of age, are made Masons in violation of the ancient Constitutions of the Order. There is no law prescribing twenty-one years as the lawful "age." It is unquestionably the settled practice of the Lodges in this country, north of Louisiana, to initiate no man into Masonry until he has reached the age of twenty-one years; but it is allowed by the ancient charges, and the oldest written law is a "regulation," (and not a part of the Masonic Constitution,) which proves in itself that previous to its adoption the usage was otherwise. The term "lawful age" is not used in the old Constitution. It is "mature age" in the editions of the English copies of 1723, (the first ever printed,) 1738 and 1746. In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, which claimed the title of Ancient York Masons, "mature and discreet age" are the terms used, and these are evidently discretionary terms. It was not until 1633 the regulation was adopted by a general assembly of the Craft, "that no person shall be accepted unless he be twenty-one years old or more." The Grand Lodges, as a general rule, are guided by the civil law; but some have made exceptions in particular cases. Thus, in the Grand Lodges in the United States, (Louisiana excepted,) the acceptable age of a candidate is, in accordance with the age fixed by the civil law as the termination of the minority of a man, twenty-one years. In Prussia it is twenty-five; in England and Ireland, twenty-one, except by Dispensation from the Grand Master or Grand Lodge; in France, twenty-one, but with exception allowed to the son of a man who has rendered important services to the Craft, and with the consent of his parent or guardian, or to a young man in the army who has served six months with his corps. Such are qualified at eighteen. In Switzerland the age of qualification is fixed at twenty-one; at Frankfort-on-Maine at twenty. The Grand Lodge of England, like the Grand Orient of France, authorizes a "Lewis" (the son of a Mason) to be initiated at eighteen; and the Grand Lodge of Venezuela the same. It is, therefore, clear that the age of "maturity" is not everywhere regulated by the law of 1633, nor by the laws of the land fixing the "majority."

The other causes of complaint—namely, that the installation of officers is prohibited on St. John's day, or any other day than Sunday; that the secrecy and power of the ballot-box are destroyed by requiring a person casting a black ball to state his reason to the Master, who may, if he deem the reason insufficient, reject the ball—are not sufficient to justify the high-handed measures that have been taken. These regulations may be deemed inexpedient, but the Grand Lodge had the power to make them. She might be *advised* to change them, but should not be *blotted out of existence* because she thinks it proper to continue them in force. After a review of the whole matter, we cannot but conclude that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has transcended her powers and unlawfully encroached upon the jurisdiction of a sovereign, independent body. We regret to report that there is a serious misunderstanding between the

Grand Lodges of Vermont and New York, in consequence of the latter questioning the constitutional existence of the former. It seems that the Grand Lodge of Vermont, in A.L. 5836, ostensibly ceased her labors in consequence of the high Anti-Masonic excitement raging at that time, although her Communications were kept up by meetings and regular adjournments until A.L. 5846, when the subordinate Lodges were called together by order of the Grand Officers, who were empowered by an article in her original Constitution to hold over their offices until the appointment of their successors. At that time the Constitution was remodelled, and the labors of the Grand Lodge resumed. The Grand Lodge of New York, by a bold assumption of right, without asserting that the Constitution of Vermont violates any fundamental law or conflicts with any known landmarks, attempts to regulate her internal policy, interpret her Constitution, and decide whether or not she has acted in accordance with its provisions. Instead of throwing obstacles in the way of our sister, over whose path dark clouds have so portentously lowered, we should rejoice that they have at last dispersed, and, with the right hand cordially extended, welcome her back to the "Masonic fold" from which she has been so long absent.

The noble courage and perseverance evinced by our Brethren of the Green Mountain State in their hour of trial are eloquently portrayed by the M. W. Grand Master in his opening address. "During the sixteen years in which he (the late Grand Master) had presided over us, I had the honor of standing by his side; and, when the Vandalism of our enemies assailed us during the violent sirocco which followed the disturbances in a sister State, none know better than myself the unshaken firmness, the wise prudence, the steady perseverance with which he devoted himself to the preservation of the rights and interests of the Order. When our temple was soiled and our altar shaken, his voice was always heard above the storm, encouraging our small but faithful band to patience, firmness and perseverance. With cheering words he pointed to the future, assuring us with perfect faith that we should succeed in purifying the one and re-establishing the other. He remained as our guiding star till his predictions were accomplished, and then consigned his working-tools to a feeble hand. As social beings, we felt the beneficial effects of our organization; as men of benevolence and philanthropy, we saw and rejoiced at their influence upon the world. With these convictions, we did not feel at liberty to consign it quietly, as a doomed victim, to the storms of fate. With the most painful apprehensions we saw the fires dying away upon its altars, and, so far as human power could perceive, the hour appeared to be 'near at hand, even at our doors,' when the last flickering flame upon the last of our altars was about to vanish forever. But with warm and grateful hearts to the Supreme Architect of the Universe do we realize the fact that we were not doomed thus to behold the total destruction of our mystic temple. While that last flickering flame quivered towards extinction, the very soul of Masonry seemed burning within us, as if with one common consent our energies arose to action. The flame expired not. Nursed by the hands of a feeble few and blessed from on high, it was rekindled in hope, and now shines abroad, a renewed altar-flame, glorious in its brightness, a beacon-light to the hopes and hearts of the despairing, a monument of confirmed faith to those who doubted not that He who filled the Temple with his glory would ever remain the protector of all who relied upon his providence and adored his name. . . . With long and patient endurance of injuries, with a vigilance that neither slumbered nor slept, with years of untiring zeal and laborious effort, and with a steadfastness that knew no fear and yielded to no discouragement, the Grand Lodge of Vermont was preserved by the faithful few who had charge of her fate. Like the storm-beaten ship, she at last triumphed over the fury of the winds and waves of adversity and was safely moored in harbor. If there be either brotherhood or wisdom in trying to *cut her cable or blow her up at anchor*, we are unable to appreciate it. The responsibility of the attempt will rest where it properly belongs; and he who wields the hatchet or

applies the torch for these purposes will be richly entitled to a share of that peculiar fame now wholly appropriated to the name of Erostratus."

We trust that the Grand Lodge of New York, deservedly occupying a high position in the Craft, will reconsider her course and extend to her sister of Vermont an acknowledgment of all her just rights.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, alluding to a resolution which was passed at our last Communication in relation to certain matters set forth in the Mississippi report of 1846, says, "If the above resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Texas, we believe there will be, for once, a unity of sentiment among the other Grand Lodges of the Union."

In reference to our new Constitution, the same Committee says, "We were much gratified to find the old charges of the Free and Accepted Masons extracted from the Ancient Records of Lodges and ordered to be printed by the Grand Lodge of England in their (revised) editions of the Constitution of 1738 and 1746, which we at once recognised as the first words of our own Book of Constitutions; but we were mortified and grieved to find, on a further examination, that the body of these old charges had been 'maimed and deformed.' The old charges embody the *fundamental principles* of the Order: they are the text-book to which every Mason may apply for instruction in his inquiry after true Ancient Masonry. To make innovations on the body of the old charges is to make innovations on the body of Masonry, which no Grand Lodge, 'no man or body of men,' have a right to do. Every Grand Lodge has a right to make new regulations, or to amend, explain or repeal their old ones, *provided always*, the ancient landmarks be carefully preserved. But the 'old charges' are not regulations: they are written Constitutions of Masonry, and should be held sacred and inviolable. We appeal to our sister Grand Lodge of Texas to restore the portions which they have expunged, and to make that part of her Constitution in *reality* what it professes to be in its title." With due deference to the opinion of our New York Brethren, we do not believe that the old charges are so sacred that nothing can be added to or taken from them. They are in truth but "Rules and Regulations" adopted by the ancient Lodges, and, whenever they become inapplicable or are embraced in other regulations, may with propriety be omitted.

The same Committee also pronounce our "ideas singular," inasmuch as we have adopted Jeremy Cross's Masonic Chart as the Book of Constitutions upon subjects where our Articles are silent. The "idea" of this Grand Lodge probably was, that the selection of prayers, explanations or emblems, charges, forms of proceedings laid down in this book, should be used by the subordinate Lodges in preference to any other, and, in that sense, it was very properly termed a "Book of Constitutions;" and, furthermore, we do not stand alone in believing that the receiving of promissory notes in payment of fees is a violation of the ancient landmarks,—the clause in our Constitution to which the New York Committee seem to object.

The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, in his Annual Report, remarks that "the Grand Lodge of Texas has fallen into the sin of over-legislation by adopting a rule that, in applications for initiation, one black ball shall reject the candidate for one year, two black balls shall reject for two years and three or more for four years." This is evidently contrary to all Masonic usages, and a contravention of that Article of the ancient Constitutions which declares that the Grand Lodge shall pass no law imposing a member on a Lodge without the unanimous consent of the Brethren." That clause of our Constitution has probably been misapprehended by the Grand Secretary. Its meaning is this: an applicant rejected by one black ball shall not be permitted to present his petition again until after the lapse of one year; if rejected by two black balls, not until after the expiration of two years, &c.,—and *not* that he shall be received at those times without balloting.

In conclusion, your Committee would express their gratification at the kind
VOL. I.—19

and fraternal feeling which characterizes the Foreign Correspondence, with one or two exceptions, demonstrating that our principles can overcome sectional and local interests, can withstand the conflicts of parties and sects, and cannot be destroyed by the agitations and revolutions that are now convulsing the civilized world.

Our symbols and ceremonies are well calculated to teach and enforce those truths, founded upon the nature and necessities of morals and adapted to afford checks, restraints and incentives to our passions and feelings, to break down the barriers which birth or education or rank may have erected, and bring around one common altar all good men and true, enabling them by association to effect that for which individual effort is inadequate.

It is our high privilege, as well as duty, to engage zealously in beautifying the walls of our temple, in removing the rubbish and repairing the injuries that time and the ruthless hand of ignorance may have inflicted, in guarding well the ancient landmarks, that we may transmit to our successors unimpaired the inheritance we have received.

JOHN SAYLES,
BARRY GILLESPIE, } Committee.
A. S. RUTHVEN, }

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock A.M., to-morrow.

Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock, January 17, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry King,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. D. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" Wm. M. Taylor,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" W. M. Hall,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master, and, on a call of the Lodges, eighteen were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. After prayer by the R. W. Past Grand Chaplain, the minutes of the previous day were read and adopted.

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Subordinate Lodges U. D. would ask leave to report, further, that they have examined the returns, work and By-laws of the following Lodges,—viz.: St. John's Lodge, held in the town of Tyler, Smith county.

We approve their By-laws and recommend their adoption.

Their returns are correct, with the exception of the dues from three members and for one application; the Lodge remitted the dues of those members, but they had no power to remit the dues to this Grand Lodge.

The Committee would recommend that a Charter issue to said Lodge upon the payment of the usual fees.

We find the work and returns of Grand Bluff Lodge correct, and recommend the adoption of their By-laws, with the following corrections:—

Section 2, Article 10, insert "members" between "the" and "of," and strike out "who are Master Masons;" same section, strike out Article 11.

Section 3. Strike out Article 2; same section, Article 5, strike out last word,—to wit, "dismissed,"—and insert "expelling as the Lodge may determine."

Section 5. Strike out the words "Master Mason" in Articles 1 and 2; strike out Article 3, same section; same section, strike out in Article 4 "matchless," and insert "unanimous," and strike out all after "shall be received."

Section 5, Article 7, insert, after the word "except," "by Dispensation," and strike out "in case of urgent necessity."

Section 6. Strike out Article 8.

Section 7. Strike out Article 4.

Section 8. Strike out Articles 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Section 10. Strike out the words "Master Masons" in Article 2 wherever it occurs.

We would further recommend that a Charter issue to said Lodge upon the payment of the usual fees.

We have examined the returns and By-laws of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7. Their returns are correct, and we would recommend the adoption of their By-laws, with the following corrections:—

Article 9. Strike out the words "Entered Apprentice, Fellow-Craft or."

We have also examined the By-laws submitted by Euclid Lodge, No. 75, and recommend their adoption, with the following amendments:—

Article 3, Section 1. Strike out "Master Masons."

Article 3, Section 4. Strike out the whole section.

Article 3, Sections 6 and 7. Strike out the words "Master Masons only voting."

Article 6, Section 1. Strike out the whole section.

We have also examined the work, returns and By-laws of Liberty Lodge, No. 48. Their work is correct and regular, and we approve of their By-laws and recommend their adoption.

Their returns we have corrected, and recommend that a Charter issue upon the payment of the usual fee.

We would recommend the adoption of the By-laws submitted by Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32, with the following amendments:—

Article 3, Section 2. Strike out "Master Mason" and insert "members of the Lodge."

Article 6. Strike out Section 1.

Section 4. In second line, strike out "and" and insert "or;" fourth line, strike out "and" and insert "or;" sixth line, same correction.

Article 13, Section 1. First line, strike out "Master Mason;" sixth line, strike out "by a Master Mason."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,

C. W. BUCKLEY,

E. J. ARNOLD,

J. S. GREEN.

The select Committee appointed to report the jurisdiction of subordinate Lodges presented the following, which was discussed, amended and finally adopted in its present form.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The select Committee, to which was referred a resolution defining the Masonic jurisdiction of subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report that, in their opinion, the adoption of that resolution would produce many serious difficulties and embarrassments: it would lead to frequent conflict in the jurisdiction of Lodges, where more than one are situated in the same county; it would compel applicants living within a few miles of a Lodge in an adjacent county to apply for admission to one at a much greater distance from their place of residence, and even leave many counties without the jurisdiction of any Lodge whatever.

Your Committee perceive no difficulties, or none that cannot be easily obviated, arising under the present rule,—viz.: that the applicant shall apply to the Lodge nearest his place of residence. In all cases the distance is known, or can be readily ascertained. If business-connections, locality or other causes render it expedient for the applicant to seek admission into a more distant Lodge, the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides will, in general, cheerfully grant permission for his so doing. If any difficulties have arisen between subordinate Lodges on this matter, it must have been from an ignorance of the rule now in force. We therefore recommend that all the resolutions now in force as rules of government, adopted at the several Communications of this Grand Lodge, be published with the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication.

And we further recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That every applicant for the benefits of Masonry shall have resided within the State twelve months next preceding his application, and be personally known to at least five Master Masons.

Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge has jurisdiction over the applicants for Masonry residing nearest to it; and that no subordinate Lodge shall hereafter receive applications from any residing nearer to another Lodge, without the consent of such Lodge duly certified.

JNO. SAYLES,
P. W. GRAY,
C. A. FRAZIER.

The R. W. Geo. Fisher, Grand Orator, presented his annual report, which was read and received:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Grand Orator of your M. W. Grand Lodge, begs leave to report:—

That on the 4th day of July, A.D. 1848, he then being in the City of Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Right Worshipful E. W. Moore, District Deputy Grand Master for the 4th Masonic District within the jurisdiction of your M. W. Grand Lodge, have appeared in the M. W. Grand Lodge for the District of Columbia, in the United States of America, as such members and officers of your M. W. Grand Lodge, and have been then and there received as such, and constituted by the M. W. Grand Master of the said Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia as Representatives of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas on the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone for the "*Washington National Monument*," which ceremony was performed on the 4th day of July, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848; and that they took their station in the public procession on that occasion among the delegation of the various Grand Lodges in the United States, then and there represented, either in body or by proxies. Also, that your Representatives on that occasion, with a noble and Masonic pride for the cordial reception with which they were received to participate in the ceremonies of the day, and as a memorial to be preserved, have deposited a printed copy of the Constitution of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Texas in the corner-stone of the said monument, as it will appear by reference to the printed "List

of the Articles deposited in the Corner-Stone of the National Monument on the 4th day of July, 1848, by the R. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia," a copy of which list is hereunto annexed :—

List of Articles deposited in the Corner-Stone of the National Monument on the 4th of July, 1848, by the R. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

A silver plate, containing on one side the name of the Grand Officers of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and on the other the names of the Committee of Arrangements of said Grand Lodge, consisting of the Worshipful Master of each subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction.

A roll of copper coin of the United States, fifteen or twenty in number, obtained from the Mint at Philadelphia, comprising all the early extant specimens of that coin.

Also a cent of the coinage of 1783, presented by Bro. W. Hurst, of this Grand Lodge.

A metallic impress of the seal of the said Grand Lodge, a copy of its Constitution, and a copy of its last published proceedings.

A parchment scroll, containing extracts from the ancient records of Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, of Virginia, showing the initiation, passing and raising of Bro. George Washington by that Lodge: initiation of the 4th of November, 1752; passing on the 8d of March, 1753; and raising on the 4th of August, 1753. Also a list of the present officers and members of said Lodge.

A copy of the Constitution and By-laws of Washington Lodge, No. 22, of Alexandria, of which Bro. George Washington was the Worshipful Master.

A copy of Bro. Morris's Free Masons' Magazine, published at Boston, (No. 8 of Vol. I.,) containing the Masonic character and correspondence of Bro. George Washington.

A copy of the Constitution of the R. W. Grand Lodge of Texas.

A paper containing a list of the officers and members of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 22, Georgia.

Another, containing those of Washington Lodge, No. 1.

Another, containing those of Temple Lodge, No. 11.

Another, containing those of Lafayette Royal Arch Chapter, all of Wilmington, Delaware.

Another, containing a list of the officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Delaware.

A printed copy of the Masonic Register for the State of Pennsylvania, for the year 1848.

A copy of the "Dry-Goods Reporter," of the date of July 1, 1848, published in New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

A silver plate containing the names of the officers of Washington Encampment, No. 1, of the District of Columbia.

A paper containing the By-laws and a list of officers of Wheeling Encampment, No. 1, Virginia, together with resolutions and proceedings of said Encampment of the 16th June, 1848.

The foregoing articles were severally presented by the R. W. Grand Secretary, C. S. Frailey, to the R. W. Grand Master, who, after announcing the same, handed them to the R. W. Grand Treasurer, Robert Clarke, by whom they were placed in a leaden box prepared therefor, and said box and contents then deposited within the cavity of the corner-stone.

Attest,

CHAS. S. FRAILEY,

Grand Secretary.

Of the Masonic oration delivered on that occasion by the M. W. Grand Master, B. F. French, of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, a printed copy is also annexed.

Your Representatives cannot close this their report without making a refer-

ence to the fraternal regard, esteem and respect which they have received from the delegations of the different Grand Lodges; also of the Brethren present on that occasion for your M. W. Grand Lodge as a superior Masonic body in their capacity, as well as for themselves as for your Representatives, and as individuals.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Geo. FISHER,
Grand Orator,

and one of the Representatives of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas.

Houston, January 16, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

The Committee on Finance made the following report on the R. W. Grand Treasurer's and Secretary's accounts, which was read, and, together with the resolutions which accompany, were adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance have had under consideration the report of the R. W. Grand Treasurer, showing fourteen hundred and eighty-nine dollars and ten cents in his hands at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication, and we beg leave to report that we have examined the same and found it correct.

We find in his report a donation of the amount of his salary to the M. W. Grand Lodge.

We would respectfully offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Grand Treasurer E. B. Nichols, for the able manner in which he has performed the duties of his office during the present year.

H. KING, *Chairman*,
L. P. RUCKER,
J. N. REED.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance have had under consideration the report of the R. W. Grand Secretary, showing the receipt and disbursement of sixteen hundred and twenty-five dollars, and beg leave to report that we have examined the same and found it correct.

We would respectfully state that his duties are many and arduous, yet they are all done in a manner that reflects credit to himself and honor to the Fraternity. We therefore offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to R. W. Grand Secretary A. S. Ruthven, for the faithful and able manner in which he has performed the duties of his office during the last year.

H. KING, *Chairman*,
L. P. RUCKER,
J. N. REED.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered by the R. W. John H. Walton, Past Grand Lecturer, which were read, and, on motion, referred to a select Committee, consisting of Bros. John Sayles, E. W. Taylor and C. A. Frazier.

Whereas, The present system of Grand Lecturing does not answer the purpose designed by this Grand Lodge—that of producing a uniformity of work—and is attended with expense to the subordinate Lodges, and, by the frequent changes of Brethren filling that office, innovations are creeping into the body of Masonry, the ancient landmarks are being removed, thereby depriving our beautiful fabric of many of her just proportions, and causing disunion among Brethren: Therefore,

Be it Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That it shall be an indispensable qualification in a presiding Master to have a thorough acquaintance with the work and lectures in the three first Degrees, and, if not conversant with them on his election to that office, he shall proceed forthwith to make himself so, under the penalty of reprimand from the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge be required to meet at least quarterly for lecturing, and that no Entered Apprentice shall be advanced to the Degree of Fellow-Craft until he shall have acquired a complete knowledge of the lecture in the first Degree; and no Fellow-Craft shall be raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason until he shall acquire a competent knowledge of the lecture in the second Degree.

Resolved, That, at each Grand Annual Communication, the Masters elect of subordinate Lodges be requested to spend a sufficient time in lecturing to prepare themselves for the faithful discharge of their important trust.

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Masters be instructed to embrace in their annual reports any discrepancy in the work of any Lodge in their district, or any deviations from the system of work laid down by the Grand Lodge.

The business on the Secretary's table having been disposed of, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday evening, 7 o'clock, January 18, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
" Henry King,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. D. Smith,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" Wm. M. Taylor,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

ORIGINAL MEMBERS.

R. W. Geo. Fisher,	Grand Orator.
" John Shea,	Past Master.
" Alex'r Ewing,	Grand Marshal.

On a call of the Lodges, twenty-six were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The Committee on Returns from Charter Lodges made the following report, which was, on motion, laid on the table until to-morrow:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges would report, that they have performed their duty so far as returns have been received. The following returns—viz.: Holland Lodge, No. 1; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington Lodge, No. 18; Lothrop, No. 21; Clinton, No. 23; Olive-Branch, No. 26; De Witt Clinton, No. 19; Mount Moriah, No. 37; Leona Union, No. 39; Victoria, No. 40—are correct. The returns of Graham Lodge, No. 20, are correct and in good style, except that they omit to charge the Lodge for contributions of two members raised during the year. The same defect existed in the returns of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, omitting five members raised during the year; and in the returns of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, by omitting eighteen members raised; also in the returns of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, omitting six members raised, and their Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden. In this last-named Lodge we notice what we consider an irregularity of some importance,—viz.: that an Entered Apprentice is returned as *demitted*, with no statement that he was recommended to any Lodge for the higher Degrees.

The returns of Forest Lodge, No. 19, are incorrect in only one point, which ought in all cases to be strictly attended to,—viz.: there is no date given in any instance at which the petitions of the applicants were presented.

The returns of Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32, are correct, except that we notice the application of a Fellow-Craft hailing from Mississippi, without any statement of the name or number of the Lodge from which he came, nor that the consent of that Lodge to his being raised had been given.

In the returns of Eagle Lodge, No. 41, there is one defect, to which we call attention,—viz.: that Dispensations ought to be credited at \$2 each, which was omitted.

The returns of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, present several important defects:—1st. There is no time stated at which petitions were presented to the Lodge; 2d. No date given for any initiation, passing or raising; 3d. No charge in their account for contributions, nor for Dispensations; and 4th, An Entered Apprentice appears to have *affiliated*, was passed and raised, without the statement of the Lodge from which he hailed, or that the consent of that Lodge had been given to his receiving the Degrees in Jefferson Lodge.

Your Committee would state that many of the returns reported as correct are informal in their style and arrangement. That order which is one of our principal tenets is not observed, and much more labor has been thereby imposed upon us than need be. Your Committee would urge on the Lodges the importance of observing the form of returns published with the proceedings of each Grand Annual Communication. Your Committee have made the necessary corrections in all the returns reported.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. D. SMITH,
S. G. DEVEREUX,
JOHN L. NICKELSON,
JOHN MCCLARTY,
P. W. GRAY.

The Committee on Domestic Correspondence presented the following report, which was read and received, and the resolutions severally discussed and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Domestic Correspondence have had the same under consideration, and respectfully beg leave to report, that the correspondence and accompanying documents have been duly

examined, only the following of which, in their opinion, claim the attention of the Grand Lodge:—

Among the correspondence submitted to your Committee is a communication from Milam Lodge, No. 2, stating that Douglass Lodge had conferred the second and third Degrees on R. O. Watkins, who had previously taken the first Degree in said Milam Lodge without the knowledge or consent of the same. This, if true, being a violation of the Constitution, your Committee recommend the passage of a resolution hereafter submitted in regard to the same.

Another subject, calling for the action of this Lodge, is a communication from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, asking a revocation of the suspension of Bro. Hugh McLeod, as published by the Grand Lodge in 1845, for the non-payment of dues to Austin Lodge during the years 1842-43.

Your Committee have been pained to learn from a communication from Olive-Branch Lodge, No. 26, that Daniel J. Tucker, a member of said Lodge, was, previously to his becoming a member of the same, unanimously expelled from Perry Lodge, No. 34, Alabama, and they therefore recommend that he be so regarded by the Lodges of Texas.

From a communication submitted to your Committee from Austin Lodge, it appearing that said Lodge had improperly reported Bro. H. P. Bee to this Lodge as suspended for the non-payment of dues, your Committee therefore recommend that Bro. Bee be declared reinstated, and in good standing as a Mason.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. D. HAY,
C. A. FRAZIER,
A. J. MCGOWN.

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, for the Second Masonic District, be authorized to visit Douglass Lodge and investigate the charge preferred against it by Milam Lodge, of having conferred the second and third Degrees of Masonry on R. O. Watkins without the knowledge or consent of Milam Lodge, said Milam Lodge having previously conferred the first Degree on said Watkins; and that the said District Deputy Grand Master be fully empowered to take all necessary measures to a full investigation of said charges, and report the result of his investigation to the next Annual Communication of this Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction over the subject-matter of the communication of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, in regard to the case of Bro. H. McLeod, as presented.

Read and adopted.

The special Committee who were appointed to draft suitable resolutions to express the sense of this Grand Lodge relative to the death of our late worthy Brother, H. B. Kelsey, presented the following report, which was, on motion, adopted, together with the resolution:—

Whereas, it having pleased an all-wise God, to whose mandate all earth must bow, through an ordination of his inscrutable Providence, to remove forever from time our worthy Brother, H. B. Kelsey, late District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District of this State; feeling deeply the loss our Order has sustained in his sudden call from this scene of his labors to that Lodge not made with hands, on high,

Be it Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That the members of the same wear the appropriate badges of mourning for the space of thirty days, in token of our deep and heartfelt respect for the worthy and estimable character of our deceased Brother.

Resolved, That we heartily sympathize with the bereaved family of our deceased Brother in their affliction; that whilst the unforeseen visitation of Provi-

dence has desolated their hearth by the removal of the father and husband, it has taken forever from our Order an able and efficient member,—one whose zealous devotion to the interests of the Craft must long be remembered.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary forward a copy of these resolutions to the family of our deceased Brother.

E. W. TAYLOR,
JOHN MCCLARTY,
JOHN SHRA.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had now arrived for this Grand Lodge to proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and, after receiving the nominations for the respective offices, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, to prepare their ballots.

Craft again called to labor, and the following Brethren duly elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year, to wit:—

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Saml. McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Thos. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Robert Brewster,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ W. M. Taylor,	Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday morning, January 18, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, 10 o'clock.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. E. W. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Henry King,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ J. M. Hall,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ L. P. Rucker,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ Geo. Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jas. L. Green,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

And twenty-three Lodges duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

Prayer by the R. W. A. J. McGown, Past Grand Chaplain.

The proceedings of the preceding day were read and adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master elect made the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

R. W. Jno. Witherspoon,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 1st District.
" James M. Hall,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 2d District.
" Z. W. Eddy,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 3d District.
" Geo. Fisher,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 4th District.
" John Sayles,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 5th District.
" Moses Johnson,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master, 6th District.
" George Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" John S. McKnight,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" C. S. Ives,	} Grand Chaplains.
" R. E. Burleson,	
" B. P. Smith,	Grand Orator.
" E. J. Arnold,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" Alex. Ewing,	} Grand Marshals.
" J. G. Shepherd,	
" John Murchison,	Grand Standard-Bearer.
" R. R. Graves,	Grand Pursuivant.
" J. C. Harrison,	} Grand Stewards.
" A. J. Fowler,	
" A. Townsend,	
" J. L. Nickelson,	
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed R. W. E. W. Taylor Superintendent of the Education Fund.

On motion of Bro. J. C. Harrison, the following resolution was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to make suitable arrangements for the installation of the officers elect for the ensuing year, on Saturday, the 20th inst., at 11 o'clock A.M.

Committee consisting of Bros. W. D. Smith, J. N. Reid, J. C. Harrison, E. W. Taylor and J. M. Hall.

Bro. W. M. Taylor offered the following preamble and resolution, which was read and adopted:—

Whereas, there are several Lodges now working under Dispensation, that have not sent up their work for inspection: therefore,

Be it Resolved, That all such Lodges be, and they are hereby, authorized to continue their labors under Dispensation until either one of the District Deputy Grand Masters or Grand Lecturer visit said Lodges; and upon their certifying to the Grand Secretary that the work of any or all of such Lodges is regular and correct, then he (the said Secretary) shall issue to said Lodges a Charter upon the payment of the usual fees.

The Committee on Grievances made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Grievances beg leave to report, that they have examined, with as much care as circumstances would permit, the transcripts of the several appeal-cases that have come before them. In many of them the documents are

voluminous, containing a statement of the facts and evidence, which your Committee consider it unnecessary to detail, as no important principles of Masonic law are involved, but all are to be decided upon the peculiar circumstances of each case.

The decision of Victoria Lodge, No. 40, suspending Bro. James Ingram, we believe should be affirmed: the sentence of the Lodge was mild, the conduct of the Brother being in violation of the spirit and principles of Masonry, and the plea made by him being purely technical and one that cannot be sustained.

In the case of the appeal of William Dugan, from Forest Lodge, No. 19, the decision of the Lodge should be reversed, the charge not having been sustained by the evidence; and, even if it had been, the sentence (expulsion) is too severe. Although Bro. Dugan has died since the appeal was taken, we believe that the appeal should be entertained, and justice done his memory.

The appeal from Bro. James S. Black, from Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, should be dismissed, there being no evidence that the action of the Lodge was erroneous.

The decision of Lothrop Lodge, No. 21, expelling Joseph Moore from all the privileges of Masonry, should be sustained,—the crime with which he stands charged being of the blackest dye and fully supported by the evidence.

In the case of the appeal of William A. Brown, from Palestine Lodge, No. 31, we have no hesitation in saying that the sentence of the Lodge was just and required by the outrageous nature of the offences with which he stood charged; and we commend the action of the Lodge in instituting an inquiry into the matter and casting out from their midst one so unworthy of the name he bore.

The appeal of J. B. Caples, from Holland Lodge, No. 1, should be dismissed, the action of the Lodge appearing to be correct.

The complaint of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, against Clinton Lodge, No. 23, for conferring the Degree of Master Mason upon one who had received the Degree of Entered Apprentice and Fellow-Craft in the first-named Lodge, we recommend should be referred to the District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District.

In the matter of complaint of Bro. L. G. Hoffman, of Albany, New York, against Bro. Geo. Fisher, it is the opinion of your Committee that Bro. Fisher should be exonerated from all blame. It appears that some time in the year 1841, at the earnest request of Bro. Hoffman, Bro. Fisher acted as agent for his Masonic Magazine in Texas, and forwarded him a list of subscribers: from the irregularity of the mails at that time, and from the fact that the United States postage was not prepaid, as required by law, the papers were never received, and the subscribers refused to pay the amount of their subscriptions. Bro. Hoffman has long been a warm and zealous Mason, and the means of diffusing light among the Craft; his papers failed reaching their destination through no fault of his, but from circumstances not under his control: he has recently sustained a heavy loss from fire. Under the circumstances, we believe it would be just for this Grand Lodge to make an appropriation as a compensation for the loss sustained by him in his attempt to circulate his excellent paper in Texas. Your Committee offer and recommend for adoption the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the decision of Victoria Lodge, No. 40, suspending Bro. James Ingram, be affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Forest Lodge, No. 19, expelling Bro. William Dugan, be reversed, and he be regarded as if such action of said Lodge had never been had; and that the Grand Secretary transmit to the family of the deceased Bro. William Dugan a copy of this resolution.

Resolved, That the decision of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, in the case of Bro. James S. Black, be affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Lothrop Lodge, No. 21, expelling Joseph Moore, be affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Palestine Lodge, No. 31, expelling William A. Brown, be affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Holland Lodge, No. 1, expelling J. B. Caples, be affirmed.

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District be required to visit Jackson Lodge, No. 35, and Clinton Lodge, No. 23, ascertain the grounds of complaint of the first-named Lodge, and report thereon to the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Bro. Geo. Fisher be exonerated from all blame in the matter set forth in the communication of Bro. L. G. Hoffman.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated as a donation to Bro. L. G. Hoffman for the loss sustained by him in attempting to circulate his paper in Texas.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. W. TAYLOR,
JNO. SAYLES,
JAMES M. HALL,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
J. N. REED.

On motion, Bro. J. L. Briggs was added to the Committee on Grievances.

The report of the Committee on Chartered Lodges was then taken up, read, and, after considerable discussion, was adopted.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, January 18, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, 3 o'clock P.M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

Officers as before.

Twenty-four Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The following report from the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Subordinate Lodges under Dispensation ask leave to report that they have examined the work, returns and By-laws of Florida Lodge, No. 46. They are all correct, and we would therefore recommend the adoption of their By-laws, and that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee.

The returns of Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, have been examined. They are correct, with one exception: they report contributions for eight members, when it should be nine.

Neither the work nor By-laws of said Teutonia Lodge are before your Com-

mittee. We therefore are unable to determine whether they have been working regularly or not.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
C. W. BUCKLEY,
J. S. GREEN.

The following resolution, by M. W. Bro. Geo. M. Patrick, was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That by application of the Representative of Boonville Lodge, No. 55, the name be changed to Gillespie, and the Charter be filled accordingly.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. John McClarty and adopted :—

Resolved, That the form of returns of subordinate Lodges, as adopted by the Grand Lodge and at present in use, be amended by striking out, under the head of *Demitted*, the letters "F. C." and "E. A.," which convey the idea that this Grand Lodge recognises the right of Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Craft Masons to demit, which privilege is hereby declared to belong to none under the Degree of Master Mason.

The following report was received from the select Committee on Work and Lectures, and adopted as a substitute for the preamble and resolutions offered by R. W. John H. Walton :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The select Committee to whom was referred a series of resolutions designed to produce a uniformity of work and lectures beg leave to report, that, in their opinion, much discrepancy does exist in the work and lectures in different Lodges, which cannot be wholly prevented or remedied by the Grand Lecturer, however faithful and efficient he may be in the discharge of his duties. The continuance of this office is absolutely necessary, and will prevent or rectify many of the evils; but other checks and guards should be devised for preserving entire and unbroken our beautiful system of moral instruction.

To effect this desirable purpose, we offer, and recommend for adoption, the following resolutions, as a substitute for those proposed, but the same in spirit and intention :—

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be required to spend a sufficient time with each Lodge to render its officers competent to confer each Degree in full, and that he accurately report the working-condition of each Lodge, and the ability of the officers to perform their respective duties; and that the Master of each Lodge be required to report the time devoted by the Grand Lecturer to his Lodge, and the advancement made under his instruction.

Resolved, That in every case in which an initiate shall be advanced before having made suitable proficiency in the preceding Degrees, the reason for so doing be reported to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. SAYLES,
E. W. TAYLOR,
C. A. FRAZIER.

On motion, Bro. A. C. Crawford was added to the Committee on Grand Lodge Regalia.

On motion, Bros. Geo. Fisher, Geo. Hancock and John Murchison were appointed a Committee to procure suitable badges of mourning

for the Grand Lodge, as required by the resolution passed on the demise of our late R. W. District Deputy Grand Master H. B. Kelsey.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until early candlelight.

Early candlelight, Thursday evening, January 18, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Officers and Lodges as before.

The following report from the Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Members of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee appointed to examine the returns of Chartered Lodges beg leave to report, in addition to the report already received by this Grand Lodge, that, since filing the same, they have received from the hands of the Grand Secretary the returns of the following Lodges,—to wit: Milam Lodge, No. 11; Lafayette Lodge, No. 84; Alamo Lodge, No. 44,—all of which they find in substance correct. They have also examined the returns of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, which they find correct, excepting a slight omission in neglecting to mention the time when petitions were received.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

W. D. SMITH,
P. W. GRAY,
JOHN McCLARTY,
J. L. NICKELSON,
S. G. DEVEREUX.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. John Sayles, was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized and required to procure Diplomas, on parchment, which shall be granted to all Past Grand Masters, and which shall be signed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, and be attested by the Grand Secretary.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

Friday morning, January 19, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, 9 o'clock.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers present as before.

Twenty-four Lodges represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge ready to proceed to labor.

Prayer by the R. W. A. J. McGown, Past Grand Chaplain.

The special Committee to whom was referred the report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The select Committee to which the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was referred beg leave to report that, from a voluminous report, predicated upon the careful investigation of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence and very ably deliberated by the said Committee, your special Committee has extracted the substance of their recommendations, and would respectfully hereunto annex an analysis, with their views upon the subject, in the following resolutions, viz. :—

1st. *Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to appoint a Representative of this Grand Lodge at each of the Grand Lodges in the several States composing the American Union; also at the Grand Lodge of Venezuela and other South American States, at the Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Orient of France, the Mother Grand Lodge of Prussia and the Grand Lodge of Switzerland, by commissions, with his signature and the seal of the Grand Lodge, and attested by the Grand Secretary.

2d. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the formation or establishment of a General or Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States of America is inexpedient, and that this Grand Lodge cannot recognise such a body of Masons as a Masonic institution, with powers to control Masonry within the limits of the United States of America.

3d. *Resolved*, That the subject of education of the orphans of Masons be strongly recommended to the subordinate Lodges, and a certain per centum of their funds be suggested to them to be laid aside for the purpose of affording relief to the children of worthy indigent Brethren within the jurisdiction of each subordinate Lodge.

4th. *Resolved*, That no physical defect or bodily deformity or deficiency of a limb in the human frame be an impediment for a candidate into the mysteries of Masonry, except such as would prevent the candidate to be placed in possession of the ancient landmarks, and to exemplify the same to be recognised as a member of the Craft.

5th. *Resolved*, That the name of a rejected candidate for the mysteries of Masonry shall not be published to the world, either by the subordinate Lodge acting on his petition or by this Grand Lodge.

6th. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of each subordinate Lodge, upon the demise of a Master Mason in good standing, to furnish the widow or the orphans of such demised Brother with a certificate of his standing and membership.

7th. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge recognises the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, as constituted in A.L. 5833, as the only legitimate head of the three symbolic Degrees of Masonry in Louisiana, and disapproves the inroads made by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi within the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
Houston, January 18, 1849.

GEO. FISHER, } Committee.
H. KING, }

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the per centum allowed to the Grand Treasurer and donated by him to the Grand Lodge be appropriated to the Education Fund.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M., January 19, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

Grand Lodge called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers and Lodges represented as in the forenoon. The M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

Bro. L. P. Rucker offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the installation of the officers of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37, for the present year be, and the same is hereby, confirmed and ratified by this Grand Lodge, the said installation having been held on the 6th January, peculiar circumstances preventing the same on the 27th December, as required by their By-laws.

January 19, 1849.

Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the contributions to this Grand Lodge be remitted in all cases where the subordinate Lodges have remitted the same to its members.

The following resolution was read and referred to the Committee on Finance:—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to lend out the money in the Grand Treasury at a rate of interest of twelve per centum per annum for any period not exceeding the 15th day of January, 1850, by taking good personal security with a mortgage on unencumbered real estate within the State of Texas, to secure the solvency of the said security, making the obligation of the borrower payable to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas and his successor in office as the legally-constituted representative of this body politic, under the act of incorporation, approved on the day of

A.D. 184 , conditioned that the interest on the said loaned money be paid quarter-annually, and that the same may be used by the Grand Treasurer for defraying the current expenses of this Grand Lodge as circumstances may require.

January 17, 1849.

The following resolution was, on motion of Bro. John Sayles, read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Superintendent of the Education Fund be authorized and required to settle with the administrator of the late R. W. H. B. Kelsey, the former Superintendent, and report at the next Grand Annual Communication.

The following resolutions from the Grand Chapter were read:—

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter do hereby make a donation to the Grand Lodge of Texas of all money, jewels and other property belonging to this Grand Chapter, to be held in trust as follows:—The interest thereon accruing to be applied to charitable purposes; the principal, the moneys and all other property to be delivered up to any legally-constituted Grand Royal Arch Chapter organized in the State of Texas, whenever the same shall be demanded by the proper officers.

Resolved, That the several subordinate Chapters be advised to make a similar disposition of their funds and property to the subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, That, on the 1st day of March, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Texas dissolve.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary immediately transmit to the subordinate Chapters and Grand Officers a copy of the foregoing report and resolutions.

JOHN SAYLES,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
GEO. FISHER,
W. D. SMITH, } Committee.

January, A.D. 1848, A.L. 5848.

Vol. I.—20

And it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge do hereby accept the trust on the specific terms and conditions therein expressed.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until early candlelight.

Early candlelight, January 19, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

The Craft were again called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master. Officers and Lodges as before.

The Committee on Chartered Lodges made the following report, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges, since their last report, have received returns of Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, and Lavaca Lodge, No. 86, and have examined the same. The returns of Montgomery, No. 25, are correct and in good style; those of Lavaca, No. 86, are neat in style, but incorrect in not stating the time at which petitions were presented, and the time of initiations, passings and raisings. There is a slight mistake of *one passing* in the account with the Grand Lodge, which your Committee have corrected.

Respectfully, &c.,

P. W. GRAY
For the Committee.

The following report from the special Committee on Grand Lodge Regalia was read and adopted, and Bros. A. S. Ruthven, Geo. Fisher and J. L. Briggs appointed said Committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to which the resolution was referred relative to the Regalia of this Grand Lodge report that, after mature deliberation, they have concluded to recommend that the color be changed to blue, studded with three-quarters-inch-wide silver-lace, and silver jewels, appropriate to the insignia of the various officers, be appended thereto, and that the aprons at present used be so changed as to correspond with the jewels and the symbolic Degrees of Masonry of which this Grand Lodge is the head,—viz.: that the flags of the apron be of semicircular shape in lieu of triangular, and that the letter B be expunged and the letter S substituted; that the edge of the apron and of the flag thereof be trimmed with blue ribbon of suitable width; and that, for the purpose of making the above changes, the Committee would recommend the appointment of a committee as set forth in the following resolutions,—viz. :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to dispose of the Regalia of this Grand Lodge, and to procure a new suit of the color and description as recommended in the foregoing report, and have the same ready for the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding \$200 be appropriated for the purchase of the new Regalia, for which amount the committee to be appointed by the preceding resolution are authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer, who is authorized to accept and pay such draft.

Resolved, That, unless the Regalia at present in use can be disposed of by the committee as contemplated in the first resolution, the committee will defer

their action in procuring the new suit until the next Grand Annual Communication for further action.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. FISHER,
JNO. H. WALTON,
A. C. CRAWFORD,
H. KING, } Committee.

January 19, 1849.

The special Committee who were appointed on the communication received from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, presented the following report, which was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Grievances, to which was referred a statement from the Representative of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, beg leave to report, that from the great and peculiar hardship of this case, originating entirely in mistake, we believe that relief should be extended to the applicant. They offer and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That Harmony Lodge, No. 6, is hereby authorized to receive and act upon the petition of W. L. Sawyer.

E. W. TAYLOR,
JOHN SAYLES,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
J. L. BRIGGS, } Committee.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 9 o'clock A.M. to-morrow.

January 20, 9 o'clock A.M.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before, and twenty-seven Lodges duly represented.

After prayer by the R. W. Bro. R. C. Burleson, Grand Chaplain, the minutes of the previous day were read, and, after amendment, adopted.

The following report from the select Committee who were appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee, appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, on a petition presented by R. W. Geo. Fisher, Past Grand Secretary, relative to an obligation due by this Grand Lodge to Munson Bankroft, or his assigns, for stationery, parchment, &c. furnished by him some time in 1839, beg leave to report, that they have investigated fully the claim, and have since the last Communication of this Grand Lodge seen the obligation alluded to, which is a due bill or promissory note, signed by the Committee who were appointed to make the purchase,—viz.: Bros. Thos. G. Western, Wm. G. Cooke and Geo. Fisher,—and would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay a certain promissory note made payable to Munson Bankroft, or his order, and signed by Bros. Thos. G. Western, Wm. G. Cooke and Geo. Fisher, Committee, when presented.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. B. NICHOLS,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
WM. M. TAYLOR.

January 20, 1849.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock, at which time the installation of officers would take place.

8 o'clock, January 20, A.L. 5849.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers present and Lodges represented as before.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed R. W. John H. Walton Grand Marshal for the occasion, and R. W. E. W. Taylor, Past Grand Master, then proceeded to install the officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas for the ensuing year.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That ten dollars be appropriated to the Tyler of Holland Lodge for services rendered to the Grand Lodge.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, holding in estimation the Masonic virtues and moral worth of our Worthy Bro. Oscar Coles, of Manitou Lodge, No. 106, New York, do hereby appoint him our Representative near the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and that the Grand Secretary be required to forward to Bro. Coles his commission accordingly.

The following resolution was read and adopted, and Bros. Ruthven, Taylor and Nichols appointed said Committee :—

Resolved, That a Committee on Printing be appointed, whose duty it shall be to contract for and superintend the printing for this Grand Lodge during the present year.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Stewards be paid the amount of their bills for refreshments furnished this Grand Lodge during the present session.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. P. W. Gray, Jno. Sayles and A. S. Ruthven as the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year.

A resolution was offered by Bro. John McClarty, appointing a committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution, so as to reduce the fees of subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge one-half ; which resolution was, on motion, laid on the table.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to M. W. G. M. Patrick, for the able and satisfactory manner in which he has performed the duties of his high and responsible station for the past year.

The following was unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the officers and Brethren of Holland Lodge, No. 1, for the use of their room.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

7 o'clock P.M., January 20, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers present and Lodges represented as before

The following report from the Finance Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to which was referred a resolution respecting the funds of this Grand Lodge, report and recommend for adoption the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and required to loan out the moneys of this Grand Lodge in his possession, saving and excepting an amount sufficient to defray the current expenses of the Grand Lodge for the present year, at the rate of not less than 8 nor more than 12 per cent. per annum.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer and his securities be held personally responsible for the amounts loaned by him, in conformity with the foregoing resolution.

H. KING,	} Committee.
L. P. RUCKER,	
JOHN SHEA,	
A. S. AINSWORTH,	
J. N. REID,	

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the dues of Gillespie, late Boonville, Lodge, be remitted, in consequence of the short time they have been at work.

On motion, duly seconded, the Printing Committee were authorized to approve the minutes of to-day.

The business having been brought to a close on the Secretary's table,

The M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in due and ample form, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

GEO. M. PATRICK,
Grand Master.

MASONIC ADDRESS,

Delivered by BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Grand Master of the District of Columbia, in concluding the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the National Washington Monument, according to Masonic usage.

MY RESPECTED BRETHREN OF THE MASONIC FRATERNITY AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:—Why have we assembled here to-day? What means this immense crowd around us? For what, beneath a July sun, on this anniversary of the birthday of a nation, has this vast multitude come up, as came Israel of old to the dedication of the temple of the Lord?

We are here to perform a duty which, were it possible, twenty millions of people would, without a whisper of dissent, assemble here to-day to witness, for it would be but the homage due to the memory of one whose name shall live in every American bosom as long as our great and glorious Union shall exist.

We are about to lay the foundation-stone of a National Monument, here in the city that bears his name, at this seat of the general government which his exertions established, to be consecrated to the memory of GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"The world,—the whole civilized world,"—says a most worthy and eloquent writer, in an address on the Masonic character of Washington, "bows with admiration to that name as the exponent of all that is great in patriotism and lovely in public example. The farthest nations of the earth take up praise when that name is syllabled in their ears, as if Europe, while they shut out the light of republican truths, acknowledge the lustre which our country's father has thrown around the name of MAN; and the little republic of San Marino, situated above the clouds that play about the midheight of Mount Urlino,—a republic too poor to have jewels, too small to boast of a treasury,—she cherishes among the valuables of her public possessions the name and simple portrait of Washington."

It is peculiarly appropriate that the solemn and interesting ceremony of laying this corner-stone should be performed by us, my Masonic Brethren, for he whose name is to make it a great national landmark for all future time was a Free Mason. The soldier, the statesman, the great and good man, upon all proper occasions clothed himself in the regalia of our Order, took his place among the Craft, and avowed to the world his affection and regard for our ancient institution.

We have all about us, my Brethren, the evidences that Washington was a Mason and of his devotion to the Craft. The Lodge from Fredericksburg, Virginia, is present, and its members bear with them the ancient and interesting records of their proceedings, wherein is recorded the entering, passing and raising of "Mr. George Washington," and upon which may be seen the handwriting of the Father of his Country. This apron and this sash which I now have the honor to wear were Washington's, and were worn by him while President of the United States at the laying of the corner-stone of the Capitol, at which ceremony he used this gavel which I shall use in the ceremony of laying this corner-stone. The chair upon the stand opposite, which has been occupied by the gifted orator who has just addressed you in words of eloquence which shall be as immortal as the fame of him whom he has so nobly eulogized, is the property of Alexandria Washington Lodge, No. 22: it was purchased by Washington and occupied by him during the time in which he presided over its deliberations. These sacred and invaluable relics are owned—the gavel by Potomac Lodge in Georgetown, the other articles by Alexandria Washington Lodge.

We come here, then, to-day, on this Sabbath of our national existence, not only in the presence of this immense concourse of human beings, but in the presence of the Almighty whose blessings we have invoked, to commence, in behalf of a great nation, the performance of a duty which that nation owes to the memory of Washington.

The superstructure which is to rise above this corner-stone will bear such emblems as shall be calculated to remind the millions who may look upon it hereafter, not only of the Father of his Country, but of the country of which he was the father.

A circular colonnade is to form the main feature of the structure, from which, pointing to heaven, will spring a plain obelisk five hundred feet in height. Near the apex of that obelisk is to be placed, in alto relievo, a single star. Like that star of old which gathered the wise men at Bethlehem in Judea, may this be the guiding-point to gather together the wise men of this land should danger ever threaten the existence of our beloved and cherished Union!

I feel, my fellow-citizens, while standing here on this consecrated spot, set apart, as it has been, by the Congress of the United States for a sacred purpose, as if it were almost inspired by the spirit of prophecy, when I say that this Union shall be perpetual, for here in this vast crowd, among all these banners that are floating and waving about me, nothing is seen but the emblems of union.

The glittering arms that flash back the sunlight are for protection and defence. Men of all parties and all Christian creeds here stand side by side, shoulder to shoulder, a single brotherhood, ready to defend this Union in one united mass should ever that defence be necessary. Who then can doubt its perpetual integrity? Who shall dare to predict that our Constitution, fraught with so many blessings to mankind, will ever be broken in fragments and scattered abroad? If there be a single speck upon our political horizon,—if the faintest shadow of portending danger is to be seen,—there are in the North, in the South, in the East and in the West, patriots, statesmen, great and gifted and good men, the descendants of the fathers of this Republic, who will stand by and defend and preserve this citadel of liberty whole, entire, perfect, as it now is, to be the glory of after-ages, as it is of this.

First in the name of the Most High, and next in that great human name to manifest respect to which we have met here to-day,—in the name of George Washington,—let us all here assembled, as the voice of one man, pledge ourselves anew to maintain the Constitution which Washington so powerfully aided in establishing; and let us also implore upon our common country perpetuity, happiness and peace.

It is very common upon the erection of monuments to the dead to say that they are erected to commemorate the person whose name they bear; and, in most instances, this is said with truth. But the erection of a marble monument for no other purpose than to perpetuate the memory of Washington would be a vain and useless task. He has a monument that can never die, where his name shall never be forgotten: it *was* indelibly engraved upon the hearts of five millions of people; now it is upon the hearts of twenty millions; hereafter it shall be upon the hearts of hundreds of millions.

We shall all be gathered to our fathers as the generations which have preceded us have been gathered to theirs. They taught us to pronounce and venerate the name of the Father of his Country. It was a holy lesson, and I say it with the utmost reverence and with a profound conviction of the immensity which should ever separate the name of Him whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain from the purest and best of mortals,—but still I say it was a holy lesson, and second only to that one, so much more holy, which teaches us to say, “Our Father who art in heaven.” We will teach it to our children, and they shall teach it to theirs; and upon that glorious monument of human hearts it shall be borne onward until time shall be no more. We erect not, then, this monument of marble to enable us or those who may succeed us to remember Washington, but we erect it as a mark of our affection, our veneration for the memory of the great and good man whose name it bears; and it shall hereafter be viewed by an admiring world as the evidence to all future time that this republic is not ungrateful. We commence here a great, a patriotic, a glorious work; and, when it shall have been completed, who that shall visit this city but will come to this spot, and, while contemplating the monument of a nation’s affections, but will feel his bosom warm and his heart expand with the holy fire of patriotism? His thoughts will not recur to him alone whose name it shall bear, but also to that galaxy of great names who not only pledged every thing, but risked every thing, that we might stand here this day in the proud position which we occupy before the world.

Is there then a single individual among the millions who hail this as their common country, who, professing the ability, will refuse the proffered honor of being permitted to contribute his mite to so noble, so patriotic an enterprise? I trust, not one.

The fraternity of Free Masons can recur with proud satisfaction to our Revolutionary struggle, when they remember that every general officer of the American armies, save one, was a Free Mason,—at least the pen of history has so made up the record,—and he whose eyes never beheld

"That hieroglyphic bright
Which none but Craftsmen ever saw"

died a traitor to his country.

This grand and imposing assemblage is at this moment graced and honored with the presence of the Royal Arch apron owned and worn by Gen. Joseph Warren, who fell at the battle of Bunker Hill, the first heroic martyr of high rank who poured out his blood in the cause of American liberty.

General Warren was Grand Master of Free Masons in America. The apron to which I have alluded is now in the possession of a worthy Brother of the Craft, who has journeyed from Boston to this city to join in these ceremonies and has brought with him that sacred relic of the past, that the name of Warren, immortalized by his patriotism, his valor and his early but glorious death, might be associated here in the never-to-be-forgotten ceremonies of this day with the name of Washington. Wreath them together in your memories, my Brethren, in an unfading chaplet, and wear them in your hearts!

Our most worthy Brother from whose eloquent address on the Masonic character of Washington I have before quoted, after alluding to his retirement and death, pours out, as it were, from his soul, the following tribute to his memory, which will not be out of place here:—

"He has gone, indeed, but the brilliant track of his pathway shall know no darkness. The zodiac through which he took his course shall be bright in the lustre of his greatness; and star after star may go out in every constellation of the political heavens, but where he went the brightness shall be eternal; and the upturned faces of admiring mortals shall catch a reflection of that lustre from the very power of appreciating its purity.

"No more Washingtons shall come in our time. Mount Vernon shall not give back its sacred deposit to bless a nation, and that human form has not yet been shaped to receive the ethereal fire to make it another Washington. But his virtues are stamped on the heart of mankind. He who is great in the battle-field looks upward to the generalship of Washington. He who grows wise in counsel feels that he is imitating a Washington. He who can resign power against the wishes of a people has in his eyes the bright example of Washington. The husbandman toiling in his field is proud in the thought that Washington too was a farmer. The Mason, in the midst of his labors, remembers with pride that Washington was a Mason; and the man struck down by misfortune, solitary and unaided, who has no special claim of association with that great one, warms his heart and strengthens his resolution in the recollection that Washington too was a man."

True virtue and true valor can never go unrewarded by a virtuous and patriotic people.

This republic is proud of her jewels. She forgets not her statesmen and her heroes, but delights to honor them while living and to commemorate them when dead.

Were the scroll which contains the record of all the great and good men of the republic now to be unrolled before us, at its head, surrounded by a halo of undying glory, would stand in living light, pre-eminent above all, the name of **GEORGE WASHINGTON.**

"He burst the fetters of the land;
He taught us to be free;
He raised the dignity of man,
And bade a nation be."

The M. W. Grand Master then descended to the corner-stone, and, having applied the square, level and plumb to the northeast corner thereof, pronounced it well squared, level and plumb,—well

laid, true and trusty. Then, having deposited in the cavity the several articles furnished, he said :—

I shall now proceed to place upon this stone the ancient Masonic elements of consecration,—the corn, wine and oil.

This may appear to many an unmeaning ceremony. If such be the case, I can only say to those who thus view it that to them hundreds of other ceremonies and emblems must appear equally so. The water which is sprinkled upon the face of the infant; the solemn rite by which age comes visibly before the world and announces his faith in the redeeming power of a Savior; the flag which floats at the head of the military column; the plumes that dance amid the charge of warring hosts; the christening of a ship as she glides for the first time into her destined element, without which no sailor could be found to trust himself upon her deck,—these are all *ceremonies and emblems*, but they are such as are solemnly recognised by the world. “The tabernacle in the wilderness and all its holy vessels were, by God’s express command, anointed with oil; Aaron and his two sons were set apart for the priesthood with the same ceremony, and the prophets and kings of Israel were consecrated to their offices by the same rite.”

To the reflecting mind all these ceremonies have a deep and abiding meaning.

In placing upon this stone this CORN, I invoke the blessing of plenty to the nation whose monument this is to be. May bread, that great staff of our physical existence, never be wanting to feed the hungry!

In pouring upon it the WINE, permit me to express a hope that the wine of joy may ever be found in our broad land, and that happiness may be a dweller in every hamlet from the Rio Bravo to the Bay of Fundy, from the Pacific to the Atlantic Oceans.

In pouring upon it the OIL, I invoke for all who may be in affliction the healing oil of consolation.

This corner-stone is now ready to receive the superstructure which is to rise above it. May no accident attend its erection, and may the capstone that announces its completion be laid under circumstances as happy and as favorable as this foundation-stone has now been placed!

The Grand Master then presented to the architect, ROBERT MILLS, (who is a Free Mason,) the working-tools of his profession, remarking, as he did it :—

I now present to you, my Brother, the *square*, *level* and *plumb*, which are the working-tools you are to use in the erection of this monument. You, as a Free Mason, know to what they morally allude: the plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the *square* of virtue, and remembering that we are travelling upon the *level* of time to that “undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns.” Never forgetting this sublime moral lesson, you are here to use them practically in your profession. Look well to the erection of this national monument; see that every stone is well *squared*, and that it is placed in its position both *level* and *plumb*, that the noble offering of a nation to commemorate greatness, patriotism and virtue may stand until the end of time.

The Masonic grand honors were then given, and the benediction was pronounced.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas met at the Masonic Hall of Austin Lodge, No. 12, in the City of Austin, January 21, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850, being the Thirteenth Grand Annual Communication.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. George M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Sam'l McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Thos. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" George Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" James M. Hall,	D. D. Grand Master 2d District.
" John Sayles,	D. D. Grand Master 5th District.
" Wm. M. Taylor,	Grand Lecturer.
" B. P. Smith,	Grand Orator,
" E. J. Arnold,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE PRESENT.

R. W. Bros. A. Neill, J. Shea, T. J. Hardeman and A. Sterne.

LODGES REPRESENTED.

Holland Lodge, No. 1,	P. W. Gray and J. W. Henderson.
Milam Lodge, No. 2,	A. Sterne and T. J. Jennings.
Matagorda Lodge, No. 7,	E. M. Pease.
Milam Lodge, No. 11,	John B. Root.
Austin Lodge, No. 12,	William H. Cushney.
Constantine Lodge, No. 13,	G. A. Evarts.
Trinity Lodge, No. 14,	A. S. Ainsworth.
Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17,	George M. Patrick.
Washington Lodge, No. 18,	B. E. Tarver.
Forest Lodge, No. 19,	C. G. Keenan and W. M. Taylor.
Graham Lodge, No. 20,	W. A. Higgins and E. D. Little.
Lothrop Lodge, No. 21,	James M. Hall.
Marshall Lodge, No. 22,	J. K. Holland and J. M. Hall.
Clinton Lodge, No. 23,	Samuel McClarty.
Red Land Lodge, No. 24,	John Polk.
Montgomery Lodge, No. 25,	E. J. Arnold.
Paris Lodge, No. 27,	J. S. Gillett and W. M. Williams.
De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29,	P. Hussey.
Gonzales Lodge, No. 30,	William H. Stewart.
Palestine Lodge, No. 31,	John E. Cravens.

Lafayette Lodge, No. 34,	William J. Russell.
Jackson Lodge, No. 35,	John H. McRae.
Port Lavaca Lodge, No. 36,	James T. Lytle.
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37,	A. S. Ainsworth.
Jefferson Lodge, No. 38,	James H. Rodgers.
Victoria Lodge, No. 40,	D. M. Stapp.
Van Zandt Lodge, No. 42,	James H. Rodgers.
Alamo Lodge, No. 44,	O. Evans and B. E. Edwards.
Euclid Lodge, No. 45,	John N. Thomas.
Florida Lodge, No. 46,	William J. Russell.
Teutonia Lodge, No. 47,	Handel W. Wagner.
St. John's Lodge, No. 49,	E. M. Pease.
Tyler Lodge, No. 50,	Elisha E. Lott.
St. John's Lodge, No. 53,	Elisha E. Lott.
Gillespie Lodge, No. 55,	John D. Pitts.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor. The Grand Lodge was then opened in the Master's Degree, in ample form, and with prayer by the R. W. Past Grand Chaplain, Rev. Andrew J. McGown. The M. W. Grand Master then delivered his Annual Address, in the following words :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

BRETHREN :—It affords me no commonplace satisfaction to be permitted once more to meet you in Grand Annual Communication.

Since our last meeting nothing has transpired within your jurisdiction to disturb the harmony, tarnish the reputation or impede the onward progress of our Fraternity ; nor has any thing occurred to weaken the kind and fraternal feeling which has heretofore characterized our correspondence and intercourse with other Grand Lodges.

When we take into consideration the great extent of territory over which our population is dispersed, together with the agitated state of our political relations from the organization of this Grand Lodge to within three years of the present time, and that we were strangers to each other, thrown together from almost every portion of the United States and Europe, we may justly regard our Masonic position as unprecedented, not only in the steady and rapid increase in our numbers, but also in the advancement in the tenets of our profession, in the cardinal virtues, and in the moral character of our members generally.

There are now fifty-four Chartered Lodges under our jurisdiction, which, so far as I am informed, are all living in harmony, working zealously, and exercising that "rigid scrutiny into the character of applicants for initiation" that has been so frequently and so forcibly urged upon them by the authority of this Grand Lodge. And here permit me to renew the charge, that in our anxiety for numbers, and to add to our means of benevolence, we do it not at the expense of our charity, which will sometimes lead us a step too far: no one should be admitted to the privileges and mysteries of our Order until he is known to have established a reputation for a virtuous life, and a good, honest member of society.

Let such scrutiny be invariably and strictly applied, and our Lodges will continue to prosper, and the honor and reputation of the Fraternity be preserved and perpetuated.

Admit the vicious, the immoral, one who cannot, or rather will not, learn to

govern his passions and appetites and circumscribe his desires; discord is introduced, the Lodge suffers, and our time-honored institution shares in it. We may labor and toil with such material for years, in charity, brotherly kindness and patience, exert all our skill, our ingenuity and our strength; when we come to adjust it in the great moral edifice, it is found to be worse than useless, and, if not rejected, will not only deform but weaken the structure.

Our charity may and should induce us to bear long with an erring Brother, remind him of his errors and aid him in reforming; but, should he not profit by our teaching, by our example, nor yet by our chiding, but continue to act in open violation of those great and ennobling moral duties which we are taught in our first Masonic lesson to inculcate and observe towards our God, our fellow-men and ourselves, then does it become our imperative though painful duty so to deal with him that his offences lie not to the charge of that Order which has taught him (though in vain) to reverence Deity, to do unto others as he would that they should do unto him, to live temperately in all things and to act creditably with all men.

Our Masonic duties are various and important, and may not with impunity be disregarded by any. We should be ever ready to extend a helping hand to a needy Brother, to go out of our way to serve him, to offer to assist him with our best counsel and kindest admonitions, to soothe him in afflictions, and betray not his confidence, but relieve his wants and save him from falling, if within our power.

Without further enumeration of duties, (and I fear, my Brethren, that these are sometimes—nay, often—forgotten and neglected by us,) we are connected by solemn ties, and should ever keep them in active and lively remembrance, for then, and then only, may we hope to preserve consciences void of offence towards God and man.

Thus living, how improved would be our condition in our intercourse here with our fellow-man, and what a solace in death, that in the Masonic Fraternity is left a father to our children and a husband to the widow, that shall not fail them in the hour of adversity!

Notwithstanding our opposition to the policy, it will be found by the Committee on Returns from Subordinate Lodges, that more Degrees have been conferred by Dispensation than at any former period of the same time. The applicants were almost invariably destined for California, and in most instances travelling in company with Brethren who were competent and desirous to instruct them.

Within the past Masonic year fifteen Dispensations have been granted for new Lodges, which expire by their own limitation this day. It will be for you to determine, on inspection of their work and from other sources of information, whether our working-tools have been placed in hands of sufficient skill to entitle them to a Charter.

Having but few Masonic libraries, and no Masonic paper or Magazine being published within our jurisdiction, I would recommend to all Lodges, and especially those newly organized, to furnish themselves with a few copies of some tried and approved publication.

The Masonic Review, edited by C. Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is—very justly, I think—much lauded by those who have had an opportunity of testing it from its origin. I can also with much confidence recommend The Masonic Mirror, published at Covington, Kentucky, by Wm. C. Morgan. I name these works because I know them best: they are cheap and highly instructive, and would tend much to enlighten the young and remind the oldest and most zealous among us that we may yet and should improve.

The constitutional duties required of the District Deputy Grand Masters being frequently neglected in some of our Districts, and regarding it as an important auxiliary and great benefit in the administration of the affairs of our Fraternity, I would most respectfully recommend that the Grand Master be

authorized to make other appointments during the recess of the Grand Lodge so soon as he learns that, through inability or other cause, any of those appointed in session cannot attend to the full duties of his office, as required by the Constitution.

A faithful discharge of the duties of that office, in connection with the continued services of a faithful and competent Grand Lecturer, cannot fail to establish that uniformity of work and instructions which is so desirable, and for the accomplishment of which there has been so much diversity of opinion and action by the various Grand Lodges of the United States.

Here am I reminded of the painful duty of calling to your notice the death of Bro. John H. Walton, Past Grand Lecturer, who was with us during our last session up to its adjournment; and, in less than two days, his earthly tabernacle was dissolved, his spirit returned to God who gave it,—a living stone for that spiritual building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Permit me to suggest the propriety of taking into consideration the necessity of a change in the time of our meetings, and permanent establishment of the place. I have ever been opposed to the custom of holding our annual sessions at the same time and place of those of the Legislative Assemblies. The time was, however, that the poverty of our Lodges—being few in number and widely dispersed—rendered this custom expedient, and, for some time, necessary to attain a quorum for the transaction of business.

That necessity no longer exists. As evidence of this, it is only necessary to refer to the records of our last session in the City of Houston, which will show that there were twenty-three Lodges represented, and under the most unfavorable circumstances of reported cholera and incessant rains, which had almost suspended travel and cut off intercourse with the city at that time. I have lived long in Texas, and am satisfied that a more unpropitious month than January could not have been selected for our meeting.

It is obvious to all that members of the Legislature and those in attendance upon the Supreme Court cannot give that attention to their Masonic duties that is incumbent on them or that they desire as Representatives of subordinate Lodges and members of this Grand Lodge; and Brethren thus situated compose a large, and would otherwise be a most active and efficient, portion of our body.

I take pleasure in presenting for your consideration a communication from R. W. Bro. John Dove, Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, asking an attentive perusal, thorough investigation and criticism of the Masonic Text-Book which has been prepared and adopted by that Grand Lodge, and to communicate to him the result.

A copy of the text-book has been received and placed in the hands of your Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who, I think, cannot fail to make favorable mention of it in their report. Some of its provisions and regulations conflict with our own and with my own opinion of expediency and right, but, in the main, I regard it as a work of merit, and concur in the sentiment of the Right Worshipful Brother expressive of its object. The adoption of such a work by each Grand Lodge of the several States would go further to establish uniformity of work and legislation than any other plan which could possibly be devised.

I would respectfully ask your acceptance of the copy sent, and that careful investigation of its several parts which is requested.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia proposes to invest any Grand Lodge of the United States with the copyright of the work for her jurisdiction that may desire it.

I have also received a communication from R. W. Bro. J. Robinson, Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Maryland, calling again attention to the action had in that body in November last in regard to the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge, which is respectfully submitted, with

accompanying resolutions of that Grand Lodge, for your consideration and action.

This subject has been long agitated in our Union, and to which the attention of this Grand Lodge was directed in its session of 1848 in the very able report of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which adduced all the arguments claimed by its advocates in the most forcible manner; notwithstanding which, the project at that time failed to meet the entire approbation and sanction of this Grand Lodge.

What may be the feeling of the Fraternity of our jurisdiction at this time upon the subject I know not, but am of decided opinion myself that the method proposed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia in having a common text-book to serve as a manual in our respective jurisdictions, together with a little more charity and forbearance towards one another, would accomplish more than a supreme head could, and be acceptable to all, and much expense saved the Craft, which otherwise would be diverted from its legitimate and more useful purposes.

With deep regret do I advert to the unhappy condition of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York. There have been two distinct organized bodies since the 5th of January last, each claiming to be the legal and constitutional Grand Lodge of the State, and calling upon the other Grand Lodges of the United States for their sanction and recognition!

I cannot conceive a cause that, in my opinion, would justify the occurrences of that evening, in an organized body of Masons. It has inflicted a wound that is general in its effects, the baneful influence of which will be felt by the Fraternity for years, even were it possible to place that Grand Lodge now in the dignified attitude which it occupied prior to that tragical event.

Fain would we consign to oblivion every recollection of the disastrous events of the evening referred to, instead of perpetuating them by record; but it has become an imperative though painful duty of this and every other Grand Lodge (especially to which the parties have appealed) to express an opinion and frankly and candidly determine the question, Which is the true and rightful Grand Lodge?—upon the evidence contained in the printed proceedings of the parties; all of which having been before the appropriate Committee of this Lodge, precludes the necessity of further notice of the subject in this communication from me.

In relation, however, to what appears to me to be the main question of the difficulty, I would state that I have taken much pains to inform myself, and can find no authority to justify the position that Past Masters, as such, have an inalienable right of membership in a Grand Lodge.

This, however, is a question of grave import, and, I doubt not, has already received the attention of many of my Brethren present, and especially the Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who are more familiar than myself with the ancient history, rites and usages of our Order.

Brethren, if we sedulously endeavor to erect our spiritual building agreeably to the rules and designs laid down by the Supreme Architect of the universe in the Book of Life, which is our spiritual trestle-board, would our long-revered and justly much-cherished Order present to the world in this advanced age of civil, moral and religious light, and in this our happy land, the unseemly, shattered and almost demolished structure adverted to?

Then let us endeavor to live agreeably to our profession, for indeed it is a goodly one when fully comprehended in all its moral bearing and faithfully practised in its true spirit. And may your deliberations be now and ever conducted in that spirit of conciliation and harmony which has hitherto uniformly characterized your assemblies!

GEO. M. PATRICK,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

R. W. Bro. Wm. M. Taylor presented the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to attend the deliberations during the present session of this M. W. Grand Lodge.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Adolphus Sterne, J. M. Hall and Samuel McClarty, was appointed to wait upon M. W. Bro. Willis Stewart, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, and invite him to a seat in this Grand Lodge. The Committee, having retired for a short time, returned, and introduced Bro. Stewart, who was received by the Grand Lodge with due honors.

On motion of Bro. John Sayles, the M. W. Grand Master's address was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Samuel McClarty, John Sayles and P. W. Gray.

The following communication was received and read by the Grand Secretary:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—In the returns of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, over which I have the honor to preside, there appears in the list of suspensions that of J. S. Mayfield, for non-payment of dues. Subsequent to that time I beg leave to report to this Worshipful body that he has settled his dues to my satisfaction, and now stands reinstated in said Lodge.

(Signed,)

WILLIAM J. RUSSELL,

Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, La Grange.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. John Sayles, was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That Bros. Thos. J. Jennings and Adolphus Sterne be authorized to take their seats in this Grand Lodge as the Representatives of Milam Lodge, No. 2.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:—

On Work and Returns of Lodges under Dispensation,—Bros. William M. Taylor, James M. Hall, John B. Root, Jas. W. Henderson, P. Hussey.

On Finance and Accounts,—Bros. E. J. Arnold, Handel W. Wagner, N. B. Charlton, Thos. J. Hardeman, B. V. Teal.

On Returns from Chartered Lodges,—Bros. Samuel McClarty, J. T. Lytle, Warren Larkins, J. N. Thomas, C. G. King.

On Petitions,—Bros. Andrew Neill, Martin F. Reinhardt, J. H. Rodgers, Warren Larkins, J. H. McRae.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. John Sayles, Thomas J. Jennings, Peter W. Gray, William J. Russell, Onesimus Evans.

The following annual report from R. W. William M. Taylor, Grand Lecturer, was read, and, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. James W. Henderson, Thomas J. Hardeman and J. C. Tannehill:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Another Masonic year has rolled away and been numbered with the things that were, and it again becomes my duty to inform you as briefly as possible how I have discharged the duties devolving upon me as Grand Lecturer during the Masonic year.

In consequence of bad health, inclemency of the weather and high waters, I have not been able to render as efficient service to the subordinate Lodges as I could wish to have done. My health during the entire year has been very bad, and for the last three or four months I have been wholly unable to attend to any kind of business. I have therefore been prevented from visiting Lodges as I should otherwise have done. Owing to high waters, it was impossible to notify Lodges as to the time I would be with them in my official capacity: consequently I arrived at many of the Lodges without previous notice, and found it difficult—nay, almost impossible—to assemble members without great delay, thereby interfering with my future arrangements. From the fact of their not getting previous notice, it not unfrequently happened that the officers of the Lodge were absent from the place. Thus my usefulness as a Grand Officer was materially injured, and many of the officers and members of Lodges were deprived of the benefit of my lectures.

During the past Masonic year I visited, worked and lectured in the following Lodges, in the order in which they are named,—viz.:

Harmony, No. 6; Teutonia, No. 47; Liberty, No. 48; Tyler, No. 50; De Witt Clinton, No. 29; Jackson, No. 35; Red Land, No. 24; Sam. Houston, No. 32; Eagle, No. 41; Grand Bluff, No. 54; Marshall, No. 22; Jefferson, No. 88; Van Zandt, No. 42; Friendship, No. 16; Paris, No. 27; Constantine, No. 13; St. John's, No. 53; Clinton, No. 23; Milam, No. 2; Douglass, No. 43; Euclid, No. 45; Palestine, No. 31; Lothrop, No. 21; Olive-Branch, No. 26; Washington, No. 18; Milam, No. 11; Graham, No. 20; Florida, No. 46; Lafayette, No. 34; Bastrop, U. D.; Austin, No. 12; Gonzales, No. 30; Victoria, No. 40; Port Lavaca, No. 36; Matagorda, No. 7; St. John's, No. 49; Holland, No. 1; Montgomery, No. 25; Forest, No. 19; Leona Union, No. 39; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Gillespie, No. 55; Burleson, U. D.; Lockhart, U. D.

At each of the above Lodges I spent from three to four nights, working or lecturing, or both as circumstances required. That I found to be as long a time as the members of the various Lodges were willing to remain together. After the third night those who lived at a distance were anxious to go home, and those who were convenient to the Lodge always had some excuse for not attending. All of said Lodges, with perhaps one or two exceptions, are in a prosperous, flourishing and sound condition: many of them are doing much work, and working regularly and well. All are exceedingly anxious to conform strictly to the mode of work adopted or approved by your Honorable body. They therefore paid the utmost attention to my work and lectures whilst I was with them, and appeared to be determined not only to learn the general outlines of the system, but also to become perfectly familiar with the minutæ or minor points.

During the year I granted many Dispensations for conferring Degrees. I did so for the following reason: After lecturing, those who heard me were anxious to see work done or Degrees conferred, saying they could learn faster and remember better by seeing the several Degrees conferred, and they much preferred a real to an adopted candidate. I therefore did not hesitate to grant Dispensations under such circumstances, whenever the Lodges would declare it a case of emergency.

It affords me much pleasure to say that, in my opinion, Masonry in Texas is decidedly on the advance. It is increasing rapidly in numbers; but, what is still more to be desired, none but the worthy can gain admission within our doors. All the Lodges that I visited during the year are exceedingly cautious whom they

admit within their walls: they have had many serious lessons upon that subject, and have been taught by experience to investigate well the characters of all candidates.

They are also prompt in punishing any violation of their By-laws, or un-Masonic conduct of any kind; yet they administer justice with charity, and are ever ready to forgive an erring Brother, provided he manifests sorrow for past errors and shows a disposition to reform.

I am clearly of the opinion that the subordinate Lodges now understand sufficiently well the *modus operandi* of initiating, passing and raising candidates. Therefore, for the future, I think it would be well for the Grand Lecturer to devote much of his time in explaining to the members of the various Lodges the nature, extent and proper tendency of the Masonic obligations, as well as the duties Masons owe towards each other. Here is an inexhaustible field for his time, talents and abilities, and by pursuing such a course he could render inestimable service to the Fraternity; for from past experience I am satisfied that many well-meaning Masons err through ignorance of their duty, and not design. They read no works upon Masonry, and in their Lodges see and hear nothing but the manner of making Masons; consequently they are wholly ignorant of the nature of their Masonic ties, or the manner in which they are connected together.

I spent a portion of my time in explaining these duties to many of the Lodges that I visited during the past year: with what success I leave it for the Lodges to say, though, so far as I could judge, they appeared to be well pleased with my views and opinions on that subject. Were the Grand Lodge to recommend the Grand Lecturer to adopt such a course, it would be well received by the subordinate Lodges; for a recommendation from the Grand Lodge, with them, is equivalent to an order: they follow a suggestion from the Grand Lodge just as promptly as though it were a positive order.

I would suggest, also, that it would be well for the Grand Lodge to recommend and advise the Worshipful Masters of subordinate Lodges to call their members together at least once a month, and either deliver, or cause to be delivered by some members of their Lodge, a lecture upon the duties of Masons and the nature and extent of their obligations. By adopting this plan, the members of their Lodges would soon become familiar with their duties, and many difficulties would thereby be prevented, and there would be more bright Masons in the Lodges; for it is an incontrovertible fact that just so soon as a person begins to understand the nature, object and principles of Masonry he becomes anxious to pry into its antiquity, and that leads him to study well the oral part of our much loved-institution,—which fits him for filling any station in the Lodge with credit to himself and honor to the Fraternity.

Some of the subordinate Lodges are inclined to be too lenient in the examination of visiting Brethren. I cautioned them well upon the impropriety of such conduct; yet I think a general caution from the Grand Lodge upon that subject would be of service to all the Lodges in the State. It is of vital importance to the Craft that none but true and lawfully-made Masons gain admission among us. Hence the necessity of a thorough investigation at the examination of visiting Brethren.

The moral tendency of Masonry in Texas is onward and upward. This standard has been greatly elevated throughout the entire State during the last two or three years: still, there is room for improvement. I hold it to be the duty of the Grand Lodge to use every effort to raise the moral standard still higher, that no blush may crimson our faces when we look upon the Great Light. If you would lend your aid and assistance to the subordinate Lodges as far as is consistent and proper, I am satisfied that they would close their doors against the profane swearer, professed gambler and habitual drunkard; and such as are already among us would have to reform, or be dealt with as their acts merit. The time is fast hastening when such a stand will be taken. It

VOL. I.—21

appears to me the Grand Lodge should ponder well upon the subject, and see if the time has not already arrived when the preliminary steps should be taken to bring about such a state of affairs. Many good men and Masons stand aloof or stay away from our meetings in consequence of the immoral conduct they see practised by those who are constantly in the habit of meeting with us; and it not unfrequently so happens that those immoral Masons fill high stations in the Lodge. This is one of the greatest drawbacks to our beloved institution, and should by all means be remedied.

During the past year I have traversed the entire State, or at least a very large portion of it, and it affords me much pleasure to say that the Grand Lodge has much to congratulate herself upon in consequence of the prosperous, flourishing and healthful condition of her subordinates. I am fully convinced that I hazard nothing in saying that Texas Masonry, in every point, or under whatever circumstances you may view it, will compare—and lose nothing by the comparison—with Masonry in any other country. As for devoted and zealous Masons, the population considered, we will number with any State in the Union.

As for the ability of subordinate Lodges to work and lecture, there is not a single Lodge in the State but what you will find some members who understand well how to work and lecture. Some Lodges, it is true, are more fortunate than others in having among them a greater number of bright Masons; yet all the Lodges are sufficiently supplied with bright material to do their work well when all their members are present.

I might go on and classify the Lodges and show their different abilities to work and lecture: by doing so, however, I should necessarily do some of them very great injustice, for, as I have before stated, in consequence of high waters and mail-failures, my communications frequently did not reach their places of destination in time; consequently, having no notice of my intended visit, it not unfrequently happened that many of their brightest members, and those who were in the habit of doing most of the work, were absent. Hence I should do those Lodges very great injustice to classify them or speak of their ability to work or lecture under such circumstances. I would therefore most respectfully decline making such a report.

In conclusion, I beg leave to say that in consequence of the arduous duties and exposures attendant upon the office of Grand Lecturer, and my own ill health, I will be compelled to decline the honor of a re-election, and would therefore ask my friends not to nominate me for Grand Lecturer the ensuing year. I, however, can conscientiously say to whoever may succeed me, that the hospitality and kindness shown to the Grand Lecturer by the Fraternity throughout the State greatly diminishes the exposures and lightens the labors of the office, so that one is ready to exclaim that with all its responsibilities it is still a pleasant and agreeable office. The Lodges are all very liberal in rewarding the Lecturer for his services.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
Grand Lecturer of Grand Lodge of Texas.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, the By-laws from subordinate Lodges were referred to the Committee on Petitions.

No further business appearing, the several documents on the Grand Secretary's table were placed in the hands of their appropriate committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening at early candlelight.

Tuesday evening, January 22, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850, 7 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by order of the Grand Master, and with prayer by Past Grand Chaplain A. J. McGown.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. George M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Sam'l McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Thos. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ Jas. M. Hall,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Andrew Neill, John Shea, Thos. J. Hardeman and Adolphus Sterne.

On a call of the subordinate Lodges, thirty-two were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number present and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and adopted.

Bro. J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, was announced and took a seat in the east.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Subordinate Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Grand Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned Committee on Work and Returns of Subordinate Lodges U. D. ask leave to report that we have examined the work and returns of the following Lodges,—viz. : Bastrop Lodge, U.D., held at Bastrop; Lockhart Lodge, U. D., held at Lockhart,—and find the same correct. We would therefore recommend Charters to issue to said Lodges on the payment of the usual fees. We have also examined the work and returns of Burleson Lodge, held at Caldwell, Larissa Lodge, held at the town of Larissa, county of Cherokee, and Mt. Enterprise Lodge, held at Mt. Enterprise, Rusk county, and find their work correct, and have made the following corrections in their returns,—viz. : Burleson Lodge has charged herself with \$43 50, when it should have been but \$39 50. Larissa Lodge returns are informal in this : They report a Past Master, which is incorrect, and are not in conformity to the form laid down by this Grand Lodge for the government of subordinate Lodges. They have also charged themselves with \$29 00 dues, when it should have been \$30 00. Mt. Enterprise Lodge returns show but fourteen contributing members, when it should have been twenty-one; but three initiations,—it should have been thirteen; but five passings,—it should have been fourteen; and one passing which should not have been returned, said passing having taken place since the 27th December last. They also report but six raisings, when it should have been thirteen; they have charged themselves with but \$65 00 when it should have been \$75 00. Having

made the above corrections, we recommend that Charters issue to said Burleson, Larissa and Mt. Enterprise Lodges, on the payment of the usual fees.

The returns of the following Lodges have been examined,—viz.: Sam. McClarty, Rocky Mount and Joppa. The returns of Sam. McClarty Lodge are correct, but they have sent up no work. Rocky Mount Lodge erred in reporting a Past Master, and have charged themselves with \$37 50, when it should have been \$40 00. Joppa Lodge same error: their dues are only \$15 00. We are unable to say whether any of said Lodges are working regularly or not, as they have sent up no work.

We have also examined the work of St. John's Lodge, held at McKinney, Collin county, and find the same correct, and recommend a Charter to issue on the payment of the usual fees.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
J. M. HALL,
JOHN B. ROOT,
J. W. HENDERSON,
P. HUSKEY.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges made the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

The undersigned Committee on Chartered Lodges would respectfully report that they have had under examination the returns of the following Lodges,—to wit:—

Victoria, No. 40; Montgomery, No. 25; Palestine, No. 31; Holland, No. 1; Austin, No. 12; Milam, No. 11; Sam. Houston, No. 32; Forest, No. 19; Lothrop, No. 21; Clinton, No. 23; Gillespie, No. 55; Mount Moriah, No. 37; St. John's, No. 53; Van Zandt, No. 42; Douglas, No. 43; Constantine, No. 13; Lafayette, No. 34; Gonzales, No. 30; Washington, No. 18; Tyler, No. 50; Matagorda, No. 7; Leona, No. 39; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Alamo, No. 44; Lavaca, No. 36; De Witt Clinton, No. 29; Teutonia, No. 47; St. John's, No. 49; Graham, No. 20.

Twenty-five Lodges, the returns of which are correct and made in due form. They find the returns of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, very imperfect and informal, and, from the information they have derived from the same, would place the sum due from that Lodge at \$17 50. They find also the returns of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, informal in several respects: the names of the members of the Lodge are not sent up with the report, nor is the report made out in conformity with the plan laid down by the Grand Lodge. The account, however, they deem correct. The returns of Tyler Lodge, No. 50, show that said Lodge is indebted, over and above the account set forth in their returns, in the sum of \$4 50, not having accounted for nine raisings. The returns of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, are defective in omitting to charge said Lodge with fourteen raisings. The returns of Paris Lodge, No. 27, are also defective in not charging said Lodge with eight raisings. In the returns of Florida Lodge, No. 46, they notice that a petition was presented and acted upon, and the candidate initiated, on the same evening, without its being shown that the same was done by Dispensation. Said Lodge is therefore either indebted to the Grand Lodge for one Dispensation, or has worked very irregularly.

Your Committee have under investigation other returns, upon which they beg leave for further time to report.

SAML. MCCLARTY,
JAMES T. LITTLE,
W. A. KING,
WARREN LARKINS,
J. N. THOMAS,

Committee on Chartered Lodges.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the By-laws of Lodges U. D., made the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws of Lodges U. D. have had the matters submitted to them in part under consideration, and would ask leave to report the By-laws of Bastrop Lodge as being correct and fit for adoption as submitted ; also, the By-laws of Lockhart Lodge, U. D., and recommend them to the Grand Lodge for adoption. The same Committee have examined the amended By-laws of Alamo Lodge, No. 44, and recommend their adoption with the following amendment :—In Article 12 add, as an amendment to the section, the words “under the provisions of the 44th Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.”

Respectfully submitted.

January 22, A.L. 5850.

A. NEILL,

Chairman of Committee.

The select Committee to whom was referred the Annual Report of the R. W. Grand Lecturer made the following report, which was read and, on motion, received, and the resolution appended thereto laid on the table :—

AUSTIN, January 22, A.L. 5850.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge.

The select Committee to whom was referred the report of the R. W. Grand Lecturer have had the same under consideration, and in the opinion of your Committee the same contains many valuable suggestions, which, if acted upon by the Grand Lodge, may do much good in the subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. Among other matters recommended by the Grand Lecturer is, that this Grand Lodge recommend to all Masters of subordinate Lodges to cause a lecture to be delivered in their respective Lodges at least once in each month. This, in the opinion of your Committee, would, if carried out by the different Masters, be well calculated to enlighten the uninformed Mason in the various duties imposed upon him.

The report contains other suggestions which the Committee have thought proper not to particularly notice, but recommend the whole report to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge as containing information and suggestions interesting to the Order. They, therefore, recommend that the report of the Grand Lecturer be published with the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication, and that this Grand Lodge adopt the accompanying resolution.

JAMES W. HENDERSON,

THOS. J. JENNINGS,

THOS. J. HARDEMAN,

J. C. TANNEHILL.

Be it Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Texas, That all Masters of subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be requested to cause a lecture to be given in their respective Lodges upon the duty and obligations of Masons at least once in every three months.

The R. W. Grand Secretary made the following annual report, which was, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. S. H. Darden, E. D. Little and G. A. Evarts, and his account referred to the Committee on Finance :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Grand Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas, would most respectfully submit his annual report, and, in doing so, cannot but continue the remarks which he expressed in his last annual report with regard to the promptness and punctuality of all the subordinate Lodges within our jurisdiction in complying with the requisitions of our Constitution regarding their returns. From the remote portions of the State where many of them are situated, it becomes a difficult if not a serious matter for them to have their Representatives and returns here in due time. Consequently it has happened during the past year that several returns were received after the close of the last session at Houston, but all of them were examined and found correct.

From the bad state of the roads during the last three months I had nearly failed to have the regalia, together with a valuable portion of our foreign correspondence, conveyed to this place in time; but on the day after my arrival I despatched a messenger from here, and the documents are now with us and before the appropriate Committees.

By a resolution adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, an appropriation of twenty-five dollars was made for Bro. L. G. Hoffman, of Albany, for the loss sustained by him in attempting to circulate his paper in Texas. I have received no answer from the Brother yet, and the amount is still at his disposition.

By a series of resolutions adopted at the same session I was made chairman of a committee to procure a new regalia for the Grand Lodge; but the third resolution setting forth that, unless the one now in use could be disposed of, the Committee were to defer their action in procuring the new one until the present session, I must, therefore, most respectfully state that, not being able to dispose of the one now in use, there has been no action by that Committee.

I would beg leave to draw the attention of the District Deputy Grand Masters to the necessity of notifying the Grand Secretary of the date, name of Lodge and officers of all new Lodges created by Dispensation during the recess of the Grand Lodge, so that he may be enabled to enter them properly in the books. This may have been done and the communication lost on the way, as the Grand Secretary has been notified of several packages of proceedings to the subordinate Lodges of the last year which never reached their place of destination. It also becomes my duty to state that there have been three Charters lost in this manner, either from accident or irregularity of the mails,—one to Olive-Branch, No. 26, at Cincinnati; one to Van Zandt, No. 42, Cass county; and one to Jefferson, No. 88, also in Cass county. I mention these facts that, should they fall into improper hands, it may be more easily detected, and trust that the Brethren throughout our jurisdiction may be on their guard.

With this report I beg leave to submit my annual account, and trust it may be found correct. I am in daily expectation of the arrival of R. W. Grand Treasurer, whose account-current may be required to complete the examination of mine. He has been detained for several days on account of high water.

In conclusion, I would most respectfully suggest that a resolution be passed requiring every subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to forward to the Grand Secretary a copy of their By-laws, so that they may be kept in the archives for reference.

Fraternally yours,

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

The Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their annual report, which was read and received, and, on motion, a special Committee appointed to report on that portion relating to New

York Grand Lodges, consisting of Bros. P. W. Gray, A. S. Ruthven, John C. McCoy, T. J. Jennings, J. A. Greer, Geo. M. Patrick, Saml. McClarty and Wm. M. Taylor :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have received, through the Grand Secretary, the Proceedings of the following Grand Lodges,—viz.: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan; your Committee have also received several documents relating to the unhappy controversies in New York and Louisiana.

It is with feelings of mingled pleasure and pain that we have received the correspondence of the present year, exhibiting as it does cheering evidence of the rapid and, we believe, permanent growth of our beloved institution, while at the same time it shows that its members do not always live according to the principles they profess, or by their conduct exemplify to the world the value of the instructions they receive.

It is to us a source of grief and of mortification that any portion of the Masonic family should evince towards another any other feeling than that of brotherly love, or that any should so far disregard the obligation under which they rest, or so completely dis sever the bonds by which they are united, as to engage in angry quarrels or indulge in bitter vituperation and abuse. But happily those who are so forgetful of their *duty* are few in number; and, while their contentions may give us pain and expose us to the censure of the world, they should not cause us to falter in our course or abate our devotion to the *Order*. As a whole, the institution was never more prosperous. There is now a Grand Lodge in every State in the Union, and Chartered Lodges in Oregon and California. From the Atlantic to the Pacific—from the Northern lakes to the Gulf coast—the Craftsmen are engaged in repairing the old altars or erecting new; in those sections in which the Anti-Masonic storm raged with the greatest fury and produced the most fearful devastation the warmest zeal is now manifested; the relighted fires illuminate the walls of their temples, scathed by the tempest and defaced, it is true, but firm, unbroken and now new-adorned, while the temples themselves are thronged with men whose pure hearts and enlightened minds enable them to receive and appreciate the lessons they may hear.

In the language of one who within the last two years travelled over a large State as Grand Lecturer, "I have seen the tears of the widow and the orphan dried, and them fed and clothed; I have seen the drunkard, the gambler and the profane swearer excluded from a participation in our glorious privileges; I have seen the venerable patriarch, whose locks were whitened by the frosts of some seventy or eight winters, re-enlist under our broad banner with the ardor of youth; I have seen a father preside and confer the Master's Degree upon his own son, and charge him never to disgrace the jewel intrusted to his care. And I have seen hundreds of our best citizens conducted to the Christian altar through the medium of Masonic teaching.

"Our institution is now in the hands of the best class of citizens of our State. It is to be found in the pulpit, the bench, the bar, with the medical faculty, and in all the ramifications of active business-life, both public and private, and all engaged in endeavoring to correct the vices and purify the morals of those around them."

"But while we are thus, in these days, adding strength to the superstructure of our Symbolic Temple, the foundations of which were, in ages long past, laid broad and deep, we cannot be too careful to guard its avenues against the intrusion of any thing which may in time to come cause us to look back upon

this time of Masonic prosperity with regret. Perfection is not of this world: we cannot therefore hope to find it even within the sacred retreat of our Masonic sanctuary. But the vast multitude of mankind is made up of good and evil, virtue and vice, the moral and the immoral. We want not among our numbers any whose worldly characters bear the taint of a single vice. Increase of numbers should be the very last consideration which should actuate us; the increase of virtue and morality should be the first.

"When a MAN, in every sense in which we use the term Masonically, 'of his own free will and accord,' makes application for admission here, we cannot scan his character and standing in society too closely before we open our doors for his admission. Although it may be the duty of friendship to overlook the faults and failings of our brother-men,—although my feelings as a man may induce me 'to hide the fault I see,'—as a *Mason* it is my duty, and it is the duty of every Free Mason, to expose those faults to the Brethren the moment application is made for the admission of him to whom they apply, into this institution. Want of proper care in making strict inquiries into the character of a candidate, and too much haste in admitting him, has been a cause of much of the trouble and difficulty through which the Masonic institution has passed in years gone by. It is easy to make a man a Mason, but it is hard, very hard, to surmount the injury which a single unworthy Brother can bring upon the Craft."*

—One of the highest evidences of the prosperity of our institution, while at the same time it is illustrative of the *spirit* of Masonry, is the effort now being made by nearly every Grand Lodge to establish schools and provide for the education of the orphaned poor. "Masonry may point to the past and tell us of the good she has done, of the millions of hearts she has made glad, of her doings in the civilized world, of her resistance to tyranny, of the benevolent institutions she has founded, and how she presided in the courts of chivalry and sent forth her sons to rescue those crushed down by the heel of lawlessness and oppression." Hereafter, thousands who have received this rich gift, education, at her hands, will rise up and call her blessed. By education the poor are made rich, by it the poor are gifted with a power mightier than that of the magician, by it the poor are enabled to do all that is done: "they become great lawyers, great architects, great painters, great mechanics, great statesmen, great poets, great philosophers; ay, great in every thing. Poverty tells her children, when educated, they are rich; she stands before them in her rags, but her eye is full of energy and fire. Her arm is still gaunt, but has the strength of a Titan to rend the barriers which impede the course of her sons to fame and power. She is no longer like an angel of death, cold and shivering as the north wind, but is rather a good spirit and teaches her children a thousand things. She points them to the wealth and treasure of the world and bids them reach forth the hand and take it. Poverty, when her children are educated, shows them many things: she teaches them how to cut mountains into beautiful columns and to fashion rude rocks into magnificent temples, that they may tell the grandeur of nations to distant times. She has shown them how to pen up fire and water in ribs of steel, which speed the commerce of states over the globe, and how to take hold of lightning and chain our thoughts to his car. Poverty teaches her children many things. She points them back through pre-existent time, and shows them the mighty men and demi-gods of old,—that they were poor, yet nevertheless formed savage hordes into civilized and gigantic states, became the lords of song, of eloquence and philosophy, and thus won their way to immortality." What efforts, then, on our part, would be too great to convert what is often deemed a *curse* into a *blessing*, to make all of our own household *rich* with *riches* that cannot be lost,—to make them *powerful* with a *power* that is seldom used for mischievous ends! We know of no nobler *charity* than this.

* Extract from the Address of the M. W. Grand Master French to the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

There is still much difference of opinion on the subject of the "physical deformity of candidates for Masonry;" but your Committee see no reason for changing the opinion expressed in a former report, and adopted by resolutions of this Grand Lodge.

These views are not in consonance with the decisions of many Grand Lodges, and have been freely and severely commented upon by some Masonic writers. The Grand Master of Maine, in his annual address, says, "I can but believe that those writers are losing sight of the more weighty matters of the law as laid down in the great light of Masonry, while they discourse so profoundly upon what are (as Masonry now exists, a great moral and benevolent institution) mere non-essentials, and which would never have had an existence but for the operative character of Ancient Masonry. For one, I do most devoutly revere the ancient landmarks of the Order, yet do I as truly believe in the wisdom of the decision of our illustrious predecessors, who have virtually abrogated from the ancient regulations the provisions that the candidate must be true to the church and be born of honest or lawful parents. Would one of these zealous Brethren, who contend so stoutly for 'ancient regulations,' reject the application of an honest, accomplished fellow-citizen, because his parents indiscreetly brought him into existence before they had plighted their faith at the hymeneal altar? I trust the response must be, No! And, if so, then away with the technical objection which would exclude the warmest heart and brightest intellect, merely because they belong to one in the human form divine, who by some dispensation of Providence has lost a hand or a foot. I would by no means advocate what some call progressive Masonry: on the contrary, I contend for that *Ancient Masonry* which teaches us to shun the 'errors of bigotry and superstition,' and make a due use of reason 'according to that liberty wherewith a Mason is made free,' and by which we are also taught to 'regard the whole human species as one family,—the high and low, the rich and poor,—who, as created by one Almighty parent, are to aid, support and protect each other.'"

It has been resolved by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, that a Mason who has been received as an Entered Apprentice shall not be refused advancement, except by a vote of a majority of the Lodge. This rule is not in accordance with the regulation of this Grand Lodge: it may be proper, however, to make some further provision on the subject. It may not be just to refuse to advance a candidate who is "suitably proficient," and retain the money paid for the preceding Degrees, which without the last are of but little or no service.

With the following views as to the propriety of inflicting the penalty of suspension or expulsion for the non-payment of dues—extracted from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia—we fully concur:—"Your Committee regard this [a clause in the Constitution of a subordinate Lodge authorizing the expulsion of a member for the non-payment of dues] if not an assumption of power on the part of a subordinate Lodge, as so directly opposed to the beneficent principles of the Order, that its exercise should be prohibited, and the penalty to be inflicted should be that of suspension only,—a penalty sufficiently severe for any high-minded or honorable man to avoid, and which should only be inflicted upon one whose continued delinquency after *due* notice arose from other causes than inability to pay: indeed, it would be preferable to provide for the dismissal from the Lodge of one who contumaciously remained in arrears beyond a certain time, than to weaken the moral effect of suspension even by applying it to a want of due regularity in paying the quarterly dues to the Lodge." Expulsion and suspension are punishments of so severe a character that they should be inflicted only for the highest Masonic crimes.

The effect of an expulsion or suspension from a Chapter or an Encampment upon the standing of a Mason in a Blue Lodge has heretofore been much discussed. The following resolution, expressive of the views of that and other Grand Lodges, was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Maryland at its last communication:—

“Resolved, That, if a reputed Royal Arch Mason be expelled or suspended by a reputed Royal Arch Chapter, on charges for a breach of the moral code, and which is prohibited by and against the rule and spirit of Ancient Craft Masonry, all Masonic intercourse is hereby interdicted until such sentence shall be repealed by the tribunal passing such sentence, or reserved by the tribunal having appellate jurisdiction thereof.” This rule, in our opinion, is both unjust and impolitic. How is the fact of suspension or expulsion to be made known to the subordinate Lodge? or will the reputed fact be deemed a sufficient cause for driving out from among us a Brother against whom no accusation has been preferred, or to whom no opportunity of defending himself has been given? Who is to judge whether the reputed offence is a “breach of the moral code,” “or against the rules and spirit of Ancient Craft Masonry”? The body passing the sentence, the Lodge to which the Brother belongs, or each individual Mason with whom he may seek to hold Masonic intercourse? In the opinion of your Committee, the fact that a Brother has been suspended or expelled by a superior Masonic body, or has been convicted before any legal tribunal of a violation of the criminal law of the land, should be sufficient to induce the Lodge to which he is amenable to investigate the charges upon which their action was based, and *proceed accordingly*: in no case should the decision of any body or set of men whatever be conclusive upon the Lodge, or prevent a *full and impartial* investigation of the whole matter. *A Master Mason cannot be deprived of the rights and privileges to which he is entitled as such, except by action of a Master Masons’ Lodge.*

The following report and resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana, present a question of much interest, upon which there should be some expression of opinion by this Grand Lodge for the government of subordinate Lodges within our own jurisdiction. The Committee report that Joel M. Spiller, after having been expelled in New York, removed to Indiana and became a member of Perry Lodge, and afterwards the Master of Fidelity Lodge; that the Grand Master arrested the Charter of the last-named Lodge, because they permitted said Spiller to preside over their work after having received legal information of his expulsion, and that, too, after they had exhibited to him an entry on their journal that they had dissolved all connection with him; that the defence set up by Mr. Spiller is, that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York were irregular and illegal in this, that, by the Constitution, the Grand Stewards was the proper tribunal to have tried him and not the Grand Lodge; and that, notwithstanding his confession of guilt, he was entitled by the Constitutions of Masonry to have been served with a copy of the charges preferred against him, and to have had a regular trial; and, inasmuch as this was not done, the whole action of the Grand Lodge in the premises was void and of no effect, and he asks the Grand Lodge of Indiana to so regard it, and to instruct all Masons living within its jurisdiction to receive him as though he had not been expelled; that they are satisfied that whatever Masonic rights Mr. Spiller ever possessed, he acquired them under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, and that he lost them there,—and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Whereas, Satisfactory evidence has been received by this Grand Lodge that Joel M. Spiller, late Worshipful Master of Fidelity Lodge, No. —, under this jurisdiction, was expelled from all rights and benefits of Masonry by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, prior to removing within this jurisdiction. Therefore be it

Resolved, That all Masonic intercourse with the said Joel M. Spiller, on the part of all Master Masons within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, is hereby interdicted.

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia has *Resolved*, “That neither of the principal officers of a Lodge can, after their acceptance of the said offices, resign the same, but their places must be filled in the absence of either from the Lodge by the next officer in rank, or, in the absence of all, by a Past Master,

as heretofore provided. In case of the death of *all* the said officers, or the removal from the jurisdiction, a Dispensation may be specially obtained from the Grand Lodge, or from the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge." We consider this subject of so much importance, that, for the information of the Craft, we present at length the following able article by Bro. C. W. Moore, Editor of the Free Masons' Monthly Magazine:—

"Dr. Dalcho lays it down as a constitutional rule, founded on the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity, that 'no officer can resign his office after he is installed, nor can any election be held but at the constitutional meeting for that purpose;' that is, at the meeting fixed by the By-laws of the Lodge, under the sanction of the Grand Lodge, for the election of officers.* If this be a sound rule, and is sustained by the ancient landmarks of the institution, it covers the whole ground and settles the inquiry of our correspondent. But is it so?

"The earliest written regulation bearing upon the subject, given in the books, was adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, on the 25th of November, 1723, when it was agreed 'that if a *Master* of a particular Lodge is deposed, or demits, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill the Master's chair, *till the next time of choosing*.' This may therefore be regarded as the ancient usage in respect to vacancies in the Mastership of the Lodge. It recognises the principle that, if a vacancy occur in the office of Master, it cannot be filled until 'the next time of choosing,'—that is, the next regular meeting for the choice of officers.

"The regulation on this subject in the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England is as follows:—'If the Master should die, be removed or be incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Senior Warden, and, in the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, and, in the absence of both Wardens, then the immediate Past Master, or, in his absence, the Senior Past Master, shall act as Master in summoning the Lodge, until the next election of officers.'

"This, like the preceding regulation, in its application is confined to vacancies in the office of Master. Neither provides for the filling of vacancies in the Wardenships. Under the English Constitution, the Wardens are appointed by the Master, not by election; and they may be removed by him, with the consent of the Lodge, if he shall be dissatisfied with their conduct; in which case he is authorized to nominate others to fill their places. This regulation is based on ancient usage, and is consistent with the earliest practice among Lodges. The principle established by it, or on which it is predicated, would seem to be, that a vacancy in an elective office can be filled only at the constitutional meeting for the choice of officers, or, in other words, no election of officers can take place at any other time than that prescribed by the Grand Constitution, or by the By-laws of the Lodges, adopted under the sanction and approbation of the Grand Lodge. But vacancies in all other than elective offices may be filled by the Master, at the pleasure of the Lodge. Such are the principles and the practice at present recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, and both are consistent with ancient Masonic usage.

"The same rule of succession, in the case of the Master, and the same principle of election, are laid down in all the old Masonic Constitutions. The Ahiman Rezon of 1764 has the following:—

"'The Senior Warden succeeds to all the duties of the Master, and fills the chair in his absence; or, if the Master goes abroad on business, resigns, demits, or is deposed, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill his place *till the next stated time of election*.' This principle does not obtain in the event of a vacancy in the office of Grand Master. The Deputy succeeds to the chair. But if there be no Deputy, then the Senior Warden calls the Grand Lodge together, and a Past Grand Master presides. A new Grand Master cannot be elected until the ensuing Annual Communication. The article on this subject in the Constitution

* Ahiman Rezon, page 137.

of the Grand Lodge of Scotland is as follows:—"Upon the death of any of the office-bearers, the Grand Lodge shall appoint a Brother to act till the first annual election; excepting the offices of Grand Master and Deputy, which shall remain vacant until that period."

"The Wardens in the Grand Lodge of Scotland are elected by the body, not appointed by the Grand Master. And, as appears from the above regulation, the Grand Lodge has reserved to itself the right to fill vacancies, by appointments, as they may occur. The difference between this rule and that of the Grand Lodge of England is, that in the one the vacancies are filled by the Grand Master, and in the other by the Grand Lodge.

"Thus far the ancient and present foreign practice, the corollary of which is, that a vacancy in the office of Master cannot be filled, except at the regular meeting for the choice of officers. And if we carry out the principle the same will hold true in respect to the Wardens, (when they are chosen by the Lodge,) and the filling of all other *elective* offices. . . .

"In America all the principal officers of a Lodge are elected by ballot,—a practice which we presume has been adopted as being more agreeable to the genius of the country and the character of its institutions. But it is manifestly a departure from the ancient usage. The succession of the Wardens to the chair, in the absence of the Master, is generally recognised as correct practice, but in the matter of filling vacancies there is much less uniformity. The Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of the several States are, with one or two exceptions, wholly silent on the subject. They provide amply enough perhaps for their own bodies, but make no provision in this particular for their subordinate Lodges."

From the foregoing we think the following conclusions are deducible:—First. That by the ancient written regulations and established usages of Masonry, a vacancy in the office of Master of a Lodge, occasioned by death or other causes, cannot be filled, except at the prescribed time for the election of officers; and that, on the occurrence of such vacancy, the Senior Warden succeeds to the chair. It is proper, however, here to remark that another practice has for the last hundred years extensively prevailed, and is considered by well-informed Masons to be the most legitimate and consistent. It is this: On the occurrence of a vacancy in the chair, the Senior Warden convenes the Lodge, when the last surviving Past Master is invited to assume the duties of Master until the ensuing election. One reason for this practice is, that none other than a regularly-installed Master can, with propriety, preside over the Lodge and discharge the necessary duties of Master. Another is, that the organization of the Lodge is not disturbed by the promotion of its officers. This, in spirit, is the present practice under the Grand Lodge of England. "In the Master's absence," says the Constitution of that body, "the immediate Past Master, or, if he be absent, the Senior Past Master of the Lodge present, shall take the chair. If neither the Past Master nor any Past Master of the Lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or, in his absence, the Junior Warden, shall rule the Lodge." The Lodge, however, in case of vacancy in the chair, must be summoned by the Senior Warden, under whose authority the Past Master officiates.

Second. The Wardens were anciently appointed by the Master, and vacancies in those offices could at any time be filled by the appointing power: this is the present English practice. In Scotland and in this country the Wardens are elected. The question is whether the change in the practice authorizes a corresponding change in the principle. If the affirmative of this be conceded, then such vacancies cannot be filled, except at the annual election. The practice in this respect is not uniform. Under the Scotch Constitution, they could be filled by election at the convenience of the Lodge; and this is also authorized by the Constitution of Maryland. The Constitutions of other Grand Lodges, so far as we have been able to consult them, are silent on the subject. Our own opinion is, that the practice which prevailed in the Grand Lodges prior to the pub-

lication of the first edition of the Constitutions, is not only most consistent with ancient usage, but will be found to be the most convenient if adopted for the regulation of the subordinate Lodges. It is embodied in the following extract from the Constitutions of 1764:—"Soon after the first edition of the book of Constitutions, the Grand Lodge, finding it was always the ancient usage that the oldest *former* Grand Wardens supplied the places of those of the year when absent, the Grand Master ever since has ordered them to take place immediately, and act as Grand Wardens *pro tempore*. This practice, as in the case of the Master, would prevent any further change in the officers of the Lodge, and would not, therefore, disturb the organization for the year."

Concerning the Past Master's Degree, the Grand Master of Iowa, in his annual address, says, "I desire to call your attention to a subject which has frequently been submitted to me verbally and by written communications. I allude to an idea prevalent to some extent among Masons of the fifth or nominal Past Master's Degree, that they cannot sit in a Lodge U. D. when the Master presiding has not received that Degree. This, to some extent, has I find been the cause of trouble, and misapprehensions have originated from the fact that some Masons of this Degree have told Masters named in Dispensations that they would not attend the Communications of their Lodges until the Grand Master had given them the Degree of Past Master, or they should go to a Chapter and take it. Now, it would seem to me that those Brethren who have manifested these scruples are over-nice, or that they have not spent any too much time reading the ancient Constitutions, or have not very thoroughly investigated the subject to ascertain the source from whence the Master of a Lodge under Dispensation derives his power to open and govern his Lodge. It would seem to me that if Masons who have these scruples would fully investigate this subject we should have no further trouble with it. For the information of those who are not satisfied, I will, in the first place, say there is no necessity for the Master named in a Dispensation to have the Degree, as there is nothing which requires it.

"Secondly, The power which he necessarily exercises is a delegated power: he can exercise no power but that which is specifically set forth in the Dispensation or Warrant which he has received from the Grand Master: consequently he acts as the agent of the Grand Master, and acts strictly in accordance with the authority given by the Warrant, and, in the absence of the Grand Master, can do all in *that Lodge* under Dispensation which the Grand Master himself could do were he present. With regard to the Degree of Past Master, the Grand Master cannot confer that Degree upon the Master of a Lodge under Dispensation, because he is not qualified to take it; nor can he confer the Degree upon a Master Mason except on him who is named in a Charter granted to a Lodge as the Master thereof, or on him who has been elected Master of a Lodge working under a Charter." Your Committee confess that heretofore they have entertained views wholly different from those expressed above, but are unable to refer to authorities in support of their opinion. We recommend that this subject be referred to a special committee with instructions to report thereon at the next Grand Annual Communication.

The following preamble and resolution we find in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa:—

"Inasmuch as our Order contemplates the diffusion of Masonic principles by practical diligence in the science of Masonry, and not by public display of processions in regalia, and inasmuch as past experience has taught us that many public demonstrations are not profitable, your Committee are of the opinion that much discretion should be exercised in all public exercises of this Order, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

"Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are not allowed to hold public celebrations or appear in public processions as Masons without first obtaining a Dispensation from the Worshipful Master of this Grand Lodge: *Provided*, that nothing in this resolution shall be so con-

strued as to prevent the several Lodges from performing our usual funeral-services within their own jurisdiction whenever it becomes practicable."

The Grand Master of that Lodge on the same subject says, "That the ancient Constitutions entirely prohibited them unless a Dispensation be granted by the Grand Master." Preston, in his *Illustrations of Masonry*, says, "By express law of the Grand Lodge, no regular Masons do attend any public processions, clothed, &c., unless a Dispensation be granted by a Grand Master or Deputy, under a forfeiture of all Masonic rights." Bro. Albert G. Mackay, an eminent writer on Masonry, says, "Processions are entirely under the charge of the Grand Lodge or its Grand Master. Subordinate Lodges have no right to appear in procession without consent." Speaking of "funeral rites," he says, "Two Lodges or more cannot assemble to attend a funeral until a Dispensation be obtained from the Grand Master."

The Ahiman Rezon says, in relation to funerals, "If more Lodges than one attend, the Master must apply for a Dispensation to preside over them, unless the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master be present."

In this connection it may be proper to remark that the difficulties in New York which led to the formation of a separate independent Grand Lodge originated from the attempt of certain Lodges and Brethren to form a procession and celebrate in public the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, without the permission and against the express prohibition of the District Deputy Grand Master.

These Brethren for this offence were expelled, and in September, A.D. 1837, in connection with others, formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, known as St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York. This is the body of Clandestine Masons alluded to in a former report of this Committee on "Grand Lodge Certificates."

Your Committee would call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the following remarks addressed by the Grand Master, E. Deming, to the Grand Lodge of Indiana:—"We are constrained to repeat that too much caution cannot be used in legally empowering Brethren to form new Lodges. One or two in a county, as a general rule, are sufficient for the honor, utility and duties of the Fraternity. Our observation and experience has been that when Lodges are organized in every small village for the convenience of a few resident Brethren, that the enthusiasm which led to their establishment soon passes away,—indifference succeeds, apathy follows and the institution is suffered to deteriorate. When several old Lodges already exist in a small space of country, and are barely able to congregate at their regular meetings a sufficient number of Brethren to open a Lodge, they should not, without indubitable evidences of its necessity for the prosperity of the Craft, recommend the formation of new Lodges in the vicinity of a few miles from their regular and stated labors."

The "Grand Lodge Certificate System," which has been the cause of so much discussion, has at last been abandoned by the Grand Lodge of New York, by whom it was first adopted,—she having been compelled to this by the retaliatory measures adopted by other Grand Lodges.

Some of the Grand Lodges are now taking steps to collect materials from the Masonic Fraternity for the purpose of compiling a history of Free Masonry within their respective jurisdictions. We respectfully recommend the adoption of measures for a similar purpose by this Grand Lodge.

The institution in this State is in its infancy, and men are now living whose memory extends back to its first establishment with but little difficulty: a *record* might now be made which would be of value and interest to those who succeed us.

The subject of a General Grand Lodge still occupies the attention of the Fraternity. The form of a Constitution issued by the Convention of Delegates, held in the City of Baltimore, in September, 1847, has not been ratified by the requisite number (sixteen) of Grand Lodges, its provisions being objectionable to many who were in favor of the formation of a General Grand Lodge.

A special Committee on that subject, of the Grand Lodge of New York, pro-

poses that each Grand Lodge desiring to enter into a compact of the sort under consideration should cause the outline of a form of Constitution to be drafted, to which it would be willing to subscribe and give its support, and send it with its Delegates to a general meeting of Delegates to be holden in Boston in September, 1850; that then a committee be appointed to collate and compare these different forms of Constitutions, and from them form one which shall unite in as great a degree as possible the varied interests and opinions of the wide-spread Fraternity in one harmonious whole. The Committee mention the time and place for this meeting of Delegates, as then and there, it is understood, will be holden the meetings of the General Grand Chapter and Encampment of the United States. The Committee recommend the following form of Constitution,—viz.:

First, A preamble setting forth the objects proposed to be attained by this union.

Secondly, The General Grand Lodge should have jurisdiction over all controversies and disputes between the different Grand Lodges which may become parties to the compact, when such controversies are referred for decision; and the decisions in all cases to be final when concurred in by a majority of the Grand Lodges represented. Your Committee would not have appeals made to this body from State Grand Lodges or their subordinates in matters relating directly to their own internal affairs, for the reason, among others, that they believe that in all cases the majority should rule.

Thirdly, It shall have power to grant Dispensations and Charters to subordinate Lodges in the States and Territories where no Grand Lodge exists, such subordinate Lodges to be represented, but to have no vote except in relation to the affairs of subordinate Lodges, because it would seem preposterous to throw the government of Grand Lodges into the hands of subordinates.

Fourthly, To have the power of controlling and regulating the mode of work in all Lodges, so that a desirable uniformity may exist throughout the country.

Fifthly, Meetings to be held triennially.

Sixthly, The General Grand Lodge to go into operation when sixteen Grand Lodges agree to the provisions of the Constitution.

Seventhly, The expenses of the members of the General Grand Lodge coming from the different State Grand Lodges to be paid by those Grand Lodges; and the expenses of Delegates from the subordinates to be paid in such manner as the rules and regulations of the General Grand Lodge shall direct.

A committee was appointed for carrying out the foregoing views, with instructions to report at the next annual session. Resolutions embracing a similar object were also adopted by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

At the Quarterly Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, held in Providence, Monday, November 26, 1849, the following Constitution for a General Grand Lodge for the United States was presented by the M. W. Grand Master, and, having been fully discussed and examined, was unanimously adopted, and recommended to all the Grand Lodges in the United States as a basis on which a General Grand Lodge may be permanently established:—

CONSTITUTION FOR A GENERAL GRAND LODGE FOR THE UNITED STATES.

ARTICLE I.

TITLE—OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

SEC. 1. The style and title shall be, "The General Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted York Masons, for the United States of America."

SEC. 2. It shall consist of a General Grand Master, Deputy General Grand

Master, General Grand Senior Warden, General Grand Junior Warden, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Senior Deacon, General Grand Junior Deacon and General Grand Tyler, the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens of all State Grand Lodges that shall recognise the authority of this Constitution, and the Worshipful Masters of the subordinate Lodges emanating from this General Grand body,—all of whom, except the General Grand Tyler, shall respectively be entitled to one vote. In cases of equal division, the General Grand Master shall likewise have the casting vote.

SEC. 3. All Past General Grand Masters, Past Deputy General Grand Masters and Past General Grand Wardens shall be members of this General Grand Lodge, with the privilege of one vote each.

SEC. 4. The General Grand Officers, Tyler excepted, shall be elected by ballot. The Tyler, and all other officers of convenience, unless otherwise ordered by vote of the body, shall be appointed by the General Grand Master; but they shall not by virtue of such appointment be entitled to vote.

SEC. 5. All the officers of the General Grand Lodge shall be elected, and, if present, installed, at its Triennial Communications. The officers absent at the time of their election shall be installed as the General Grand Lodge may direct. When thus qualified, they shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected and installed.

ARTICLE II.

PROXIES.

SEC. 1. The first four Past General Grand officers, or either of them, may be represented by proxy; but they shall not be privileged to vote as the proxy of another Past General Grand Officer, nor shall either of the first six General Grand Officers herein named be allowed to act and vote as the proxy of any present or Past General Grand Officer or Grand or Subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Any subordinate Lodge constituted by the authority of this Constitution, in case of the inability of its Worshipful Master to be present at any Communication of this General Grand Lodge, may be represented by a proxy, who shall be a member of said Lodge.

SEC. 3. No Brother shall be received as a proxy who is not a member of some Grand or subordinate Lodge recognising the authority of this Constitution.

SEC. 4. No proxy shall be entitled to more than one vote; nor shall any General Grand Officer or Representative be allowed the privilege of more than one vote as proxy.

SEC. 5. Either of the first four officers of any State Grand Lodge acknowledging the authority of this Constitution may be represented by proxy.

SEC. 6. No proxies other than those herein enumerated shall be received by this General Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE III.

MEETINGS.

SEC. 1. This General Grand Lodge shall meet triennially, and as much oftener as a majority of the members present at any meeting thereof shall determine.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be called by the first four General Grand Officers; or, in case of the demise of either of them, by the four senior surviving General Grand Officers, whenever they, or a majority of them, may deem such meetings to be necessary. And they shall be called by the General Grand Master, or, in case of his death or absence from the country, by the officer

next in rank, on the petition of the first four officers of any three State Grand Lodges, being parties to this Constitution.

Sec. 3. The regular meetings of this General Grand Lodge shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined at the preceding Triennial Communication thereof,—and special meetings, as may be directed by the officers authorized to call them.

Sec. 4. The Representatives of three Grand Lodges shall form a quorum for business.

ARTICLE IV.

JURISDICTION AND POWERS.

Sec. 1. This General Grand Lodge shall have jurisdiction over the States and Territories within which no Grand Lodge exists, to the entire exclusion of such State Grand Lodges as may become parties to this Constitution. But it shall not in any manner interfere with the right of jurisdiction over said States and Territories that any State Grand Lodge, not a party to this Constitution, may, by Masonic usage, at present or hereafter lawfully possess and enjoy.

Sec. 2. This General Grand Lodge shall have original jurisdiction over the subordinate Lodges of its own creating, and shall possess and exercise over them all the usual powers delegated in like cases to State Grand Lodges by the ancient Constitutions and regulations of Masonry.

Sec. 3. This General Grand Lodge shall have jurisdiction over all differences that may arise between any two State Grand Lodges recognising its authority; and it shall take cognizance of any and all such differences on the written complaint of either of the parties at variance. Its decisions shall be final and binding.

Sec. 4. It shall take cognizance of all cases of difference mutually referred to it by any two State Grand Lodges not parties to this Constitution: *Provided*, said Grand Lodges shall have previously agreed to abide by its decision; and not otherwise.

Sec. 5. It shall not entertain complaints or appeals from any individual Brother or subordinate Lodge against the proceedings of any State Grand Lodge whatever.

Sec. 6. It shall have plenary jurisdiction over the three Craft Degrees of Ancient York Masonry, with authority, under the Constitutions, Laws and Usages of the Order, to determine and promulgate a consistent, pure and truthful system of work, lectures and ceremonial for the use of the Grand and subordinate Lodges acknowledging its authority. Said system shall conform in all respects to the best ascertainable landmarks and practices of the Ancient Craft; and, when so determined and promulgated, it shall not be changed or altered, except by the unanimous vote of all the members present, at a regular Triennial Communication.

Sec. 7. This General Grand Lodge shall neither possess nor exercise any jurisdiction or powers not herein expressly delegated to it. It shall be subject to the general Constitutions, Regulations and Usages of Ancient York Masonry; and it shall not cumulate within its own body, nor permit or countenance the cumulation of any foreign rites within the body of any of its subordinate Lodges.

ARTICLE V.

STATES AND TERRITORIES.

Sec. 1. It shall be competent for the General Grand Master, or the Deputy General Grand Master, to issue Dispensations for the formation of new Lodges within any State or Territory wherein no Grand Lodge exists, which Dispensations shall be made returnable at the next ensuing Communication of this

General Grand Lodge, when they shall be revoked or continued; otherwise, Charters shall be issued to the Brethren holding them.

SEC. 2. Whenever there shall be in any State or Territory three regularly-chartered Lodges, it shall be competent for this General Grand Lodge, or the General Grand Master, or the Deputy General Grand Master, to form them into a Grand Lodge,—said Lodges jointly petitioning therefor; and, on the formation of such Grand Lodge, the authority of this General Grand Lodge shall cease within said State or Territory, except as provided in the third section of this article.

SEC. 3. Whenever a Grand Lodge shall have been formed within any State or Territory by the authority of any State Grand Lodge, this General Grand Lodge shall cease to exercise jurisdiction within the same, except as to its own existing subordinate Lodges; and these, if they have been duly chartered and constituted, shall be free to determine, each for itself, under which authority it will thereafter act.

SEC. 4. The subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction shall make annual returns of their members and initiates to the General Grand Secretary, and pay such dues as may be determined by this General Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VI.

STATE GRAND LODGES.

SEC. 1. Each State Grand Lodge, by its Representatives or proxies, shall be entitled to four votes.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Lodges, parties to this Constitution, to make annual returns of the officers of their respective Grand bodies to the General Grand Secretary.

SEC. 3. The jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges acknowledging the authority of this Constitution shall be restricted to the limits of the State or Territory within which they are respectively held.

SEC. 4. Any Grand Lodge, being a party to this Constitution, may withdraw from the same: *Provided*, it shall vote to do so at any Annual Communication of its own body, and shall have furnished the General Grand Secretary with an attested copy of said vote. Having thus withdrawn, it shall be at liberty, without let or hinderance from this General Grand Body, to resume and exercise all its original powers and privileges.

ARTICLE VII.

BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS.

SEC. 1. It shall be competent for this General Grand Lodge to make and adopt such By-laws or regulations, not inconsistent with this Constitution, as may from time to time be found useful or necessary in the performance of its duties. But it shall in no case assume or exercise any general powers not herein specially delegated.

SEC. 2. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular Triennial Communication of this General Grand body: *Provided*, the proposed alteration or amendment shall have been previously submitted to, and received the affirmative vote of, three-fourths of all the Grand Lodges acknowledging its authority; and not otherwise.

ARTICLE VIII.

TEMPORARY.

SEC. 1. Whenever and so soon as sixteen of the Grand Lodges in the United States shall have adopted this Constitution, a convention of not more than four

Delegates from each Grand Lodge so adopting it shall be called by the senior Grand Lodge of their number, to assemble in the City of Baltimore, for the purpose of organizing the body contemplated by it.

Your Committee see no reason for changing the opinion expressed in a former report, that the formation of a General Grand Lodge will not accomplish the desired end. The same feeling and spirit that now lead to difficulties between the different Grand Lodges would produce insubordination and disobedience of the edicts of a General Grand Lodge. It seems to us that every difficulty and dispute between the Grand Lodges could be amicably settled by a submission of the matters in controversy to arbitrators mutually chosen by the parties, whose decision should be conclusive and binding. If they are unable to terminate their difficulties *now*, it is because they are actuated by an *un-Masonic* spirit, —because they forget that they are *Masons*.

We are glad to learn that the Grand Lodge of Vermont, freed from the embarrassments and difficulties by which she has been surrounded, and acknowledged by all as a *just* member of the Masonic family, is engaging manfully in the cause of humanity and benevolence. In the language of her Grand Master, "Peace dwells within her walls; all troubles from without are hushed; no discordant note now jars upon the quiet of their Masonic home. The last harsh vibration has ceased, and that Grand Lodge—ever faithful and true, long assailed but never for a moment broken or despairing—has vindicated itself in all things to her sister Grand Lodges, and stands reorganized at this time without blemish before the Masonic world." For the firmness, courage and zeal she has displayed while so sorely pressed by her enemies, she deserves all praise.

The difficulties between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi still exist. A history of the matter has been presented in a former report.

We regret to announce the dismemberment of the Grand Lodge of New York, by acts of violence that, while they disgrace the *actors*, will bring the whole Fraternity into contempt if they are suffered to pass uncensured. There are now in that State *three* bodies claiming to be the Grand Lodge,—one known as the "St. John's Grand Lodge," the others as The Grand Lodge, of one of which the M. W. John D. Willard is Grand Master, and of the other Isaac Phillips claims to be Grand Master. The first-named body has never been recognised by this Grand Lodge. It is important that we should now decide which of the bodies last named shall be recognised by us as the head of Masonry in that State. The documents connected with the subject are voluminous, and we recommend their reference to a special committee.

We commend to the attention of this Grand Lodge the following "Circular," and earnestly recommend the appointment of a committee whose duty it shall be to prepare a block, with suitable emblems, in order that this State, both politically and *Masonically*, may be represented in "The National Monument." We can recur with proud satisfaction to the fact that *he* in whose honor this monument is to be erected was a *Mason*, and that *every genuine officer* except one (who died a traitor) of the American army, in that war, the events of which this monument is to commemorate, was a *Mason*.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT OFFICE, November 21, 1849.

To the Officers and Members of the Right Worshipful Masonic Grand Lodge, State of Texas.

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society have adopted the following resolution:—

"*Resolved*, That a Circular be addressed, in the name of this Board, to the respective Grand Lodges of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' Fraternities, and Grand Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, in the United States, requesting that arrangements be made to obtain such periodical contributions as they may

deem proper, to be applied to the erection of the Washington National Monument, until the same shall be completed." This they have instructed me to communicate to you, and respectfully to request a compliance with it on the part of the members of your ancient and fraternal Order. Feeling, as I am sure you and your patriotic Brethren do, a deep interest in whatever will contribute to perpetuate and honor the name and memory of the illustrious Washington, I am satisfied that the request made by the Board of Managers will be cheerfully granted.

Of the monument which you are thus called upon to aid in erecting, the corner-stone was laid on the 4th of July, 1848, with imposing ceremonies, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of our citizens from distant sections of the United States. Some States sent banners with appropriate inscriptions, which are encased and will be placed in the monument. The foundation of the obelisk is laid eighty-one feet square, eight feet below the surface of the ground, and is contracted so as to be fifty-eight feet ten inches square at the top, an elevation of twenty-five feet of solid masonry.

The obelisk is commenced at the height of seventeen feet above the ground, fifty-five feet square, cased in marble, with walls fifteen feet thick, leaving a cavity of twenty-five feet. It will be ascended, by stairs in the inside, and by machinery, to an elevation of five hundred feet.

The purchase of materials and the general construction of the obelisk are committed by the Board of Managers to three of their number, denominated a Building Committee, who spend much time in advancing the work. The Board meet weekly, and no member of it, or of the Building Committee, receives any compensation.

The most rigid economy is observed in all the expenditures.

The obelisk is now fifty feet high above the surface of the earth, thirty-two and a half feet of which is encased with beautiful white marble. The work has been carried on with unremitting vigor since its commencement, and no unnecessary delay will be allowed to retard its prosecution until completed.

With a view of having each State in the Union properly represented in the monument, the Board extended an invitation for each State to furnish a block of marble, or other stone, a production of its soil, of the following dimensions, viz.: four feet long, two feet high, with a depth of bed from twelve to eighteen inches; the name of the State which it is intended to represent to be cut upon it in large letters, and in addition, if desirable to the donors, the coat of arms of such State.

A number of the States, with associations, &c., have already expressed their intention to furnish the required block, and there is no doubt that every star of our Union will thus appropriately be represented. They will be placed in conspicuous positions in the obelisk, where they can be closely examined by all who visit this national edifice.

The cost of the obelisk, which is first to be completed, is estimated at \$552,000, —and that of the obelisk and pantheon, forming the entire monument, at \$1,122,000.

From this you will perceive what progress has already been made in the erection of this great work; but the funds so far collected are gradually diminishing as the work advances, and the receipts fall considerably short of the expenditures.

The Board, therefore, knowing the patriotism and public spirit of your Order, have thought it their duty to make the present appeal, and trust that it will not be made in vain.

To each the contribution requested will not be felt, while the aggregate will greatly aid in completing the great national edifice now in progress.

Be pleased to address Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, General Agent.

Very respectfully, yours,

GEO. WATTERSTON,
Secretary.

Your Committee have thus briefly alluded to the various matters presented by the Foreign Correspondence that have attracted their attention. The documents before them were voluminous, and they have been able to give them but a hasty examination, and have undoubtedly overlooked many subjects of interest. In conclusion, they would urge upon this Grand Lodge the importance of preserving the *ancient landmarks*, of watching with jealous care the proceedings of the subordinate Lodges and checking any deviation therefrom in them. "Let us remember concord, pledge ourselves to stand there until we are summoned to that Lodge whose Tyler is Death, and whose portal is the grave."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. SAYLES,

For the Committee.

R. W. James M. Hall, District Deputy Grand Master Second Masonic District, presented the following report, which was read, received, and, on motion, referred to a Committee of the Whole:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned would respectfully report, that during the past Masonic year I have visited nearly all of the Lodges in my District, and found them in a healthy and prosperous condition,—that our beloved institution is on the increase, and that peace and harmony prevail throughout the District, with a very few exceptions. Since our last Annual Communication, I have granted a Dispensation for the opening and holding of a new Lodge at the town of Larissa, in the county of Cherokee, and known by the name of Larissa Lodge, where I attended and installed the officers on the 24th day of May last.

In obedience to a resolution passed at the last Annual Communication, making it my duty to visit Douglass Lodge and investigate the charge preferred against it by Nacogdoches Lodge, I beg leave to report, further, that I have discharged that duty and find the facts to exist as follows. Nacogdoches Lodge did initiate R. O. Watkins; that he, Watkins, afterwards applied to Douglass Lodge to be passed and raised; that, during the pendency of his petition, Nacogdoches Lodge informed Douglass Lodge, through its Secretary, that Nacogdoches Lodge would not give its consent for the passing and raising of R. O. Watkins, and further informing them that R. O. Watkins could not pass in that Lodge; that Douglass Lodge, through its Master, applied to Bro. Samuel McClarty, the then District Deputy Grand Master, for a Dispensation to pass and raise R. O. Watkins, stating to him all the facts connected with the case; that Bro. McClarty, after hearing all the facts, did grant to Douglass Lodge a Dispensation, by virtue of which Douglass Lodge proceeded, and passed and raised R. O. Watkins. The above are briefly all the facts connected with the transaction, which are amply sustained by the written evidence now in possession of Douglass Lodge; and for further evidence or information on the subject I would most respectfully refer your Most Worshipful body to the R. W. Samuel McClarty, District Deputy Grand Master. All of which is respectfully reported.

J. M. HALL,

D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

The following report from R. W. Z. W. Eddy, District Deputy Grand Master Third Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

JASPER, January 4, 1850.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—Under the provisions of the *thirteenth* article of the Constitution of our Grand Lodge, and in the exercise of the power therein delegated, I have granted, in my District, Dispensations for two new Lodges,—viz.: Woodville Lodge, at Woodville, in Tyler county, in May last, and officers were duly

installed by me, M. Priest, Master: the petition was forwarded to the Grand Secretary. Also Chirino Lodge, at Chirino, in Nacogdoches county, on the 24th of October, J. H. Sharp, Master: the petition, marked A, accompanies this report.

I regret that my report intended for the last meeting of the Grand Lodge did not reach you,—our Delegate, Bro. Hussey, Master of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, having been prevented from reaching Houston in time by high water. I send a copy of last report, marked B.

I have granted Dispensations for conferring the three first Degrees of Masonry to the Red Land Lodge, No. 24, De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, Jackson, No. 35 and Tyler, No. 50.

I have found it incompatible with my domestic affairs to visit all the Lodges in this District, as required by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, passed January 15, 1847. I have given such instructions to the Lodges and Brethren of this District as their situation seemed to require.

Being again prevented from meeting you in Grand Annual Communication, and trusting that that fraternal feeling that has always prevailed may govern your deliberations, and with assurances of my high esteem for the Grand Officers and Brethren,

I subscribe myself fraternally yours,

Z. Wm's EDDY,

D. D. G. M. 8d M. D.

The following report was received from R. W. John F. Witherspoon, District Deputy Grand Master First Masonic District, which was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

I would respectfully report, that, in exercise of the power delegated by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, I have granted a Dispensation to Joppa Lodge, at Elysian Fields, in Harrison county, where I attended and installed the officers and constituted their Lodge in June last. I feel warranted in saying that the officers and members feel deeply interested in the advancement and perpetuity of our ancient and beloved institution, and cheerfully recommend that a Charter be granted them. I have also granted Dispensations to Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, at Jefferson, to confer the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow-Craft and Master Mason, and to Marshall Lodge, to confer Fellow-Craft's and Master's Degree.

I have visited but few of the Lodges in my District, relying mostly upon our Worthy Bro. Grand Lecturer to fulfil that all-important office in his usual able and complete manner.

In conclusion, I would say that Masonry is advancing in my District, and that I am not apprized of any difficulty that has arisen to mar the peace of its members. Brotherly love prevails, and every moral and social virtue cements them. Deeply regretting that private business and the great distance I reside from the Grand Lodge prevent me from meeting you at the present Grand Annual Communication,

I am fraternally yours,

JOHN F. WITHERSPOON,

D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

R. W. Bro. Adolphus Sterne presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were, on motion, read and adopted:—

Whereas, the R. W. Bro. Z. Wm's Eddy, District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District, issued a Power or Dispensation to Bros. James H.

Sharp, Master, H. D. Palmer, Senior Warden, and Rolly Spinks, Junior Warden, of Cherino Lodge, No. —, in the town of Cherino, in Nacogdoches county, to admit, make, pass and raise Free and Accepted Masons according to the most ancient usages and customs of the Craft, dated 24th October, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849;

And whereas, said Dispensation did not reach said Brethren until a very short time previous to the 27th December last, so that they had little or no time to do any work;

And whereas, said Brethren have incurred a heavy expense in constructing a building, which serves as an academy and Masonic hall, and have no funds in their treasury:

Be it therefore Resolved, That the Dispensation granted by said District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District, Bro. Z. Wm's Eddy, dated 24th October last, shall remain and be valid to all intents and purposes until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of this State.

Be it further Resolved, That the Brother Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge is hereby authorized and required to deliver a certified copy of this preamble and resolutions to Bro. A. Sterne, for the benefit and government of said Brethren.

The following preamble and resolutions were read by the Grand Secretary, and, on motion, adopted:—

Whereas, the M. W. Grand Master of the State of Texas granted a Dispensation to several Brethren of the City of Brownsville, in Cameron county;

And whereas, said Brethren, in consequence of not having a suitable building to work in until very lately, have, in consequence, not been able to do much work; yet, as it has been ascertained by a Brother that said Brethren intended to have sent on to this place a report, but owing to the failure of the mails, or some other accident, it has not reached here, and it being uncertain whether it reaches here during the session of the Grand Lodge:

Be it therefore Resolved, That the Dispensation granted to said Brethren as aforesaid shall be, and is hereby, declared good and valid, until the next Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of this State.

Resolved, That Bro. Grand Secretary be authorized and required to make out a certified copy of this preamble and resolutions, to be remitted to said Brethren for their knowledge and government.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do grant a Charter to Gilmer Lodge, upon the District Deputy Grand Master's examining the work and finding it correct.

Resolved, That a special Dispensation be granted by this Grand Lodge to "Samuel McClarty Lodge," under the provisions of the 21st Article of the Constitution.

On motion of R. W. John Sayles, the work which had been done by Samuel McClarty Lodge, under Dispensation, be, and the same is hereby, ratified by this Grand Lodge, and that the District Deputy Grand Master of the Second District be required to visit said Lodge and inquire into the expediency of continuing the same, and report to the next Grand Annual Communication.

R. W. Bro. Adolphus Sterne offered the following, which was, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the expediency of diminishing all fees now collected by the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges of the State.

On motion of Bro. J. W. Henderson, the M. W. Grand Lodge went

into Committee of the Whole on the report of R. W. J. M. Hall, District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District, M. W. Geo. M. Patrick presiding.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Committee of the Whole be discharged from the consideration of the question, and that the subject be referred to a select committee.

Bro. J. W. Henderson moved a reconsideration, which was lost, and the Committee appointed, consisting of Bros. S. H. Darden, J. H. Rogers, John D. Pitts, W. A. Higgins, O. Evans, Andrew Neill, James T. Lytle and G. A. Evarts.

On motion of Bro. H. W. Wagner, Bro. A. J. Yates was accredited as Representative of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Samuel McClarty, the Brethren who are here to represent Lodges under Dispensation, to whom Charters have been ordered to issue, were invited to take their seats as Delegates from their respective Lodges.

On motion of R. W. W. M. Taylor, the annual election for officers of this Grand Lodge shall take place on to-morrow evening, Wednesday, at 8 o'clock P.M.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday evening, 8 o'clock P.M., January 23, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master. Officers present as before, (except the Senior and Junior Grand Deacons: R. W. Bro. Geo. Hancock and R. W. Bro. T. Ward, who filled their several stations.)

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Andrew Neill, Thomas J. Hardeman.

Prayer by Past Grand Chaplain, R. W. A. J. McGown.

On a call of the Lodges, twenty-six were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master announced to the Grand Lodge the death of R. W. C. S. Ives, Grand Chaplain, and M. W. Anthony Butler, Past Grand Master, since the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge; and, on motion of R. W. A. J. McGown, Past Grand Chaplain, a committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions expressing the feelings of this Grand Lodge on the death of said Brethren, consisting of Bros. James Webb, Past Grand Master, J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, and Samuel McClarty, Deputy Grand Master.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiments of this Grand Lodge in respect to its lately deceased members—the Rev. C. S. Ives, Grand Chaplain, and the M. W. Anthony Butler, Past Grand Master—report,

That this Grand Lodge heard with feelings of profound sorrow the official announcement by the M. W. Grand Master, George M. Patrick, of the death of our venerated and highly-esteemed Grand Chaplain, the Rev. C. S. Ives, late of Matagorda, and the M. W. Past Grand Master, Anthony Butler, late of Washington county.

Our Brother, the Rev. C. S. Ives, a native of Vermont, was called to the pastoral care of the Episcopal Church in Matagorda several years since, and from that time until the latter part of March of the last year (when enfeebled health required a visit to his native land, from whence he never returned) he performed in a most exemplary manner the varied duties which devolved upon him as a minister of the gospel,—as the principal of a flourishing seminary of learning,—as a neighbor, husband, a father and a Mason. As a Christian, his course was pure, firm and steady, literally obeying the commands of his divine Master; he so walked before men that they could “see his good works and glorify the Father who is in heaven.” As a teacher, he disseminated the benefits of the institution over which he presided far and wide, and was respected by all who knew him. As a neighbor, he was esteemed and loved by all within his circle. As a husband and a father, he was kind and devoted to his family; and as a Mason, there were few who lived more in accordance with the principles of the Order than himself. “*Faith, hope and charity*” were the ruling principles of his life, and the guiding stars which directed him in his course.

But he is gone!—an inscrutable but all-wise Providence has, for his own good purposes, called him from his labors in this earthly tabernacle to the performance of those which may be assigned him in “that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens;” and though it is beyond the efforts of the human mind for his friends and those to whom he had endeared himself here to look upon the dispensation which took him from our midst without experiencing feelings of the deepest regret, still we have the consolation of knowing that our loss is his gain, and that his example remains as a shining light to direct us onward in the journey which he has accomplished.

“Insatiate archer, could not one suffice?
Thy darts flew twice, and twice our peace was slain.”

Our Brother, Past Grand Master Anthony Butler, emigrated to Texas from Kentucky at an early period after our Revolution, and remained with us until a year or two before his death, when his business took him to the North, and occupied him there most of the time until he lost his life by the burning of the steamboat ———, on board of which he was a passenger on his return to his adopted home. He was a Mason of the most elevated Orders in the Fraternity; and, as a proof that he was esteemed for his Masonic virtues and qualities, more than once, during his residence among us, the highest honors of the Craft were conferred upon him. His death was caused by the exercise of those virtues. He had made his own escape from the ill-fated vessel; but hearing that others, and especially females, to whose distress a Mason never yields an unwilling ear, were still exposed to the perils of the devouring flames, regardless of his own danger, and in obedience to the lessons he had so often inculcated in the Lodges over which he had presided, he rushed to the rescue and lost his own life in a glorious and benevolent effort to save that of others.

Bro. Butler was universally regarded as possessing a high order of talent. He had enemies,—who that has passed through a long political and varied life is without them?—but he had warm friends. If the last great act of his life

be not sufficient with some to wipe out the recollection of all unkindness and the causes which produced them, we, as Masons, will bury his foibles in his grave, and cherish the remembrance of his virtues, until, like him, we shall be called to take our stations in "that Grand Lodge above where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides."

Your Committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deeply regret the loss of their highly-esteemed Grand Chaplain, the Rev. C. S. Ives, and of their Past Grand Master, the M. W. Anthony Butler, and that the members thereof will wear the usual badges of mourning for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That it is recommended to all Master Masons throughout the State to evince their respect for the memory of the deceased Brothers by wearing the same badges for the same length of time.

Resolved, That the sympathy and the condolence of this Grand Lodge be, and the same is hereby, tendered to the families of our deceased Bros. Ives and Butler, and that the Grand Secretary furnish a copy of this report and resolutions to each.

Resolved, That this report and resolutions be published in the usual way under the direction of the Grand Secretary.

JAMES WEBB,
Chairman.

The special Committee to whom was referred the M. W. Grand Master's address submitted the following report, which was read and received, and the several resolutions read and disposed of as follows: the first, second, third and fourth were, on motion, adopted; and the fifth, alluding to the locating of the Grand Lodge, was, on motion, laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the annual address of the M. W. Grand Master would report that they have carefully examined the same, and are highly gratified with the sentiments expressed. The moral tone of the address and the statements of the condition of Masonry in your jurisdiction cannot fail to be both pleasing and instructive to the Fraternity. In general we concur in the recommendations made by the Grand Master; but, as some of them more appropriately belong to other Committees, we have deemed it expedient to act on but few.

The want of Masonic libraries in the subordinate Lodges is manifest. The Grand Lodge has already in a manner expressed its opinion of their importance by providing for the purchase of a few books and periodicals for its own use. If these are material for the use of the Grand Lodge, they are certainly so for the subordinates. Access to the library of the Grand Lodge can in general be had only by its officers and members once a year, and then for a short time. In the subordinates light is wanted continually; and your Committee believe that much of the diversity of opinion leading to controversy and unprofitable discussion would be avoided if each Lodge were provided with a small library of standard Masonic books and periodicals, to which reference might be conveniently had in cases of difficulty. We would not make invidious distinctions, but, from our better knowledge of them, are justified in expressing our favorable opinion of the Free Masons' Monthly Magazine, edited by Bro. C. W. Moore, of Boston, Massachusetts, the Masonic Review, edited by Bro. C. Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the Southern and Western Masonic Miscellany, edited by Bro. A. G. Mackay, of Charleston, S.C.

Your Committee have examined the Masonic Text-Book, transmitted by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia, which was prepared by R. W. Bro. Jno. Dove, Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge, and adopted by it. Even from the slight examination we have been able to give the work, we are prepared to express our unqualified approbation of its object. The contents and arrangement manifest great labor and research, and are well calculated to produce that order and uniformity so much desired. The first four parts of the work are, first, A Compendium of Masonic History; second, The Ahiman Rezon; third, History of the Organization of Grand Lodges; fourth, Manual of the First Three Degrees, including Past Master and Ceremonies, of general interest to the Fraternity under all circumstances. The fifth and sixth parts are, Digest of Laws regulating Grand Lodges, and the Code of By-laws for the government of subordinate Lodges. The last parts, in some of their provisions, conflict with our own, and we have not been able to compare them so as to express an opinion. One thing, however, is clear:—that, if some such general rules should be adopted by all the Grand Lodges of the Union, and copies thereof be furnished by each to the others, it would go “further to establish uniformity of work and legislation than any plan” yet proposed. Your Committee believe that a code of By-laws for the government of our subordinate Lodges ought to be adopted whether the system is carried out by others or not. When so adopted, they might be published along with the first four parts of the Text-Book, or separately, and thus at least produce uniformity among our own Lodges.

Your Committee regret to learn that in some instances the duties devolving on the District Deputy Grand Masters have not been performed. As to the importance of that office, and that its duties should be punctually fulfilled, there can be no disagreement. Our Constitution provides for the appointment of those officers at the annual sessions of the Grand Lodge, but makes no provision for filling vacancies, or in cases of neglect or disability. It is doubtless often inconvenient, and sometimes impracticable, for those appointed to attend to the duty, and hence the irregularity and neglect to which allusion is made. A remedy ought to be provided, and none more appropriate than that recommended by the M. W. Grand Master occurs to us.

Of the propriety of immediate action in changing the time or permanently fixing the place of the annual sessions of the Grand Lodge, much diversity prevails among the Fraternity. These are matters, however, which ought to be settled with deliberation, in a spirit of harmony and with a view to the permanent union and prosperity of the Order. The *time* of our meetings is fixed by the Constitution, and cannot be changed but by “the concurrence of two-thirds of the votes of the subordinate Lodges represented,” and your Committee deem it inexpedient to propose any change. The *place* of our sessions is not so established, and it is incumbent on the Grand Lodge to designate it. The time and circumstances under which our Constitution was formed, and the history of Masonry in our State, evidently shows that it was the design of the framers of the Constitution that the Grand Lodge should be held at the Seat of Government each year that the Legislature met. But as the place for the Seat of Government was left unsettled by the State Constitution, and, as each alternate year no meeting of the Legislature was ordinarily to be held, the power was wisely given to the Grand Lodge to designate other points for its sessions. Your Committee therefore think that it would be inexpedient to locate the place of meeting for the Grand Lodge at this time, but that some point central to the Lodges, convenient for travel, and at which suitable accommodations may be had, should be selected for the next annual session.

And in accordance with these views your Committee submit the accompanying resolutions for adoption.

Fraternally, &c.,

P. W. GRAY,
SAML. MCCLARTY,
JOHN SAYLES.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge earnestly recommend the Lodges under its jurisdiction to provide themselves with libraries of standard Masonic books and periodicals.

Resolved, That the plan and object of the "Masonic Text-Book," prepared by R. W. Bro. John Dove, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and adopted by that Grand Lodge, is approved, and that Bro. Grand Secretary return the thanks of this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Virginia for the work sent, and solicit the copyright thereof for this jurisdiction so kindly tendered.

Resolved, That the "Masonic Text-Book" be referred to a special committee of three, with instructions to prepare a code of By-laws according to the plan proposed, and report the same at the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That in case of vacancy occurring in the office of District Deputy Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge, or in case of inability or neglect of duty by any such officer, the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to appoint some Brother who was a member of the preceding Grand Lodge to fill such vacancy or to perform such duty.

Resolved, That the next Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge be held at _____, and thereafter at the place selected for the Seat of Government of the State.

The Grand Master appointed the following Committee under the third resolution,—viz.: Bros. P. W. Gray, Saml. McClarty and W. M. Taylor.

The Committee on Chartered Lodges submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Chartered Lodges beg leave further to report, that they have examined the returns of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, and find the same correct, with the exception of the omission of charging said Lodge with \$4 for Dispersations granted, and \$3 for six raisings, which, added to their account, makes their dues amount to \$41 50, which we find is overpaid to the amount of \$8 50, and said amount of \$8 50 is now due said Lodge by this Grand Lodge. The returns of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, have also been examined, and prove correct.

Your Committee notice, in some of the returns of subordinate Lodges, that Brethren are reported as Past Masters who have never presided over any Lodge as its regular Master, but are only entitled to the Degree from having received the same in a Chapter. This we regard as irregular, and would suggest that no one can be returned as a Past Master but such as have actually filled the Oriental chair and presided as the regular Master of the Lodge.

SAML. MCCLARTY,
JAS. T. LYTLE,
W. A. KING,
W. LARKINS,
J. N. THOMAS.

The special Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Secretary submitted the following report and resolution, which was read, received and laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred R. W. Bro. Grand Secretary's report, having had the same under consideration, would ask leave to make the follow-

ing report. The report contains some information and valuable suggestions, and your Committee would therefore recommend its adoption with the following resolution:—

Resolved, That all subordinate Lodges be required to have published, within three months after the ratification of their By-laws by this Grand Lodge, at least fifty copies of the same for the use of their respective Lodges, and to forward at least one copy to the Grand Secretary: and this resolution to have effect upon those whose By-laws have heretofore been adopted from this time.

S. H. DARDEN,

Chairman of Committee.

The Standing Committee to whom was referred the By-laws of subordinate Lodges submitted the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws of Subordinate Lodges have had under consideration the amended By-laws of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, at La Grange, and ask leave to report the same for ratification, with the following amendments:—

Article 5. Strike out all after the words "four years."

Article 14. Strike out all between the words "papers of the Lodge," and the words "and receive."

Article 19. Strike out the last three words and insert "a demit."

They have also examined the By-laws of Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, Galveston, and find them correct: they recommend their adoption.

They also recommend for ratification the By-laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 51, with the following corrections:—

Article 5, Section 1. Strike out the words "Master Masons."

Article 5, Section 3. Strike out the words "Master Masons."

Article 5, Section 2. Amend by inserting after the word "rejected" the words "for one year, upon two votes for two years, and for three or more for four years."

They further recommend for ratification the By-laws of Joppa Lodge, under Dispensation at Elysian Fields, Harrison county, with the following corrections:—

Article 4, Section 4. Strike out the words "proper to be written."

Article 5, Section 3. Strike out all after the word "submitted."

They further recommend the adoption of the By-laws of Sam. McClarty Lodge, under Dispensation at Henderson, with the following corrections:—

Article on Balloting, Section 1. Strike out the clause after the word "unless;" also strike out "section second."

Table fees amend by changing \$2 to \$3 as admission-fees for membership.

They also recommend for ratification the amendment of Palestine Lodge, No. 31, to their By-laws as adopted by them and forwarded to this Grand Lodge. They further recommend the adoption of the amended By-laws of Forest Lodge, No. 19, at Huntsville, with the following corrections:—

Article 12, Section 1. Strike out "oath."

Article 19, Section 9. Strike out "ayes and noes."

Article 20. Strike out all after "Chart."

They also recommend for adoption the By-laws of Tannehill Lodge, No. 52, with the following corrections:—

Strike out Article 1, Section 5. Also strike out Article 4, Section 5.

Article 2, Section 9. Insert, after the word "Lodge," "except the office of Worshipful Master."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANDREW NEILL,

Chairman of Committee.

The Standing Committee on Grievances and Appeals made the following report, which was read, and, on motion of Bro. James W. Henderson, laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals, having examined and considered the appeal of F. R. Gans, from Holland Lodge, No. 1, beg leave to report, that from a transcript of the proceedings in this case, duly authenticated and certified to this Grand Lodge, Mr. Gans, who was a Master Mason, and had been a member of Holland Lodge, but had previously demitted, was tried before that Lodge, within whose jurisdiction he resided on the 30th August, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, upon a charge of "un-Masonic conduct" under three specifications:

1. "That he (Gans) has been in the habit of speaking disrespectfully of the Masonic Fraternity, and shortly before his trial had said 'that he was glad he got clear of the Fraternity, and that he was no longer a Mason,' and this in the presence of men who were not Masons.

2d. "Abusive language and opprobrious epithets used towards Bro. R. M. De Chene, after the latter had left him and started to go home, and this before any blows had passed.

3d. "A false charge made by Mr. Gans in relation to a quarrel and fight which he had had in the City of Houston with Bro. De Chene."

The accused, after being duly notified of the charge and specifications, attended a meeting of the Lodge convened for his trial, took no exception to the charge or specifications, but pleaded "Not guilty," and announced himself ready for trial; and, after proceedings unexceptionably regular in point of form, was found "guilty" upon the first specification, "not guilty" upon the second, and the third was, on motion, dismissed. He was thereupon sentenced to be "suspended for twelve months from the benefits of Masonry," from which he prosecuted an appeal to this M. W. Grand Lodge.

The testimony appears to your Committee to have been fully and fairly taken, and is properly presented by the record. The only witnesses who testified upon the first specification were Bro. James B. Ward, late of Olive-Branch Lodge, No. 26, and Mr. H. S. Bachelder. The former states that, in the presence of Bachelder and others, he heard Mr. Gans say "he was no longer a Mason: he was glad he had got clear of the Fraternity, and he did not intend to have any thing more to do with them or with the Fraternity;" while Mr. Bachelder—referring, doubtless, to the same occasion—reports the declaration of Mr. Gans to have been, "I have my pass from the Lodge, and am no longer a Mason in Houston."

Upon the second and third specifications, the testimony of several persons, some of whom were Master Masons and some of them not, in the opinion of your Committee abundantly makes out a case in which, by the laws of the land, Mr. Gans would have been *barely* entitled to an acquittal upon a charge of an assault and battery, because Bro. De Chene struck him the first blow; but by the same law he was clearly guilty of an affray, because he *willingly* quarrelled and *willingly* fought with Bro. De Chene in a public place, &c., and voluntarily brought upon himself any necessity which may have existed in the case to fight Bro. De Chene in self-defence.

Upon this view of the testimony, while your Committee would hesitate to recommend a confirmation of the sentence in question upon the first specification and the proof applicable to it, yet, deeming it their duty to review the entire case, they are clearly of the opinion that the charges and facts shown by the record to have been made and proven against Mr. Gans fully justify the sentence passed upon him. They therefore respectfully suggest that the M. W. Grand Lodge, in reference to *the premises*, adopt the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the sentence of suspension from the benefits of Masonry, passed by Holland Lodge, No. 1, on the 30th day of August, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849, for the space of twelve months from that day, against F. R. Gans, be and the same is hereby affirmed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN SAYLES,
THOS. J. JENNINGS,
for the Committee.

The same Committee made a further report, as follows, together with the accompanying resolutions, which were severally read and adopted, with the exception of the fifth or last resolution, regarding a code of By-laws, which was laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Grievances beg leave to report, that in the case of the appeal of Bro. Willis Pollard from the action of Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, on the charges preferred by himself against Bro. Charles W. Lewin, we have no evidence before us that would authorize a reversal of the decision of said Lodge, the charges not being sustained by any evidence as presented in the transcript of the proceedings. But we cannot pass without notice the communication of the said Bro. C. W. Lewin to this Grand Lodge, containing as it does expressions harsh, opprobrious and un-Masonic. The feeling evinced by him in it is wrong, the language used is improper, and we cannot withhold the expression of our unqualified censure of its contents.

We take this occasion to remark, that it is improper for the subordinate Lodge to send up to this body any original papers, (as was done in the present instance:) the original papers should remain in the archives of the Lodge, and a copy or transcript only be sent up to this Lodge.

In the case of the appeal of Samuel Gay from the decision of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, expelling him from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, we are of opinion that the decision of the Lodge should be *affirmed*. The charges were of a high character and were *fully sustained* by the evidence: indeed, the admission of the accused would have justified the sentence. One so forgetful of his *obligations* as an officer as to convert to his own use the funds of the Lodge, placed in his hands as Secretary, or who entertains so little respect for the institution as to denounce it as a "*swindling-machine*," is certainly unworthy of enjoying its benefits and privileges.

We are of opinion that the decision of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, expelling Bro. J. H. Hill, should be reversed and he be restored to all his rights as a Mason. The charge preferred against him, if true, would not have warranted the infliction of that penalty: suspension is the severest punishment that ought to have been inflicted. There does not seem to have been any improper motive actuating the Brother; on the contrary, the presumption of the existence of such a motive is repelled by his conduct.

The action of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, in expelling Bro. T. J. Moore, was entirely unwarranted. The charges preferred against him are not sustained by *one iota* of testimony that has come before us. If such testimony was given, it does not appear among the papers of the case. From the transcript of the proceedings had by that Lodge, your Committee would say that the prosecution was conducted in an un-Masonic spirit,—that it was indeed a *prosecution* and not a *trial*. This opinion is sustained by the *certificates* of several Brethren who were present at the trial, and who were *deterred* from voting by *threats* of Masonic *censure*: if their votes had been cast the result would have been changed. Several (whose certificates are before your Committee) asked to be excused from voting in consequence of its having been stated in the Lodge by the Junior

Warden, on the authority of the District Deputy Grand Master of that District, "that it was a rule that when charges for high crime were sustained by a majority vote, it was obligatory on members to vote for expulsion; that if the accused was not expelled the Lodge would forfeit its Charter, or those voting against expulsion make themselves liable to be expelled, and that it would be the duty of the Lodge to expel them, which, if it failed to do, would subject it to a forfeiture of its Charter." We are authorized by the District Deputy Grand Master of that District to say that no such instruction was ever given by him: it is needless for us to say that such is *not the law of Masonry*.

The trial took place in the midst of excitement against the Brethren; the charges were drawn in the terms and with the accuracy of an indictment; the prosecution was conducted by a lawyer; the accused was denied the privilege of procuring testimony which was absent; a majority of Brethren present did not vote for sustaining the charges or inflicting the penalty. These facts did not appear in the record. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the decision of Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, in the case of Willis Pollard against Charles W. Lewin, be and is hereby affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, expelling Samuel Gay, be and is hereby affirmed.

Resolved, That the decision of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, expelling Bro. Josiah Hill, be and is hereby reversed, and that the said Brother is restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Resolved, That the decision of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, expelling Bro. T. J. Moore, be and is hereby reversed, and that the said Brother is restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Your Committee before closing this report would call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the want of uniformity in the By-laws of subordinate Lodges defining Masonic offences, the penalties attached thereto, and the mode and manner of trial. By the By-laws of some Lodges, a member may be suspended, of others, may be expelled, for the non-payment of dues. By the laws of one Lodge a certain class of offences is punished by a reprimand; by the laws of another the punishment for the same offences is expulsion. There is no uniformity as to the manner of trial, the mode of preferring charges, of collecting testimony and of deciding upon it. In some Lodges a Brother may be suspended or expelled by a majority vote; in others, only by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. To remedy these evils we offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draft a code of By-laws for the government of subordinate Lodges, and report the same at the next Grand Annual Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. SAYLES,
THOS. J. JENNINGS, } Committee.
PETER W. GRAY,

The Standing Committee on Petitions submitted the following report, which was, on motion, received, and the resolution respecting Alamo Lodge laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions have had before them for consideration the petition and resolutions of Alamo Lodge, No. 44, respecting the remission of dues for the years 1848 and 1849, in order to aid them in the payment for their edifice and to complete the same, and after hearing the facts submitted in

relation thereto, have agreed to submit the following resolution for the action of the Grand Lodge, and respectfully recommend the adoption thereof:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby remit to Alamo Lodge, No. 44, the amount of dues returned for the years 1848 and 1849 by that Lodge, to aid in the completion of their hall in San Antonio.

The same Committee have also had before them two petitions for Lodges to be established,—the first in Cherokee neighborhood, in Cass county, to be called “Andrew Jackson Lodge,” and the second at Chappell Hill, in Washington county, to be called “Hubert Lodge,”—and find the same duly and properly approved. They therefore recommend Dispensations be granted to constitute said new Lodges, in accordance with their petitions.

They further report that they have duly considered the petition asking for a travelling Lodge from officers and others connected with the Third Regiment of the United States army, and, as the same is duly recommended, they conceive there exists no valid reason for refusing the petition; but in view of the peculiar locality of the petitioners, and to guard against any infringement of our own jurisdiction, recommend that a Dispensation be granted to constitute “Travelers’ Home Lodge,” to be located at or near El Paso, with the right of jurisdiction in the counties of Worth, El Paso and Santa Fe, but requiring said Lodge to observe the edicts of this Grand Lodge at such place as may be designated as the county seat of El Paso county, till the further action of the Grand Lodge shall do away with this restriction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,	} Committee.
W. LARKINS,	
J. H. ROGERS,	

On motion of R. W. Bro. John Sayles, the Grand Secretary was ordered to issue Dispensations as recommended in the report of the Committee.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Adolphus Sterne, Bro. J. M. Hall was requested to furnish suitable refreshments for the Grand Lodge this evening, (spirituos liquors excepted,) and draw upon the Treasurer for the same.

Bro. J. N. Thomas offered the following resolution, which was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals:—

Upon application of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, through its Worshipful Master, Bro. J. N. Thomas,

Be it Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That the proceedings of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, heretofore had in the cases of H. S. Crossland, William Francis, A. Hardaway and Joseph S. Ables, applicants for the first Degree of Masonry, be, and the same is hereby, annulled. Also, that the proceedings of the same Lodge on the application of Bro. L. W. Dumas, Fellow-Craft, for the Degree of Master Mason, be annulled, and said applicants reinstated, and to stand in the same relation to the Lodge as they did previous to their application for said Degrees.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o’clock P.M.

Wednesday evening, 7 o’clock P.M., January 23, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

VOL. I.—23

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. George M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Samuel McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
" Thomas J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" J. C. Tannehill,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" James M. Hall,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master 2d Dist.
" John Sayles,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master 5th Dist.
" William M. Taylor,	Grand Lecturer.
" George Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" John Shea,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
" Andrew J. McGown,	Grand Chaplain <i>p. t.</i>
" B. P. Smith,	Grand Orator.
" E. J. Arnold,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" Adolphus Sterne,	Grand Marshal <i>p. t.</i>
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Bros. Andrew Neill, John Shea, T. J. Hardeman and A. Sterne.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

On a call of the Lodges, forty-three were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented, and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. M. W. J. A. Greer and James Webb, Past Grand Masters, were announced and took seats in the east. The proposed amendment to the 43d Article of the Constitution was called up, read a second time, and passed to its third reading.

Bro. A. S. Ainsworth offered the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 37, be, and the same is hereby, authorized and empowered to change their place of meeting from Mount Pleasant, Polk county, to Fireman's Hill, Polk county, and that the R. W. Grand Secretary be, and is hereby, instructed to furnish the Representatives of the Lodge No. 37, with a certified copy of this resolution.

R. W. Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, James Webb, Past Grand Master, and Adolphus Sterne, Past District Deputy Grand Master:—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare a block of marble or stone of the requisite dimensions, and with suitable emblems and inscriptions engraved thereon, to be presented by this Grand Lodge to the Building-Committee of the Washington Monument, for the purpose of being placed in said monument.

Bro. H. W. Wagner offered the following preamble and resolution, which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

Whereas, It has been found by the officers and members of Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, of Galveston, that nearly all the visiting members coming from Germany and under the jurisdiction of the different Grand Lodges of that country do not work in the same manner and style as is the usual mode of working of our ancient Order in this country; and whereas, the members of that Lodge by their obligation cannot admit any brother or person into the Lodge or hold Masonic intercourse with the same; and whereas, the members of this Lodge believe those persons to be Masons regularly initiated, &c. Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to inquire into the cause of the said difference in the workings of the Order, by opening a direct and immediate correspondence with the said Grand Lodges, and report, as soon as the answers are received, to the M. W. Grand Master of the R. W. Grand Lodge, and that after such report being received by him he is hereby authorized to order the Grand Secretary to notify the different Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge whether they could admit such Brethren into their Lodges and hold Masonic intercourse with them.

R. W. Bro. John Sayles offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted, and on vote of the Grand Lodge he was duly elected to perform that duty:—

Resolved, That a suitable Brother be appointed to compile a history of the establishment, progress, and present condition of Free Masonry within this State. That the Masters of Lodges and Brethren generally be invited to furnish said Brother all the information in their possession connected with the establishment of their Lodges. That said "History" be laid before this Grand Lodge for approval at the next Grand Annual Communication.

Bro. Saml. Bogart offered the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge remit the contributions due from St. John's Lodge, No. 51, at McKinney, late under Dispensation, as that Lodge only held one meeting under their Dispensation before the granting of a Charter. The Lodge consists of only eight members, who have paid \$25 for Dispensations and \$25 for Charter.

On motion of Bro. Andrew Neill, the report of the Standing Committee on Petitions was taken up from the table, and the resolution regarding the remission of dues by this Grand Lodge to Alamo Lodge was again read, and, on motion of Bro. Peter W. Gray, the following amendment was adopted:—

Provided, that the dues so remitted be passed to the credit of the Charity Fund of Alamo Lodge, and shall be devoted to charitable purposes only.

On motion of Bro. James W. Henderson, the resolution which was offered by the select Committee on the Grand Lecturer's report was called up from the table and amended by making the time "once in every three months," and adopted as amended.

Bro. A. J. Yates, from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, was announced and presented his Credentials as a Representative of that Lodge, and took his seat.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had arrived for the annual election of Grand Officers, it being 8 o'clock P.M., and, after several nominations were made for the different Grand Offices, the Craft were called to refreshment to prepare their ballot.

Craft again called to labor, and the following Brethren duly elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year, to wit :—

M. W. Thomas J. Hardeman,	Grand Master.
R. W. William M. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master.
" William H. Cushney,	Senior Grand Warden.
" C. G. Keenan,	Junior Grand Warden.
" E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" Stephen H. Darden,	Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow evening at 3 o'clock P.M.

Thursday evening, 8 o'clock P.M., January 24, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. George M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Samuel McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
" T. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden.
" Geo. Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" H. W. Wagner,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" E. J. Arnold,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" Adolphus Sterne,	Grand Marshal.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Thomas J. Hardeman, Andrew Neill and A. Sterne.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, twenty-two were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. The minutes of the meetings of yesterday were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the By-laws of subordinate Lodges, presented the following report, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the By-laws of Subordinate Lodges have had under consideration those of Burleson Lodge, U. D., and, having found the same in conformity to usages and the Constitution, recommend the same for adoption.

They have further examined the By-laws of Mount Enterprise Lodge, U. D., and recommend the same for adoption with the following corrections:—

Meeting of the Lodge. Insert after the word "month" "at seven o'clock p.m." Also strike out the words "Grand Lodge" and insert "By-laws."

Table of fees. Strike out \$2 00 and insert \$3 00 as fees for membership.

They have also examined the proposed amendments to By-laws of Holland Lodge, No. 1, and recommend the adoption of the same.

They also recommend the adoption of the By-laws of Larissa Lodge, U. D., as submitted.

And they recommend the adoption of those of Rocky Mount Lodge, U. D., with the following amendments:—

Article 1, Section 1. Strike out the words of "Grand Lodge" and insert "By-laws."

Article 4, Section 1. Strike out the words from "unless" to "meetings" inclusive.

Article 4, Section 3. Strike out "two" and insert "three."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,

Chairman of Committee on By-laws.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven submitted the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Rocky Mountain Lodge having sent up and paid over its dues to the Grand Secretary, say \$87 50, and also sent up a complete return of its work as required in the form furnished by this Grand Lodge, receive a Charter through the hand of Bro. S. McClarty, who constituted said Lodge as Deputy Grand Master, and who, having examined its minutes, vouches for their being correct and in due form.

The Standing Committee on Subordinate Lodges U. D. submitted the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Subordinate Lodges U. D. ask leave to report, further, that we have examined the work of Tannehill and Woodville Lodges, U. D., and find the same correct, and therefore recommend that Charters issue to both of said Lodges on the payment of the usual fees. We have also examined the returns of Woodville Lodge, and find the same correct, with these exceptions:— They report a Past Master who was not a member of their Lodge; they report but ten members when it should be thirteen, which makes their dues \$19 00, instead of \$16 00 as reported.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
J. M. HALL,
P. HUSSEY,
Jno. B. ROOT.

Bro. A. King submitted the following resolution, which was read and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the name of Burleson Lodge, U. D., is hereby changed to Warren Lodge, and that the Charter issue accordingly.

On motion of R. W. Bro. William M. Taylor, the Representatives of Lodges under Dispensation to whom Charters had been ordered to be issued were invited to take their seats.

R. W. Bro. Samuel McClarty submitted the following resolution, which was, on motion of Bro. S. H. Darden, laid on the table:—

Resolved, That Eagle Lodge, No. 41, have the liberty (two-thirds of its members concurring) to change the place of meeting of said Lodge from Pulaski to Vernon, Bethany Post-Office in the County of Panola.

Bro. Warren Larkins offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to make suitable arrangements for the installation of the officers of this Grand Lodge, and report this evening.

The following Brethren were appointed said Committee :—Warren Larkins, William H. Cushney and S. W. Darden.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment until 7 o'clock, P.M.

7 o'clock P.M., Thursday, January 24, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers as in the afternoon.

Thirty-two Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The Standing Committee on Petitions submitted the following report, which was, on motion of M. W. J. A. Greer, laid upon the table :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions have had under consideration the petition for a Lodge at Indianola, and the recommendation of the Port Lavaca Lodge for the same, and, in view of the circumstances under which they are situated, your Committee recommend that the petition be referred to the District Deputy Grand Master for that District for his action at such time as in his judgment may seem proper to grant the Dispensation prayed for.

A. NEILL,

Chairman Committee on Petitions.

On motion of Bro. Thomas J. Jennings, a Dispensation was granted for a new Lodge as prayed for by the petitioners, to be held at the town of Indianola, called "Indianola Lodge."

The Committee to whom was referred the annual report of R. W. James M. Hall, District Deputy Grand Master Second Masonic District, made a report, which was, on motion, recommitted to the same Committee.

The special Committee to whom was referred the resolution of R. W. Bro. John Sayles submitted the following report, which was, on motion amended by adding the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the block of stone or marble referred to in the resolution be procured within the territory of the State of Texas.

Which report was adopted with the amendment.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The select Committee have had under their consideration the probable cost of a block of marble or stone, to be presented to the Monumental Committee at the City of Washington, and beg leave to report that, owing to the short space of time allotted them, it is impossible they can arrive at any positive or definite estimate of the cost, which will in a great degree depend upon the distance of transportation as well as the emblems and inscriptions which may be selected. It may be impracticable to procure a suitable stone or block in this State: if so, it may be procured near the City of Washington, thereby reducing the cost in transportation. They would therefore recommend the following additional resolution:—

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be required, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to carry out the object of these resolutions.

J. A. GREER,
A. STERNE,
JAS. WEBB.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals submitted the following report, which was, on motion, rejected:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the application of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, through its Worshipful Master, Bro. J. N. Thomas, to be relieved from the operation of the constitutional provision which prohibits for a certain period of time the reception of petitions for Degrees in Masonry from applicants who have been rejected, in the cases mentioned in a resolution accompanying said application, and beg leave to report that they are satisfied, from their investigations in the matter of the appeal of Bro. Thomas J. Moore, from the same Lodge, and from other legal information, that a deep and general state of excitement prevailed among the Brethren of that Lodge at the time of the rejections in question, of which the latter were probably the result. Entertaining no doubt that this Grand Lodge possesses the dispensing power now appealed to, and deeming this a proper occasion for its exercise, your Committee beg leave to report back without amendment the resolution accompanying said application, and recommend its adoption.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. SAYLES,
Chairman of Committee.

Bro. H. W. Wagner offered the following resolutions, which were read, and, on motion of Bro. Keenan, laid on the table:—

Resolved, That the relief granted to Brethren and their families coming and going out of this State be equally borne by all and every member of the Fraternity under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, so as not to throw the burden of relief upon a very few individuals, but upon all alike.

Resolved, That each subordinate Lodge, in their annual report, make mention of the amount so expended, and forward to this Grand Lodge the original vouchers or receipts of the persons so relieved.

Resolved, That after the receipt of such report and vouchers and receipts, it shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to make a *pro rata* assessment of each member, and that the Lodge, or the members thereof, having advanced more than their *pro rata* share, shall be credited with such amount in the books of the Grand Secretary, and the Lodges which have not advanced their *pro rata* amount be debited on said Grand Secretary's books, and that said credits or debits so entered be regarded as advances or arrears of dues to become due the succeeding Grand Annual Communication.

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for the installation of the officers elect made a report, which was referred to a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of Bros. A. J. Yates, Geo. Hancock, Chas. G. Keenan, Thomas Cartmell, A. Sterne, Thos. W. Ward and J. M. Swisher.

No further business appearing on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow at 3 o'clock P.M.

Friday, January 25, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850, 8 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Grand Master.
R. W. Samuel McClarty,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ T. J. Hardeman,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ George Hancock,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ H. W. Wagner,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ Peter W. Gray,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ Adolphus Sterne,	Grand Marshal.
W. A. S. Ainsworth,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS PRESENT.

Thomas J. Hardeman and Andrew Neill.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, twenty-nine were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the previous day were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee of Arrangements on Installation of Grand Officers submitted the following report and resolution, which were, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of considering and recommending suitable arrangements for the installation of the officers elect of this Grand Lodge, have had that subject under consideration, and instructed me to report that it is inexpedient at the present Communication to have a public installation of said officers, and they therefore recommend that the installation be held at the Lodge Room of their present session, on this evening, at 8 o'clock.

They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to the installation of the officers elect for the ensuing year, at 8 o'clock this evening.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. J. YATES,
Chairman.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the By-laws of Subordinate Lodges, submitted the following report, which was, on motion, read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws of Subordinate Lodges have had under consideration the By-laws of Woodville Lodge under Dispensation, and recommend their adoption with the following corrections :—

Art. 5, Sec. 1. Strike out all between the words "necessary" and the words "and to appoint."

Sec. 4. Strike out the words "proper to be until."

Art. 7, Sec. 2. Strike out the words "Master Mason being;" same section, strike out "six months," and insert "one year;" strike out all after the word "forever;" insert after "rejected" the words "two years, and, if three or more, for four years."

Art. 8, Sec. 1. Strike out all after the words "Grand Lodge;" and in Art. 12, Sec. 3, strike out "ayes and noes."

The Committee have also examined the By-laws of Tyler Lodge under Dispensation, and recommend the adoption of the same with the following amendments :—

Art. 4, Sec. 1. Strike out all between the word "necessary" and the words "and to appoint."

Sec. 4. Strike out all between the words "regular record" and the word "open," and insert "of the same."

Initiations. Strike out "six months" and to the end of the section, and insert "one year; if there be two black balls, for three years; and, if three or more, for four years."

Voting. Strike out the section.

Visiting Brethren,—Sec. 2. Add and insert "and under the rules of the Grand Lodge."

Discontinuance, &c. Strike out the three last words and insert "a demit."

Rules of Order,—Sec. 3. Strike out "ayes and noes."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANDREW NEILL,
Chair'n Committee on By-laws.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through Bro. H. W. Wagner, one of the Committee, made the following report, which was, on motion, read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, further, that they have received, through the Grand Secretary, the Proceedings of the Grand National Mother-Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Prussian States, called to the Three Globes of the East, at Berlin, for the years 1848 and 1849, which are very voluminous, but contain very little of especial interest to Masonry in this country or State, with perhaps one part of the same, which relates to the non-admittance of any persons who do not profess Christianity to the benefits of Masonry, and the exclusion of those who are already members of this Fraternity from the benefits of Masonry on account of their not professing Christianity. The documents relating to this portion of said proceedings are too lengthy and the time allotted to your Committee too short to give a full synopsis or translation of the same at this time; but it is thought necessary by your Committee that the whole

matter should be fairly laid before the Fraternity of this State, as the results of such actions are of vital importance, and ought to be considered with mature reflection by every Mason. We would therefore recommend that the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be authorized to have that part of said proceedings above referred to translated, so that the members of this Grand Lodge and the Lodges they represent may take action on this important measure,—as, in the opinion of your Committee, such a practice would be the greatest deviation from the ancient landmarks of our beloved Order.

From the said proceedings we further find that this Grand Lodge (Republic) was once represented at that Grand Lodge on the 4th December, 1844, but they do not state by whom.

The said Grand Lodge acknowledges, of the Grand Lodge, existing in the United States, only the Grand Lodge of New York and the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, not calling this Grand Lodge—most likely by mistake—by its proper name. The said Grand Lodge also justly deprecates the un-Masonic proceedings of some of the Brethren of the State of New York, and justly pronounces the St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York and all the members working under the same as clandestine, and unworthy to be regarded or considered as members of our ancient institution.

King David's Lodge, No. 66, of Baltimore, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, has, as has appeared, called on said Grand Lodge, being desirous of entering into nearer relationship with said Grand Lodge, the members of said Lodge, No. 60, being Germans, and requested of said Grand Lodge to send them a Ritual of the workings of the Lodges under their jurisdiction, which request was granted. We would therefore recommend that a request be made to said Grand Lodge, by this Grand Lodge, to forward a copy of the Ritual to this Grand Lodge, for the purpose of enabling the German Brethren working under this jurisdiction with more facility to examine the different manners of work among the Brethren of the two countries.

Said Grand Lodge has in contemplation to establish a society of Lodges consisting of the Lodges working under her jurisdiction, with those Lodges of New Orleans, Louisville and New York, for the purpose of assisting and protecting German emigrant Master Masons coming to the United States, the means for the maintenance of said society to be raised among themselves by stated annual contributions. A recommendation to include the Galveston German Lodge might be of material benefit both to the arriving Brethren and to said Teutonia Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. SAYLES,
Chairman.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report and resolution, which was, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts, to whom was referred the resolution instructing this Committee to inquire into the expediency of diminishing all fees now collected by the Grand Lodge from subordinate Lodges of this State, beg leave to report that they have had the subject under mature consideration, and would recommend the adoption of the following change of Art. 34 of the Constitution :—

Strike out all after the word "Dispensation" on the third line of said Article, and insert, in lieu thereof, "fifteen dollars for each Charter, twenty dollars to accompany the petition when the application is made, and if not granted the same will be returned; for each Degree conferred, twenty-five cents; for each

affiliation, fifty cents; for each member annually, sixty cents; for each Diploma one dollar and twenty-five cents, and for each Dispensation, two dollars."

This being a subject of great importance, your Committee would beg leave to offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this report be referred to the Committee on By-laws, and that they be required to report at the next Grand Annual Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. J. ARNOLD,
H. W. WAGNER,
T. J. HARDEMAN.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was also adopted with the accompanying resolution:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts have had under consideration the report of the R. W. Grand Secretary, showing the receipt of the dues for the year 1849, received by him from subordinate Lodges, of sixteen hundred and two dollars and thirty-eight cents, and beg leave to report that they have examined the same and found it correct. The disbursements of the Grand Secretary during the year were two hundred and forty-five dollars and two cents, for which the proper vouchers have been presented. The balance of thirteen hundred and fifty-seven dollars and thirty-six cents we find regularly acknowledged in the Grand Treasurer's account as having been paid over to him.

The receipts of the R. W. Grand Secretary in the year 1850, up to this date, are eighteen hundred and fifty-three dollars and five cents, as is shown by the synopsis rendered by him to this Committee. We would respectfully beg leave to state that the duties imposed upon him are many and arduous, and by the rapid increase of our beloved Order within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge will become more arduous, yet they are done in such a correct and satisfactory manner that we cannot refrain from expressing with gratification the credit he thereby reflects upon himself and honor to the Fraternity and this R. W. Grand Lodge. We therefore offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the R. W. Grand Secretary, Past Grand Master A. S. Ruthven, for the faithful, able and obliging manner in which he has performed the manifold duties of his office during the past year.

E. J. ARNOLD,
H. W. WAGNER,
T. J. HARDEMAN.

The same Committee again reported the following on the Grand Treasurer's account, which was, on motion, read, and, with the accompanying resolution, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Finance and Accounts have had under consideration the report of the R. W. Grand Treasurer, showing two thousand two hundred and forty-seven dollars and twenty-one cents in his hands at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication, and we beg leave to report that we have examined the same and found it correct. The disbursements of the Grand Treasurer during the year were six hundred and seventy-eight dollars and twenty-five cents, for which the proper vouchers have been found.

Your Committee find in the report of the Grand Treasurer an item wherewith he charges himself with eighty dollars, being the amount of eight per cent.

interest per annum on \$1000, which charge was made by him on account of a resolution adopted at the last Annual Communication which made it compulsory upon that officer to loan out so much of the funds of this Grand Lodge as would not be required for current expenses.

The Grand Treasurer could, in the opinion of your Committee, on account of the resolutions above referred to and contained on p. 74 in the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year 1849, not be personally responsible for any funds belonging to this Grand Lodge, which he is required by said resolutions to loan out, and can only be responsible to this Grand Lodge for the funds which he actually holds in his own hands. Your Committee would, therefore, offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the R. W. Grand Treasurer, E. B. Nichols, for the interest by him voluntarily paid on the above-mentioned \$1000.

E. J. ARNOLD,
H. W. WAGNER,
T. J. HARDEMAN.

The following resolutions, offered by Bro. Grand Secretary, were, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do recommend our worthy Bro. H. W. Wagner to the National Mother Grand Lodge of the Prussian States of Free and Accepted Masons of the Three Globes to the east of Berlin, as a suitable Brother to represent that M. W. Grand Lodge near this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to forward a copy of the above resolution with a copy of our Proceedings.

The following resolution was, on motion, read and adopted:—

Resolved, That Bro. A. S. Ainsworth, Past Master of Trinity Lodge, No. 14, be and is hereby authorized and empowered to install the officers of said Lodge, which were elected at the regular time for the present year.

The resolution which had been previously offered by R. W. Bro. Saml. McClarty, and, on motion of Bro. S. H. Darden, laid on the table, was read by Bro. Darden, and adopted with the following amendment:—

Provided, That, should seven or more members of said "Eagle Lodge" object to the removal, it shall remain at "Pulaski."

Bro. B. E. Tarver presented the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Washington Lodge, No. 18, be allowed to change the time of its regular meetings from the third Saturday in each month to the Saturday preceding the full moon in each month, and the Grand Lodge hereby approve the said change in the laws of said Washington Lodge, No. 18.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge shall on Saturday night at 7 o'clock determine the place for holding the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That said place shall be selected by ballot,—a majority of the votes cast being necessary to a choice.

The following communication from Forest Lodge, No. 19, was read by the Grand Secretary:—

HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS, December 29, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

At a regular Communication of Forest Lodge, No. 19, the following, together with other proceedings, were had,—viz.:

Resolved, That this Lodge respectfully invites the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas to hold their next regular Communication in our new hall, shortly to be completed, and that we tender to them the same with the necessary lights, fuel, &c.

Resolved, That a copy of the above resolution be forwarded by the Secretary to our Representatives to the Grand Lodge.

I, M. C. Rodgers, Secretary of Forest Lodge, No. 19, do hereby certify that the above is a true transcript from the records of said Lodge.

Given under my hand and private seal (there being no seal of the Lodge) this 31st day of December, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

M. C. RODGERS,
Secretary Forest Lodge, No. 19.

The following communication and resolution from Orphans' Friend Lodge was read by the Grand Secretary :—

ANDERSON, GRIMES COUNTY, TEXAS, December 27, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That the Representatives of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, be instructed to renew the proposition which she made to the Grand Lodge in the year 1848, to hold her annual session at this place. Which proposition is as follows, to wit :—

Resolved, That Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, at Anderson, make, through her Representatives, a tender to the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas the use of her Lodge Room for the purpose of holding her annual sessions, free from all charges, lights and fuel included.

A true copy from the records.

Given under my hand and seal of the Lodge this 27th day of December, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

F. BRIGANCE,
Secretary Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, laid on the table until 8 o'clock to-morrow night :—

Resolved, That the next session of this Grand Lodge be held in the Masonic hall of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, in the town of Henderson and county of Rusk.

The Craft were then called by the M. W. Master from labor to refreshment, until quarter after 6 o'clock P.M.

Friday evening, January 25, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by order of the Grand Master.

Officers present as in the afternoon.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Thirty-four Lodges were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The Committee on Returns submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges beg leave to make the following report,—viz. : We have had under consideration the returns of Red Land Lodge, No. 24, and find the same correct with this exception : they are charged

with contributions for twenty-seven members, when they should have been charged with thirty-eight, making a difference of \$11 00 in their returns in place of \$74 00, say \$85 00. Your Committee would further state that they have duly examined the returns of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and find the same correct and in due form.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. McCLARTY,	} Committee.
J. N. THOMAS,	
JAS. T. LITTLE,	
W. LARKINS,	
W. A. KING,	

The hour having arrived for the installation of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, the Craft were called to refreshment, and the M. W. Geo. M. Patrick proceeded to install the officers elect in due and ancient form.

M. W. Thomas J. Hardeman, of Bastrop,	Grand Master.
R. W. W. M. Taylor, of Huntsville,	Deputy Grand Master.
" W. H. Cushney, Austin,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Chas. G. Keenan, of Houston,	Junior Grand Warden.
" A. S. Ruthven, of Houston,	Grand Secretary.
" E. B. Nichols, of Houston,	Grand Treasurer.
" S. H. Darden, of Gonzales,	Grand Lecturer.

M. W. Thos. J. Hardeman then made the following appointments as Grand Officers of the M. W. Grand Lodge for the ensuing year :—

R. W. J. H. Rogers, of Jefferson,	D. D. Grand Master 1st District.
" J. M. Hall, of Crockett,	D. D. Grand Master 2d District.
" Z. W. Eddy, of Jasper,	D. D. Grand Master 3d District.
" Peter W. Gray, of Houston,	D. D. Grand Master 4th District.
" John Sayles, of Independence,	D. D. Grand Master 5th District.
" Andrew Neill, of Seguin,	D. D. Grand Master 6th District.
" G. A. Evarts, of Bonham,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" E. A. Whittlesey, of Sabine,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" J. W. Whipple, of Bastrop,	} Grand Chaplains.
" A. J. McGown, of Houston,	
" E. J. Arnold, of Montgomery,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
" A. E. Sterne, of Nacogdoches,	} Grand Marshals.
" A. Ewing, of Houston,	
" H. W. Wagner, of Galveston,	Grand S. B.
" J. C. McCoy, of Dallas,	Grand Pursuivant.
" V. H. Dubbose, of Marshall,	} Grand Stewards.
" H. Ochiltree, of S. Augustine,	
" J. N. Fall, of Chirino,	
" J. B. Root, of Independence,	
W. G. W. Harper, of Bastrop,	Grand Tyler.

The Craft were again called to labor, and the following resolution offered by Bro. Andrew Neill, which was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks and most fraternal regards of this Grand Lodge be presented to the M. W. Past Grand Master, George M. Patrick, and the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Samuel McClarty, for their ability and zeal manifested during the past year, and that this Lodge offer to them respectively the warmest feelings of Brothers,—hoping they may long live and enjoy the blessings of the Order.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the said Past Officers by the Secretaries.

Unanimously adopted.

The select Committee appointed on that portion of the Foreign Correspondence Report relating to the New York difficulties presented the following report through their Chairman, R. W. Bro. P. W. Gray, which was, on motion, adopted, and one hundred copies ordered to be printed for the benefit of the Craft :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the correspondence concerning the unfortunate difficulties which occurred during the past year in the Grand Lodge of New York, resulting in a schism of that body, on the 5th day of June, 1849, have had under consideration the reports and statements of both parties in the controversy, together with other documents from several of our sister Grand Lodges, and ask leave to report,—

That there are now two distinct associations in the State of New York, each claiming to be the rightful Grand Lodge of that State, and assuming that title; whilst, by universal consent, there can properly be but one. A state of affairs so extraordinary, and productive of such evil consequences not only to the Fraternity in New York, but wherever Masonry is known, calls for a candid and decided expression of opinion.

The origin of the controversy is made by the parties (whether rightfully or not) to extend back to the formation of the Provincial Grand Lodge in New York, under Charter from the Duke of Athol and his Grand Officers, dated at London, September 5, 1781, prior to the close of the Revolutionary War, which was the first of which any record is extant. It was subordinate to those who issued it, and, like all other Provincial Charters in this Union, ceased and was annulled when the political independence of the States was acknowledged by the mother-country. This is clearly shown by the history of the Grand Lodges of almost all the original States, and, among the rest, by that of New York itself. This Provincial Charter recognised Past Masters as lawful members of the Grand Lodge, but also contained a provision that it should be void “if the Provincial Grand Officers and their successors should not continue to pay due respect to the Grand Lodge from which it issued.” After the close of the Revolutionary struggle, the old Lodges continued to work under this Provincial Charter, but the Grand Lodge in 1785 formed a new Book of Constitutions, still acting, however, as a Provincial Grand Lodge until September, 1787, at which time it was resolved, with but two dissenting votes, that all the Lodges in the State should surrender their old Charters and take out new ones. This was done, and an entire disruption of allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England resulted; for they assumed, as they rightly might, the style of “The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York,” and in that name issued new Charters. This Grand Lodge continued to work under their own Constitution of 1785, which also recognised Past Masters of Lodges on record, while members of a regular Lodge, *by courtesy as well as by custom*, as members of the Grand Lodge. But in this Constitution the inherent right of the Grand Lodge to make new regulations, as well as to amend old ones, was plainly asserted. From causes unnecessary here to be adverted to, differences of opinion arose, which led to a disruption of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1823, and which were not composed until June, 1827, at which time four articles of compact, as the fundamental law of the Grand Lodge, “never to be disturbed,” were agreed to unanimously. A union resulted, and a new or amended Constitution was formed. Of these four articles, the last

only has any relation to the difficulty in New York. It reads thus:—"That the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master may represent shall not exceed three; that Past Masters shall not be represented by proxy; and that Representatives be paid as heretofore."

The Constitution of 1827, like that of 1785, recognised Past Masters as members of the Grand Lodge, and in the same terms it also asserts the same inherent power in the Grand Lodge to make new regulations, and exercises that power by *creating several new elective* Grand Officers, making them members of the Grand Lodge, with the right to vote, and by depriving the members of the right to vote for whomsoever they pleased for certain Grand Officers, requiring that they should be elected some from the city and some from the country. This power of making new regulations was limited, however, by a provision "that no regulation affecting the general interests of the Craft shall be changed or adopted, except at the June meeting," which is the annual meeting required to be held in the City of New York, at which place also quarterly meetings could be held. By that Constitution it is also provided that no amendment should be made until it should be sanctioned by the Grand Lodge at two successive June meetings; or unless, after being approved at one June meeting, it should receive the affirmative vote of a majority of Lodges in the State. Thus the laws of that Grand Lodge stood until the annual meeting in June, 1848, when two events occurred, which your Committee fear had some influence on the subsequent proceedings, by being improperly connected with each other in the minds of some high in position as Masons and heretofore much esteemed by the Fraternity. Be this as it may, at that time the M. W. John D. Willard, who had been Grand Master for two years, was again chosen by a large majority, in a contested election between him and Isaac Phillips, of New York City, who was then Deputy Grand Master; and amendments to the Constitution were afterwards regularly proposed, by which, if adopted, Past Masters would no longer have the right to vote, though still entitled to seats and rank as members of the Grand Lodge. This amendment was approved by a very large majority, and sent to the subordinate Lodges for their action, to be reported at the next annual meeting. But meantime a quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge was held in the City of New York, in March, 1849, at which but a small number of members were present, (of whom, doubtless, a large majority were from the city Lodges,) resolutions were proposed declaring that the proposition to deprive Past Masters of their right to vote in Grand Lodges is unconstitutional and revolutionary, and would be void and of no force or effect: also that it was their determination not to regard such amendment, if adopted by the Lodges, by preserving the rights of Past Masters according to the compact of union of 1827. The R. W. Deputy Grand Master Coles, presiding, declined to put the question on these resolutions, on the ground that at a quarterly session it was unconstitutional to act on any measure which affected the general interests of the Craft. This was overruled by appeal, and the resolutions were adopted.

A large majority of the subordinate Lodges had sanctioned the proposed amendments, notwithstanding the resolutions at the quarterly meeting, and transmitted proper certificates of their adoption to the Grand Secretary, previously to the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge in June, 1849.

Early in the evening of the 5th June, before the Grand Master had arrived, the Grand Lodge Room was occupied by the members from the city and neighborhood, who took the front seats, so that the country members could not hear well what was going on near the Grand Master's and Grand Secretary's seats. An attempt was also made to open the Grand Lodge before the arrival of the Grand Master, although the Junior Grand Warden, who had a right to preside as the senior officer present, protested against it. One of the Past Deputy Grand Masters from the city had actually taken the chair, and was proceeding to open, when the Grand Master arrived. The Grand Lodge was then opened by the Grand Master, and, before calling the roll, the Grand Secretary announced

officially that the amendments to the Constitution proposed at the last annual meeting had been adopted by a majority of all the subordinate Lodges, and had become a part of the Constitution. The roll was then called, and the Grand Master arose and commenced the delivery of his address. He was interrupted by cries and yells from those in front, and a call was made for the reading of the minutes of the last quarterly meeting. The Grand Master declined to put the question on the call, as out of order, until he had made his address. An appeal was claimed, which he also refused to entertain, for the same reason. Much confusion ensued, and constant calls were made, regardless of the sound of the gavel and the voice of the Grand Master. After a while, the Senior Grand Warden assumed the right to put the question on the appeal, and declared it sustained.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were then read by order of the Grand Master, and he proceeded with his address,—in the course of which he repeated the announcement made by the Grand Secretary, that the proposed amendments to the Constitution had been adopted constitutionally and were henceforth parts of it. He was then asked by the acting Junior Grand Warden whether he meant to say that the amendments were constitutionally binding on the Fraternity; and, on being answered in the affirmative, the Junior Grand Warden, in a loud voice, declared in substance that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York was dissolved, and although he was called to order by the Grand Master, amidst great uproar and confusion, called on all opposed to the amendments to assist him in organizing a Grand Lodge. He nominated Wm. Willis as chairman; and, after a show of hands, he was declared elected, and also other Provisional Grand Officers. Willis stepped on the platform where the Grand Master was seated vainly attempting to restore order, his voice being continually drowned by hideous noises whenever he attempted to speak. Willis and his associates went through the form of electing Isaac Phillips and others Grand Officers—as stated and not denied—by show of hands. They then adjourned, and the next day installed the persons so elected. During these disorderly proceedings, M. W. Grand Master J. D. Willard sat in the Oriental chair, with the proper emblems of his office; but neither of these, nor the gavel, enabled him to preserve order. After the tumult had subsided, so that he could be heard, the Grand Lodge adjourned, and on the next day proceeded to the annual election of officers, when G. M. Willard was re-elected.

Your Committee have deemed it needless to dwell on the details of the evening's proceedings, as set forth by the parties. In some points they conflict, as might be expected: but, taking the most favorable and charitable view, even of the report of the seceding party, prepared by James Herring, formerly Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, they feel compelled to pronounce them scandalous and disgraceful in the extreme, and much more suitable for a race-course or election-ground than a Masonic hall.

This statement of the facts sufficiently shows the origin of the difficulty. One party assume that Past Masters of Lodges have a right, as such, by the Charter of the Duke of Athol of 1781 the compact of union of 1827, and by the ancient, unchangeable laws of Masonry, to permanent membership in the Grand Lodge. The other party deny this, and consider that the practice of admitting Past Masters to membership arose from courtesy and custom, and is only a constitutional regulation, subject to be changed, like other rules, by a power inherent in every Grand Lodge.

The question is one of importance, and must be determined by the principles and usages of the Order as shown by the lights before us.

The most ancient general assembly, or Grand Lodge, was founded in England by Prince Edwin, in 926, on the re-establishment of Masonry there. He summoned "all the Free and Accepted Masons in the realm," who, in congregation at York, "formed the Grand Lodge," and from many old records of the Craft in different languages "framed the *Constitutions* of the English Lodges, and made a law for themselves, to preserve and observe the same in all times to

come." Here the whole Fraternity were members, and by agreement made by the Constitutions. The different Lodges were then independent of each other, and so continued for centuries; though they paid great respect to the recommendations of the Grand Lodge. Another Grand Lodge, called "The Grand Lodge of England," was formed at London, in 1771, even while the Grand Lodge originally organized at York continued to meet, and they were in harmony with each other. What were the Constitutions formed at York we may reasonably infer from the Book of Constitutions, prepared, sanctioned and published by the Grand Lodge of England, at London, in 1723 from which last the Provincial Charter for New York emanated. This Book of Constitutions was revised and republished by that Grand Lodge in 1738. In both these books, the power of every Grand Lodge to make new regulations and to amend and explain old ones is admitted to be inherent; but at the same time they cannot remove any of the *ancient landmarks* or fundamental principles of the Order. Is this claim of Past Masters, then, one of those landmarks or principles? We answer by reciting a passage from the first book. The 12th Article expressly states that "the Grand Lodge consists of, and is formed by, the Masters and Wardens of all the particular Lodges upon record, with the Grand Master at their head, the Deputy on his left hand, and the Grand Wardens in their proper places;" and that at their meetings "*none are to be present but its own proper members*, without leave asked and given:" and, further, that all matters in the Grand Lodge are to be determined by a majority of votes, each member having one vote and the Grand Master two votes. At that time, then, Past Masters were clearly not members of the Grand Lodge, for the Past Grand Master and other Past Grand Officers were not themselves members. The revised edition of the book published in 1738 shows that new regulations in these matters were made when Past Grand Masters were admitted by a new regulation in November, 1724, Past Deputy Grand Masters in February, 1726, and Past Grand Wardens in May, 1727. By the Book of English Constitutions of 1763, it is provided that the "Grand Lodge shall consist of the Masters and Wardens of all the particular Lodges on record, together with all who are or have been Grand Officers,—viz.: the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary." Up to 1763, then, Past Masters were not members; and when they first became so is nowhere stated in any authority we have seen. They probably were admitted between 1763 and 1781, judging from the fact that they are recognised as members in the Provincial Charter of the Duke of Athol, of that date, as has been before stated. The American Book of Constitutions of 1798 states that, "by permission, Past Masters and Past Grand Treasurers, and Past Grand Secretaries, have in some countries the privilege of sitting in Grand Lodge and voting in such matters as by the rules of the Grand Lodge they might have done while in office."

These extracts, it is deemed, are ample to demonstrate that by the old Constitutions there was no right of membership vested in Past Masters, much less is it a fundamental principle or landmark. The disruption of allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, which was a condition of the Provincial Charter, as stated in the former part of this report, was clearly a voluntary surrender of any right which might otherwise be claimed under it; and their right, if any, was then founded exclusively on the Constitution of 1785, which was agreed to by the several Lodges, and the power of amendment at the same time asserted and retained. Nor, in the opinion of your Committee, was any right whatever asserted or given by the articles of compact in 1827. On the contrary, whilst that compact impliedly recognises the then existing right of Past Masters, under the Constitution, to be members of the Grand Lodge, the compact itself limits the privilege, instead of asserting it, by forbidding them to be represented by proxy. Any right given Past Masters by the Constitution, made subsequent to that compact of union, could certainly be recalled, according to the provisions of that instrument itself, by amendment in the constitutional mode provided.

This, your Committee believe, was fairly done by the action of the subordinate Lodges of New York, prior to the annual meeting of June, 1849, in sanctioning the amendments. The propriety of this action, and the necessity of it for the good of Masonry in New York, no one can doubt. If any proof were wanted, the conduct of the Past Masters and others of New York City on that occasion would furnish ample evidence. Men so forgetful of their Masonic ties and of the precepts of our Order as to allow passion to usurp the throne of judgment so far as to be regardless of the altar in their midst, deserve not the privilege of assembling around it. Their incapacity to govern themselves proves their unfitness to bear sway over others.

If we have erred in our views of the rights of Past Masters, the position of the seceding party is not at all bettered. If they had rights, there was a remedy, though it might be slow. Our institution does not inculcate a redress of grievances by violence. A legal Grand Lodge has a right to bear rule in its jurisdiction, and cannot be dissolved by the revolutionary action of part of its members: much less can one be founded in disorganization. In "wisdom, strength and beauty" must its foundations be laid; and none of these were exhibited on the occasion referred to.

A Grand Master may err, but his misconduct can never dissolve a Grand Lodge, nor justify those who depose him, usurp his power, disobey his commands and grossly insult him. Those who thus act, forfeit all claim to the respect of their Brethren. And, admitting the Grand Lodge of New York was dissolved, as declared by an unauthorized member, where do those claiming to form a new one find their warrant? No convention of Delegates for the purpose from the subordinate Lodges is pretended. Force or effect cannot be given to such irregular action, whatever be the motive producing it. And, however we may regret the position in which some formerly honored by the Fraternity have placed themselves, we feel compelled to declare that those who resisted the authority of the Grand Master, while presiding, and proceeded to elect Grand Officers without his consent and against his known will, were guilty of gross violations of Masonic usage and propriety, and that the pretended Grand Lodge organized by them ought not to be acknowledged as legitimate.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, —viz.:

Resolved, That there is no foundation for the claim made, that Past Masters, as such, have an inalienable right to membership in the Grand Lodge; and that the amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York were made in exercise of a power inherent in every Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That we are grieved and surprised at the conduct of those who aided in producing the lamentable schism which has occurred in the Grand Lodge of New York, and sincerely hope they will return to the principles of brotherly love and obedience to constituted authority, so that harmony may be restored.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approves of the course taken by M. W. John D. Willard and those who supported him on the 5th of June, 1849, in sustaining the dignity of his office and the rights of the Grand Lodge, and that we recognise the body over which he presides, and of which R. W. R. R. Boyd is Grand Secretary, as the only legal Grand Lodge of New York.

Resolved, That the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge are warned to be careful in the examination of visitors hailing from New York, and to admit no one but such as have proper evidence, emanating from the Grand Lodge recognised in the third resolution.

Fraternally, &c.,

**P. W. GRAY,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
J. C. MCCOY,
THOS. J. JENNINGS,**

**WM. M. TAYLOR,
GEO. M. PATRICK,
JNO. A. GREER,
SAM'L MCCLARTY,**

Committee.

No further business being in readiness on the Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock.

Saturday morning, 10 o'clock A.M., January 26, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Thomas J. Hardeman,	Grand Master.
R. W. William M. Taylor,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Samuel McClarty,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Andrew Neill,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ Jas. W. Henderson,	Junior Grand Deacon.
“ P. W. Gray,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
W. G. W. Harper,	Grand Tyler.
M. W. Geo. M. Patrick,	Past Grand Master.
R. W. James M. Hall,	District Deputy Grand Master.

On a roll of Lodges being called, sixteen were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the previous day were read and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee on Chartered Lodges presented the following report, which was, on motion, read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges would further report that they have examined the returns of Gilmer Lodge, No. 61, and find the same to be correct and in due form.

SAMUEL MCCLARTY,
WARREN LARKINS.

The following resolution was presented by Bro. A. J. Yates, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Finance:—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge be authorized to loan to the Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston, the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars from the treasury of this Grand Lodge, for a period not exceeding five years, at the rate of eight per cent. interest per annum, taking security therefor on the two lots in the City of Galveston, belonging to said Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and such further security as said Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary shall deem necessary; and with the guarantee of said Harmony Lodge to appropriate the same to the erection of a Masonic hall on said lots, and securing to this Grand Lodge the privilege of holding its Annual Communication in said hall when completed, at its will and pleasure.

Bro. W. Larkins presented the following resolution, which was, on motion, read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bros. P. W. Gray, John Sayles and A. S. Ruthven, Committee on Foreign Correspondence

for the past year, in consideration of the very able and faithful manner in which they have discharged the important duties which devolved upon them.

The following communication from Austin Lodge, No. 12, was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

We beg leave to report that the name of Bro. H. McLeod appears on the returns of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, as a member in good standing, when the said Lodge was apprized that the said Brother stood suspended for the non-payment of dues in Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The following communication from Lafayette Lodge was read, and, on motion, laid on the table:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The undersigned, having been appointed a Committee by Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, at its regular Communication, held in the town of La Grange, on the 17th November last, to memorialize your Honorable body, present the following:—

A resolution passed said Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, ordering two hundred copies of the By-laws of said Lodge to be printed; and, deeming it expedient to have copies of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas to accompany the same for circulation, and considering said copies of the said Constitution could be procured with greater facility from your body and at less expense than they could otherwise be procured, your memorialists respectfully desire that you would order a sufficient number of copies of said Constitution printed to furnish this Lodge with the aforesaid number of copies.

January 19, A.D. 1850.

J. APPLEWHITE,

D. G. GREGORY.

I certify the above is a true copy of the original now before me.

E. L. MOORE,

Secretary of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34.

The following resolution was, on motion, read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Printing Committee be authorized and required to procure 1000 copies of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, with all resolutions now in force appended thereto.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed as the Standing Committee on Printing Bros. Grand Secretary, E. B. Nichols and Geo. Fisher.

Bro. James W. Henderson called for the report of the Committee on Grievances which was laid on the table, and for the reading of that portion appertaining to the suspension of F. R. Gans by Holland Lodge, No. 1; when, after some argument, he offered a substitute for the resolution of the Committee, which was, on motion, rejected, and the report and resolution of the Grievance Committee adopted.

R. W. S. H. Darden offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That, as a compensation to Bro. Samuel McClarty for collecting and bringing up dues from sundry Lodges, he be allowed five per cent. on all moneys brought up and paid over to Bro. Grand Secretary by him at this Communication, except the dues of his own Lodge.

The select Committee to whom was referred the report of that Committee on the difficulties between Milam Lodge, No. 2, and Douglass Lodge, No. 43, submitted the same back, with amendments, which was read and received and the Committee discharged from the further consideration of the matter, and the following resolutions adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge consider the proceedings in Douglass Lodge in passing and raising Bro. R. O. Watkins as irregular, but will ratify said work so far as it relates to the Masonic standing of said Brother.

Resolved, further, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, Milam Lodge, No. 2, and Douglass Lodge, No. 43, should be reconciled to each other; and we recommend that harmony should mutually exist between them.

No further business being ready on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 3 o'clock P.M., January 26, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by order of the Grand Master.

Officers and Lodges represented as in the morning.

The Committee on Finance presented the following report through their chairman, Bro. E. J. Arnold, which was read and received:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the application from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, of Galveston, for a loan of funds, beg leave to report that, owing to the late hour of our session at which the application has been made, they deem it injudicious to act in the premises, and would most respectfully offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the communication be referred to the action of the next Grand Annual Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. J. ARNOLD,
Chairman of Committee.

R. W. Bro. H. W. Wagner, of the same Committee, submitted the following as a minority-report, which was, on motion, rejected, and the report of Bro. E. J. Arnold adopted,—Bros. A. J. Yates and H. W. Wagner requesting that their vote might be recorded:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, one of the Finance Committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered by Bro. A. J. Yates, Representative of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, under instructions from that Lodge, begs leave to make this, his minority-report:—

By a resolution passed by this Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, it was "*Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and required to loan out the moneys of this Grand Lodge in his possession, saving and excepting an amount sufficient to defray the current expenses of the Grand Lodge

for the present year, at the rate of not less than eight nor more than twelve per cent. per annum."

Under this resolution, the Grand Treasurer has felt it his duty to pay this Lodge an interest at the rate of eight per cent. on one thousand dollars for the past year, and this Grand Lodge has received and accepted the amount and passed a resolution of thanks to that officer for so doing. Now, an offer is made by one of the subordinate Lodges to borrow, on good security, the amount of twenty-five hundred dollars from the Treasury, which will not be needed for the use of the Grand Lodge during the ensuing year, and propose to appropriate the amount to the advancement and prosperity of the Order; and, if the resolution already adopted means any thing, it would seem that the preference should be given to the application of one of our subordinate Lodges rather than to require the Grand Treasurer to loan out the amount to individuals to be appropriated for private purposes.

The argument presented by the majority of the Committee—that the application is made too late to be acted on at this Communication—the undersigned considers insufficient, as this Grand Lodge is better capable of acting on this matter now than to throw the burden and responsibility of this duty upon the Grand Treasurer and make him accountable for the money and interest at eight per cent. for another year.

The undersigned would therefore recommend the adoption of the resolution, with the amendment that the rate of interest be fixed at ten per cent. per annum,—which the undersigned is informed that the Representative of Harmony Lodge is authorized to offer if the amount of eight per cent. is objected to.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. WAGNER,

of Committee on Finance and Accounts.

On motion of Bro. A. S. Ruthven, the following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the amount of interest which may have accrued on a certain promissory note made payable to Munson Bankroft, or his order, and signed by a Committee of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the communication of Austin Lodge, No. 12, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:—

The Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred a communication from Austin Lodge, No. 12, beg leave to report that any action by the Grand Lodge at this time, without all the facts before them, would be premature; and that its consideration and fairer decision be postponed to the next Grand Annual Communication, at which time Austin Lodge, No. 12, and Harmony Lodge, No. 6, should be required to report all the facts connected with the case. We therefore offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That Austin Lodge, No. 12, and Harmony Lodge, No. 6, be, and are hereby, required to report to this Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication all the facts connected with the suspension of Bro. H. McLeod by said Austin Lodge, No. 12, and his admission as a member by Harmony Lodge, No. 6.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN SAYLES,

Chairman.

The following resolutions were, on motion, read and adopted, and the following Committee appointed, consisting of Bros. A. S. Ruthven, E. B. Nichols and George M. Patrick.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to procure a new suit of

regalia for this Grand Lodge and have the same ready for the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding \$200 be appropriated for that purpose, for which amount the committee appointed by the preceding resolution are authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer, who is to accept and pay such drafts.

R. W. Bro. P. W. Gray submitted the following resolutions, which were read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

Resolved, That by Masonic usage the irregularity or illegality of a suspension or expulsion by a Lodge of a sister State of a Mason within its jurisdiction can only be avoided by the Grand Lodge of such State; and that such Mason cannot rightly be reinstated by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the confession of a person that he is an expelled Mason, accompanied by the assertion that such expulsion was unconstitutionally inflicted by a Lodge of a sister State, is no Masonic evidence that he is a Mason, and does not authorize his reinstatement by any other Grand Lodge than that under whose jurisdiction he was expelled.

Resolved, That a Mason belonging to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge who may be expelled by a Lodge not under his jurisdiction is still entitled to the rights of a Mason within this State until the expulsion is legally communicated to this Grand Lodge and approved.

On motion of R. W. P. W. Gray, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That Holland Lodge, No. 1, be, and is hereby, authorized to act again in the case of Bro. J. T. D. Wilson.

On motion of Bro. Lytle, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be permitted to appoint a Deputy to assist him in the performance of his duties.

The following resolutions were, on motion, read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized and required to prepare a form of Grand Lodge Certificates, to be signed by the Grand Master only, and attested by the Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That every Grand Officer granting a Dispensation for the formation of a new Lodge shall immediately report the same to the Grand Secretary.

The following report was submitted by the Foreign Correspondence Committee on the resolutions referred for their consideration, which was, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred certain resolutions hereto appended, beg leave to report that in our opinion the rights possessed by a Mason are derived from the Lodge in which he is made, and they are taken away by the action of the Lodge to which he belongs in expelling him. The rule we conceive to be this: a suspended or expelled Mason can be reinstated only by the Lodge passing such sentence, or by the Grand Lodge having appellate jurisdiction. This is the rule recognised by every Grand Lodge, so far as your Committee have been able to ascertain, and the adoption of any other rule would be the cause of incalculable mischief.* If the proceedings of the subordinate

* See the decision of the Grand Lodge of Indiana on the case of Joel M. Spiller, in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Lodge were irregular, the only body having the power to correct such irregularity is the Grand Lodge to which that Lodge is subject. If a Mason has been expelled on insufficient or improper testimony, the Grand Lodge to which an appeal can be directly taken is alone competent to decide that question. In other words, no Grand Lodge has the right or power to revise and correct the action of a Lodge not subordinate to its jurisdiction, no matter how irregular the action of that body may have been.

It cannot be said that we have no lawful information that an individual has been expelled because, when the fact of expulsion was communicated, it was at the same time said that the expulsion was illegal and unconstitutional, and consequently we ought not to regard it,—that we must take the whole information together, and if we believe that he was expelled, we must also know that it was done in violation of the Constitutions of Masonry. We are aware that it is the law of the land that if confessions are evidence against, they are also evidence for, an individual,—that if they are evidence for one thing they are evidence for all. But it does not follow that all the evidence is to be believed; it must all go before the jury, yet the jury have the right to weigh it. This, however, we do not conceive to be the Masonic law: by the law of the land, the accused cannot be compelled to give testimony against himself; by our laws, he can. The voluntary statement of an individual that he was an expelled Mason would be good evidence that he was expelled, if it was shown that he ever was a Mason; but it would not be the slightest evidence that he had ever been a Mason: that fact must be proved in another way. It would be a monstrous doctrine to assert that if a person, when put to the test, acknowledged that he had been expelled, and at the same time asserted that such expulsion was illegal, we are bound so to regard it. If such be the law, a member expelled from Lodge No. 1 might be the first to convey the notice of that fact to Lodge No. 2, and the latter Lodge would be bound to receive him if he should at the same time assert that the action of Lodge No. 1 was unconstitutional, null and void; or a person expelled—and justly, too—by any subordinate Lodge in our jurisdiction could visit or remove to another State, and there enjoy the rights and privileges of which he had been previously deprived.

It is true that it is a rule of law that a judgment rendered in one State is not binding or cannot be enforced in another, unless the proceedings upon which it was rendered appear to be regular and in conformity with the law. But this is not applicable to us: if a Mason seeks to avoid the sentence of a Lodge, it is incumbent upon him to show that such sentence was unwarranted or unconstitutional; and that, we conceive, can be shown only by the decision of the Grand Lodge possessing the power to review the proceedings of the subordinate. How could this Grand Lodge investigate and decide upon the action of a subordinate Lodge within another jurisdiction? Upon what testimony would it rely? Could this Grand Lodge require that Lodge to send it a transcript of its proceedings and of the evidence given in the case? or would it act upon the testimony of the aggrieved party? Would this Grand Lodge for a moment tolerate the idea that its subordinates could be summoned to appear before any Grand Lodge in the world and show cause why its decisions should be set aside, annulled and rendered void? We think not.

If at the time the individual was expelled he was not within the jurisdiction of the Lodge expelling him, or, rather, was a citizen of another State, it does not follow as a corollary that the action of the Lodge was illegal, unless he had previously demitted from that Lodge. A Mason cannot escape the penalty of his crimes by absconding or withdrawing himself from the jurisdiction of his Lodge: he may be tried, convicted and expelled, though he may never have been present at the trial, or even summoned to appear. It is the duty of a Lodge to expel a member found guilty of high crimes, and thus take away from him the power of imposing himself upon the Fraternity elsewhere,—the power of using means, placed in his hands for the accomplishment of noble purposes,

for mischievous ends. To illustrate: if a member of Lodge No. 1 should commit the crime of murder and immediately abscond, that Lodge might proceed to try and on due proof expel him. The rights a man enjoys as a Mason are not inalienable rights: they are rights conferred upon him; they are privileges granted to him. That he may retain and enjoy them, he must comply with the conditions annexed hereto.

The opinion of your Committee upon the questions presented is this, (and that opinion is sustained by the decisions of our sister Grand Lodges:) That a person expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry can be restored only by the body expelling him, or by the Grand Lodge before which the case could be brought by appeal, and that the decision of such Lodge is conclusive until it is thus reversed.

A member of a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and resident within its jurisdiction, expelled by a Lodge not subordinate to this Grand Lodge, is still entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry within this State until the action of said Lodge is legally communicated to and approved of by this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the resolution above referred to.

All of which is submitted.

JOHN SAYLES,
Chairman.

The Craft were then called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock this evening.

January 26, A.D. 1860, A.L. 5850, 7 o'clock P.M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers present as before; Lodges represented the same as before.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had arrived for the choice of a place to hold the next Grand Annual Communication, which resulted in a resolution adopted as follows:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hold its next Grand Annual Communication in the Lodge Room of Clinton Lodge, No. 22, at the town of Henderson, Rusk county.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, allowed the sum of three hundred dollars, and expense-account for stationery, &c., in compensation for his services the past year.

The following preamble and resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Whereas, there was formerly a Lodge in Brazoria county, working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and designated as St. John's Lodge, No. 5, which Lodge has ceased to work; and whereas, a Charter has since been granted by this Grand Lodge to a Lodge designated as St. John's Lodge, No. 49, at Columbia, in Brazoria county, which Lodge is now in possession of all the implements and jewelry of said St. John's Lodge, No. 5, which are lettered and numbered; and whereas, said St. John's Lodge, No. 49, is desirous of having the number of their Lodge changed to No. 5, in order to save the trouble and expense of having the lettering and numbering of said jewels changed: therefore,

Be it Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That the number of St. John's Lodge,

No. 49, be changed to No. 5, and said Lodge will thereafter be known and designated as St. John's Lodge, No. 5.

The following resolution was, on motion, read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master Second Masonic District be, and he is hereby, required to install the officers of Douglass Lodge, No. 43, the officers being regularly elected, but, from circumstances over which said Lodge had no control, they were not installed on the 27th December last.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the officers and members of Austin Lodge, No. 12, for the use of their large and commodious hall.

There being no further business on the Grand Secretary's table, the M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form in peace and harmony.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

THOMAS J. HARDEMAN,
Grand Master.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas met at the Masonic hall of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, in the town of Henderson, on Monday, the 20th January, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851, being the Fourteenth Grand Annual Communication.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

R. W. William M. Taylor,

Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master *p. t.*

“ George M. Patrick, Deputy Grand Master *p. t.*

“ Wm. H. Cushney, Senior Grand Warden.

“ Andrew Neill, Junior Grand Warden *p. t.*

“ E. B. Nichols, Grand Treasurer.

“ A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.

“ W. D. Goff, Grand Lecturer *p. t.*

“ J. H. Rogers, D. D. Grand Master 1st District.

“ J. M. Hall, D. D. Grand Master 2d District.

“ Andrew Neill, D. D. Grand Master 6th District.

“ G. A. Evarts, Senior Grand Deacon.

“ Stephen Crosby, Junior Grand Deacon.

“ A. J. McGown, Grand Chaplain.

“ W. Larkins, Grand Marshal *p. t.*

“ V. M. Dubose, Grand Steward.

W. Samuel B. Berks, Grand Tyler *p. t.*

ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE GRAND LODGE PRESENT.

Bro. Andrew Neill.

LODGES REPRESENTED, AND BY WHOM.

Holland, No. 1,	A. S. Ruthven.
Milam, No. 2,	{ Thos. J. Jennings, H. A. Johnson, John T. Shanks.
Harmony, No. 6,	E. B. Nichols.
Milam, No. 11,	A. S. Ruthven.
Austin, No. 12,	S. Crosby.
Constantine, No. 13,	G. A. Evarts.
Trinity, No. 14,	W. Reid Moore.
Friendship, No. 16,	A. R. Ellett, G. H. Wooten, W. P. Cornelius.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	George M. Patrick, J. Lawrence.
Washington, No. 18,	Wm. S. Day.
Forest, No. 19,	Wm. M. Taylor, A. J. McGown.
Graham, No. 20,	Josiah F. Crosby.
Lothrop, No. 21,	James M. Hall.
Marshall, No. 22,	James A. Coit, Charles A. Frazer.
Clinton, No. 23,	A. H. Lowrie, W. L. McMaury, Z. R. Philips.
Red Land, No. 24,	Franklin B. Sexton.
Olive-Branch, No. 26,	George F. Moore.
Paris, No. 27,	H. D. Woodsworth.
De Witt Clinton, No. 29,	B. F. Mott.
Gonzales, No. 30,	W. D. Goff.
Palestine, No. 31,	John B. Mallard, A. J. Fowler.
Lafayette, No. 34,	Isaac Applewhite.
Jackson, No. 35,	P. W. Warren.
Jefferson, No. 38,	J. H. Rogers, Robert Watson.
Leona Union, No. 39,	Peter C. Price.
Victoria, No. 40,	J. C. Harrison.
Eagle, No. 41,	S. B. Lacy.
Van Zandt, No. 42,	W. W. Head.
Douglass, No. 43,	{ Hardy H. White, Joseph W. Baxter, Jas. H. Sparks.
Alamo, No. 44,	Andrew Neill.
Teutonia, No. 47,	James Reily.
Tyler, No. 50,	William B. Gray.
Tannehill, No. 52,	Ira B. Millurd, A. J. Fowler.
St. John's, No. 53,	Louis Reuter, W. Stringfellow, E. E. Lott
Grand Bluff, No. 54,	Jay P. Dickson.
Gillespie, No. 55,	F. L. Barziza, William C. Sparks.
Warren, No. 56,	Josiah F. Crosby.
Larissa, No. 57,	R. R. Jowell, G. W. Lane, D. W. Broughton.
Bastrop, No. 58,	W. Larkins.
Lockhart, No. 59,	F. E. Strippleman.
Mt. Enterprise, No. 60,	H. M. Lawson.
Gilmer, No. 61,	D. F. Bancroft, J. L. Camp, O. E. Roberts.
Rocky Mount, No. 63,	J. R. Nowlin, J. B. Gant, William J. Gray.
Joppa, No. 65,	Julien Field.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor. The Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, and with prayer by the R. W. Grand Chaplain, Rev. Andrew J. McGown.

The M. W. Grand Master, Thomas J. Hardeman, having been prevented from attending the Annual Communication by serious indisposition, the following communication from him was read and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. George M. Patrick, H. D. Woodsworth and Charles A. Frazer.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Texas, in session at Henderson.

BRETHREN:—I sincerely regret that the state of my health at present forbids me from attempting to undertake the journey at this season of the year, to meet with you at the Annual Communication, and to greet you as Brethren in the same cause in which we are engaged; but I am consoled by the satisfaction that my station will be ably filled by the R. W. Deputy or Wardens, in whose ability and zeal I have unbounded confidence. Nothing could have been more gratifying to me, after the flattering compliment paid me of elevating me to my present office, than to have met you; and I fully intended to have done so, until very recently, when exposure during the past inclement weather has rendered me unable to leave home, and I am further admonished by my advanced years that my work will soon have to be brought to a close in these temples of mortality, in which I have endeavored to labor with zeal and fervency almost to the limit of threescore years and ten, and to leave, to those who may follow, the principles of an Order whose blessings have extended and been felt over the whole world; and, if more talent and ability abound in your councils than is possessed by your humble Brother, none can lay his hand upon his breast and say that he has been either more zealous or ardent.

I am satisfied that your deliberations will be conducted with ability; and, that harmony may prevail on the various topics presented from a large and diversified country, whose wants are difficult to reconcile, I can but hope that charity will be extended over all your actions.

During the past year I have granted Dispensations for two new Lodges,—the first, on the 4th February, to Caledonia Lodge, at Columbus, Colorado county; and the second, on the 29th March, to Murchison Lodge, at Hallettsville, Lavaca county,—both being duly recommended as required by the Constitution.

I visited several of the Lodges, and granted some few Dispensations, whenever the necessity existed, for conferring Degrees. I have generally found the Lodges in prosperous situations and much good feeling existing.

I would respectfully suggest an amendment of the 44th Article of the Constitution, restraining the voting in subordinate Lodges to the members thereof, instead of the provision as it now stands.

During the past year we have been abundantly blessed by health and prosperity throughout the extent of our Masonic jurisdiction, and I believe there is no country where the Order is in a more prosperous condition. That it may continue so, and your labors be conducted with harmony, is the sincere prayer of your Grand Master.

THOMAS J. HARDEMAN.

BASTROP, January 12, 1851.

The M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* appointed the following Standing Committees:—

On Work and Returns of Lodges U. D.,—Bros. J. M. Hall, W. H. Cushney, J. C. Harrison, G. A. Evarts, A. J. Fowler.

On Finances and Accounts,—Bros. James Reily, F. B. Sexton, F. L. Barziza, William S. Day, William B. Gray.

On Returns of Chartered Lodges,—Bros. Andrew Neill, Charles A. Frazer, Josiah Crosby, A. K. Ellett, James P. Dickson.

On Petitions,—Bros. W. D. Goff, Louis Reuter, Thos. J. Jennings, Wm. P. Brittain, A. H. Lowrie.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. J. H. Rogers, H. D. Woodsworth, E. B. Nichols, V. M. Dubose, Samuel McClarty.

On Foreign Correspondence,—Bros. P. W. Gray, James Reily, A. S. Ruthven, Louis Reuter, Thos. J. Jennings.

The following report from R. W. Andrew Neill, District Deputy Grand Master for the Sixth Masonic District, was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, as District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District, most respectfully reports that during the past year he has visited the greater number of the subordinate Lodges within his jurisdiction, and generally found the cause progressing, and the benefits of the Order being dispensed over a large region of country but recently reclaimed from the savage, and brought under the sway of a government whose influence is being felt and under whose auspices our institution flourishes in an unexampled degree; but the great extent of country embraced within his District prevented him from visiting some of the most distant Lodges.

On the 10th February, a Dispensation was granted for Nueces Lodge, at Corpus Christi, the petition having been satisfactorily recommended, and, from reports from said Lodge, the same is doing good work in a region where it will be beneficially felt. Early in the year, the Dispensation for Travellers' Home Lodge, granted by the last Grand Lodge, was forwarded to El Paso county, with a proxy to install the officers thereof; but the great changes effected in that country from the time of petitioning for said Lodge and the time for organization had caused the reasons to cease to exist, and the Worshipful Master returned the papers, and the same are hereto appended. It is respectfully suggested that the said Dispensation be received back and cancelled, and the fees therefor remitted, as the same have never come to hand.

On the 11th May, Indianola Lodge, No. 65, was duly organized, and has been in a flourishing condition: very recently I was informed of some work therein of an informal character, and, not having time before leaving for this Communication to visit said Lodge, an order was sent arresting the work and requiring their returns to be sent to the undersigned: they have not yet come to hand, but may arrive before the close of this session. The nature of the work referred to, and the course pursued, can be fully detailed to your body. The continuance of the Dispensation is recommended under the discretion of the District Deputy Grand Master, or other constitutional officers for another year, by the Lodge suspending the work referred to.

On the 2d November, a Dispensation was granted to Cameron Lodge, at Cuero, De Witt county, and the officers installed, since which time they have been progressing zealously in the cause, as their returns and work will show. Two other Dispensations were granted by our Grand Master in the Sixth District, and flourishing Lodges are at work under them, as will be seen by their returns to this session. They are Caledonia Lodge, at Columbus, Colorado county, and Murchison Lodge, at Hallettsville, Lavaca county. The report of the Grand Master refers thereto. Dispensations have been granted in several instances upon the application of Lodges for conferring the several Degrees in cases of

emergency; but the exercise of that power has been guarded to the utmost extent, except where they were imperatively required by just causes.

Several very fine edifices are erected, and others are in progress of completion, within the bounds of the District, for Masonic purposes, and the cause is flourishing generally. Charity is dispensed with a liberal hand where the object is worthy; and altogether it is believed that the benign influences of the Order are being felt and appreciated in a manner unprecedented in history. Very few cases have existed for the exercise of Masonic censure, and, wherever it has been necessary to apply it, the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge has in all instances been cheerfully acknowledged and acquiesced in.

With fraternal regards, your Brother,

A. NEILL,

January 20, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

D. D. G. M. 6th M. D.

The following report from R. W. James H. Rogers, District Deputy Grand Master for the First Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—At the last session of your Most Worshipful body the important office of District Deputy Grand Master was intrusted to my hands, in the discharge of which responsible duty I have to report that I have visited but few of the Chartered Lodges under my charge, owing to my necessary business otherwise, and also to the fact that I was called on by numerous petitions from distant parts of my District to dispense and set many new Lodges to work, which occupied more of my time than my other indispensable business would fairly admit of. This part of my duty I was, however, happily enabled to accomplish, and have the pleasure to report that I have organized and set six new Lodges to work in my District; which, though not very large in the number of members, are all, as far as I was then informed or have been since able to learn, composed of the very best materials, and are all now working regularly and well,—being not so anxious to obtain members as to guard the ancient landmarks of the Order from confusion and innovation.

For the date and location of, and also any other local information regarding, said new Lodges, I respectfully refer your Most Worshipful body to the transcripts of their records, reports and representatives, now held in attendance upon the Grand Lodge, and humbly recommend that they be chartered upon being found worthy. Subjoined is a list of their names and the amount of funds received by me from each.

I have further to report that, at the organization of Oasis, Boston, Temple and Mount Vernon Lodges, I granted a Dispensation to each of said Lodges to initiate, pass and raise a candidate, for the purpose of exhibiting to them an exemplification of the work of the Grand Lodge by which they should govern themselves. And for the same reason I also granted a Dispensation to Friendship Lodge, No. 16, at Clarksville, to confer Degrees, superintending the work myself. The last-named Lodge I found in much confusion, and, deeming the emergency sufficient to require it, from the fact that the Grand Lecturer did not visit the Northern Lodges the past year, I hope the same will meet the approbation of the Grand Lodge.

This Lodge and Van Zandt Lodge have paid me their dues for the year 1849, a statement of which is also subjoined, which, together with the sum of twelve dollars paid by Oasis and Temple Lodges for Dispensations to confer Degrees, constitute the sum of two hundred and fifty-seven dollars now in readiness to be paid.

In conclusion, allow me to say that at no time since I have been a Mason has Masonry flourished under so many happy and encouraging auspices in the

First District as at this time. The Chartered Lodges, so far as I am acquainted with them, are all working in the best manner, the new Lodges all emulating them, and Masonry generally is in the highest degree popular with the community. Under these circumstances, Masonry cannot but be successful unless she prove untrue to herself. Here, as elsewhere, may her course be onward and upward and true to the sun!

Fraternally and respectfully,

JAMES H. ROGERS,

D. D. G. M. 1st M. D.

On motion of J. A. Greer, Past Grand Master, a Committee of five was appointed, consisting of H. D. Woodsworth, G. A. Evarts, A. J. McGown, E. E. Lott and Isaac Applewhite, to whom was referred the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters.

On motion of Geo. M. Patrick, Past Grand Master, a Committee of five was appointed, consisting of Bros. P. W. Warrenner, S. D. Lacy, Julien Field, E. E. Lott and A. J. Fowler, whose duty it would be to examine the By-laws of Lodges presented for ratification.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing in this city be invited to attend the sittings of this Grand Lodge during its present session.

W. LARKINS.

A series of resolutions which had been adopted by Marshall Lodge, No. 22, were read and referred to the Committee on Petitions.

The following amendment to the Constitution was offered by F. B. Sexton, read, and, on motion, passed to the second reading :—

Resolved, That the 29th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be amended as follows :—

1st. After the words "for each Degree," in the tenth line of said Article, insert "Provided, that if any Degree shall be conferred on any candidate any time within one week after the date of any regular Communication subordinate to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, said candidate shall at the next regular Communication be deemed eligible to the next consecutive Degree."

2d. After the words "entire satisfaction," on the fourteenth line of said Article, insert "of the Worshipful Master as well as."

3d. After the words "preceding Degree," in the last line of said Article, add "Masters of Lodges are hereby required to see that examinations are not careless or superficial: they shall in every instance comprehend the first section of the Degree from which the candidate desires to be advanced, and more if time permit."

Add the two following sections entire :—

4th. No Degree of Ancient Free Masonry shall be conferred in any Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, without the lectures and ancient charges belonging thereto being fully given at the time of conferring the Degree. It is hereby made the duty of Masters of Lodges to see that this provision is in no instance departed from.

5th. Every Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall, in addition to its regular Communication, hold a Communication at least once in each month for the sole purpose of lecturing on the three Degrees of Ancient Free Masonry.

The various documents on the Grand Secretary's table were then handed to the appropriate committees, and the craft called from labor to refreshment, until 9 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Tuesday morning, January 21, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851, 9 o'clock.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Grand Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, forty-seven were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number represented, the Craft proceeded to labor.

Communications were received and read from St. John's Lodge, No. 53, Palestine Lodge, No. 31, Alamo Lodge, No. 44, and Friendship Lodge, No. 16, proffering to this Grand Lodge the use of their various Lodge Rooms for the next Grand Annual Communication, which were, on motion, referred to a Committee consisting of Bros. J. Crosby, V. M. Dubose and J. Lawrence.

The following report from the Grand Lecturer and Deputy Grand Lecturer was read and referred to the Committee on Reports from District Deputy Grand Master:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In presenting my report as Grand Lecturer, I have to regret that circumstances unforeseen at the time I accepted the office, and over which I have had no control, have prevented me devoting that attention to the duties of the office I should, and will consequently prevent my offering as satisfactory a report as I could have wished.

I have visited most of the Lodges west of the Brazos River, and find them generally prosperous, and the Brethren zealously engaged in promoting the interests of the Fraternity, much devoted to the principles of the Order, and working with as much uniformity as we could expect. Owing to the diligence of our Past Grand Lecturers, much had been done in establishing the mode of work, and, from the best information I have been able to gain, I am satisfied that the Lodges in the eastern portion of the State are generally working well and the Brethren equally devoted; and I feel warranted in saying, with proper attention and instruction for a few years, that the subordinate Lodges of our own will not be surpassed by any under the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge in the United States, in regard to the uniformity of the work, zeal for the institution, and, above all, that peace and harmony that should ever characterize the members of our Fraternity.

I have in some instances granted Dispensations for conferring the second and third Degrees, at the unanimous request of the Lodge, the Brethren generally being anxious to see the lectures illustrated by the work,—but have endeavored to exercise that power with the proper caution, exercising it only at the unanimous request of the members of the Lodge present, and when in their opinion the benefit to be derived from the instruction illustrated by the work was a sufficient emergency, or in some great emergency with the candidate himself,—but have in no instance granted a Dispensation to confer the first Degree, notwithstanding I have in several instances been convinced that the Craft might have been benefited by such a course, and was only prevented from so acting because I could not find any such power delegated to the Grand Lecturer. By reference to Article XXI. of the Constitution it will be seen that the Grand Lecturer has power to grant Dispensations to confer the second and third Degrees, and by reference to Article XII. it will also be seen that the Grand Master or any Deputy Grand Master may grant a Dispensation to confer the

Vol. I.—25

first; but in no case is such power delegated to the Grand Lecturer,—for which I can see no good reason. If authority be vested in him to grant Dispensations for the second and third Degrees for the purpose of exemplifying his lectures and rendering the mode of work more plain, why not give him authority to grant for the first? It is not unfrequently the case that the Lodge has applicants but no work on hand, and it is impossible in such case for the Lodge to work any under the immediate superintendence of the Grand Lecturer, which might be easily obviated if his authority was extended to embrace the first. I am satisfied that this power is frequently abused and seldom results in any benefit to the candidate, and I think it doubtful whether the power to grant Dispensations to confer Degrees should be delegated to any except the Grand Master.

While the Grand Lodge has much reason to congratulate herself upon the work and prosperity of her subordinates, yet much is necessary in order to preserve that uniformity that already exists and completely to harmonize the work, which is so much to be desired; for, notwithstanding the Lodges in Texas generally work well, perhaps equal to any in the South or anywhere else, yet it is to be regretted that there are differences, and, although apparently of minor importance, they may ere long widen, until that which might now be so easily remedied would become a source of great perplexity. From the best information I have been able to gain, from witnessing work in some other States, and from conversing with Brethren from different portions of the United States and Europe, I am satisfied these differences exist more or less everywhere and are attracting the attention of the Craft generally. I am aware that these differences being so slight and, perhaps, upon points of apparently minor importance, that many Brethren think that it would be a useless waste of time and money to attempt to establish a more uniform course of lectures and mode of work; and I admit that under some circumstances the attempt might prove abortive. But this is an era in the history of Masonry unparalleled: for the last few years our Order has prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations; its march has been "onward and upward;" every threatening cloud has been dispersed, and the bright sunshine of prosperity now beams upon the Order in every land.

An interest hitherto unknown is now manifested by the Craft, and they are zealously engaged in promoting the interests of the Society and seeking the proper light; and, could there be some plan adopted by which a perfectly-uniform system of lecturing and work could be established in the United States, it would be cheerfully adopted. And, in the absence of any proposed plan to effect the same, I would respectfully suggest to the consideration of the Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge at its present session request the co-operation of all the sister Grand Lodges in the United States in establishing a course of lectures and mode of work, and resolve that at the next Grand Annual Communication she will appoint a Delegate or Lecturer, and recommend to the sister Grand Lodges to make like appointments of Lecturers, (who understand the mode of work and lectures as practised in their respective jurisdictions, and those who would be unyielding in regard to the ancient landmarks of the Order, but compromising in their own views,) and agree upon some time (say in the year 1852) for said Lecturers to convene, compare their lectures and work; and, after such careful comparison and instruction from each other, they would be prepared to adopt a system that would prove satisfactory, and one the Fraternity would most cordially receive, believing that it had emanated from the best possible source; and, producing that uniformity so much desired, it would be a great inducement for the Brethren to become familiar with it, and they would thus receive a benefit far exceeding the trifling sum it would cost. It will be seen that such a Convention of Lecturers would possess many advantages over ordinary Masonic Communications in establishing a uniform mode of work, and the Fraternity would more willingly receive it, feeling assured that the views of no one Brother had been forced upon them, but the result of the calm deliberations of members of the Fraternity from every section of the country.

By virtue of the authority in me vested by a resolution passed at the last Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, I appointed Bro. W. D. Goff Deputy Grand Lecturer, who has for some time been laboring with the Lodges in the eastern portion of the State, and would refer you to his accompanying report.

The number of subordinate Lodges has increased so rapidly, and they are located over such a great extent of country, that it is impossible for one Lecturer to visit all in the same year with the least prospect of benefiting them. From the Rio Grande to the Sabine River, and from the Gulf coast to our Northern frontier, have Lodges been established, and it is impossible for any one person to travel over such an extent of country in one year, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office to the benefit of the Lodges, even should his health prove adequate to the task; yet I am well convinced of the necessity of continuing the office, but cannot recommend that power being vested in the Lecturer to appoint a Deputy. If we are to have Deputy Grand Lecturers, better abolish the office and make the District Deputy Grand Masters perform the duties of Lecturers in their respective Districts. The Grand Lecturer is but an agent of the Grand Lodge, appointed for the express purpose of harmonizing the work, and by the appointment of Deputies the very object for which the office was created becomes defeated. Under existing circumstances, then, I would suggest to your consideration that the Grand Lecturer be elected for two years, and be required to visit each Lodge once during his term of office, by which means he would have more time to devote to each Lodge, could select such seasons of the year for visiting as would be adapted to travelling and laboring with the Lodges, and would not incur the risk of impairing his health from fatigue and exposure which he must otherwise necessarily undergo, and I doubt not the Lodges would be equally benefited, and the Brethren of expense thereby rendered something lighter. I would here take occasion to advise the Grand Lodge of the depressed state of the treasuries of the subordinate Lodges generally. In addition to the great expense incurred by the Lodges generally in procuring a proper Masonic hall, many other demands are made upon them, to which they almost invariably respond with great credit and not unfrequently injustice to themselves. The education of orphans of deceased Brethren is not neglected by the subordinate Lodges; and would it not be well for the Grand Lodge, with an overflowing treasury, to encourage such laudable work in her subordinates by refunding the money expended in the education of such?

But few of the Western Lodges will be represented at the present session of the Grand Lodge, on account of the great distance and expense attending the same. If the Grand Lodge would adopt the plan of paying a sufficient sum to defray the necessary expense of one Representative from each subordinate Lodge, (when the same did not exceed the amount of dues from such Lodge,) it would always insure prompt attendance, a good and equitable representation, and give more general satisfaction.

I feel that I would do injustice to my feelings were I to close my report without expressing to the Grand Lodge my sincere thanks for the compliment paid and honor conferred upon me at the last Grand Annual Communication by electing me to the responsible office of Grand Lecturer, and have to regret that I have not been able to perform the duties of the office as I could have wished, and in such manner as would have reflected more credit and honor upon the Fraternity, and regret that I am prevented tendering personally my kind considerations, and accompanying this with a verbal report on lectures and work, &c. Feeling confident that you will find some one equally if not more competent to discharge the duties of Grand Lecturer, and business demanding my attention, I beg leave to decline serving longer in that capacity.

It was my earnest desire to have visited every section of the State, and I anticipated much pleasure in the society of the members of the Fraternity at their respective Lodges, but I have had to forego the pleasure of greeting them in the

eastern portion of the State, and trust that, true to the great principles of our Order, they will pardon the apparent neglect on my part, and place a charitable construction on the cause of my absence, when I assure them that nothing could have afforded me greater pleasure than the privilege of visiting them, witnessing their zeal for the institution and devotion to its sacred precepts.

To those Brethren with whom it has been my fortune to meet in the discharge of my official duties, I will take this opportunity of expressing to them how much I appreciate their kindness and attention, and assure them their kind sentiments are duly reciprocated and not forgotten, but treasured up upon one of Memory's dearest pages, there unclouded to remain until the gavel shall have sounded to call us from our earthly labors to that refreshment awaiting the true and faithful in the Celestial Lodge where presides the Grand Master of us all.

Praying that the blessing of Heaven may rest upon your labors,

I am, with sentiments of sincere regard,

Respectfully and fraternally,

STEPHEN H. DARDEN,

Grand Lecturer of Grand Lodge of Texas.

GONZALES, TEXAS, Dec. 31, A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Having been appointed by our R. W. Grand Lecturer as his Deputy for the past year, I beg leave to append to his report the following short one from myself.

I have, since the 1st of November, been visiting the Lodges of the eastern portion of the State, in my official capacity as Deputy Grand Lecturer, and during this time have been wholly engaged in the endeavor faithfully to discharge the important duties incumbent upon me; but how far I have succeeded in this attempt I leave with the officers and members of the several Lodges I have visited to determine.

During the short time I have been engaged in this work, I have had the pleasure of working and lecturing in the several Lodges here named, and in the following order,—viz. :

Montgomery, No. 25; Mt. Moriah, No. 37; Trinity, No. 14; Woodville, No. 62; Tyler, No. 50; De Witt Clinton, No. 29; Jackson, No. 35; Red Land, No. 24; Sam. Houston, No. 32; Cherino, U. D.; Milam, No. 2; Douglass, No. 43; Euclid, No. 45; Palestine, No. 31; Larissa, U. D.; St. John's, No. 53; Rocky Mount, U. D.; Clinton, No. 23; Sam. McClarty, U. D.; Mt. Enterprise, U. D.

Most of these Lodges I have found in a flourishing condition,—the officers and members anxious to become proficient in the several lectures, and consequently very attentive; and, further, I am happy to state that I have found that peace and harmony, the strong cement of Free Masonry, prevail in all their labors, and only in one or two instances have I found that the least discord prevails.

I have during my labors been called upon by several of the Lodges to grant Dispensations for conferring the three Degrees, and, where this has been done by and with the unanimous consent of the Lodge, I have granted the Dispensation; but at the same time, I will state to the Grand Lodge, I was not fully satisfied with regard to my power to do this: I had doubts as to whether or not the Grand Lecturer could delegate to a Deputy this power, yet, from the strong representations of the Lodges, have been induced to grant them. They stated that it would be almost impossible for them to learn the lectures correctly unless they were exemplified by the work, and that they could learn more by seeing the Degrees conferred upon a real instead of a volunteer candidate.

If I have erred in this matter, therefore, I hope that this Grand Lodge will be

assured that I have done so, not from any wish to transcend my authority, or in the least to disregard the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, but that I have done so believing that thereby I was advancing the interest of the Fraternity.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. GOFF,
Deputy Grand Lecturer of Grand Lodge of Texas.

The following report from R. W. P. W. Gray, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, referred to the same Committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN:—In obedience to the rules of your Most Worshipful body, I beg leave to report that during the past Masonic year very little of interest has transpired in the Fourth Masonic District. Owing to my absence from the State several months, I have been unable to visit all the Lodges in the District; but I am well satisfied that the work of the Craft progresses in peace and harmony in all of them.

I have granted five Dispensations for advancement of candidates, all to Harmony Lodge, No. 6, at Galveston,—which, being a seaport, requires the exercise of the power more frequently than interior Lodges.

I regret that it is out of my power to be with you during the present Communication, but invoke the blessings of our Supreme Master on your labors, that they may tend to the advancement of truth, peace and good-will throughout our borders.

Fraternally, &c.,

P. W. GRAY,
D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

A petition was presented from a number of Brethren, praying for a special Dispensation to form a new Lodge at Linwood, which was referred to the Committee on Petitions.

A petition from Indianola Lodge, U. D., was received, and, on motion, was referred to the appropriate Committee without reading.

The Grand Secretary presented the following annual report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Finance :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Grand Secretary of your Honorable body, begs leave to submit his annual report for your consideration and action. Soon after the close of the last Annual Communication, the Proceedings were printed under the inspection of the Committee on Printing, by Bro. J. C. Harrison,—also the report of the Committee which was appointed on the New York difficulties at the last Communication,—and separately printed in pamphlet form. All of them were regularly mailed, part in April and part in May. I sent one to the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Secretary of each Lodge, and two in one envelope addressed to the Lodge, making six copies to each Lodge under your jurisdiction; I also sent copies to all with whom we are in correspondence in the United States and Europe, and am gratified to observe, from foreign Proceedings since received, that they went safely to the various Grand Lodges. In addition to the Dispensations granted for new Lodges as named by the Grand Officer, there has been one for Morton Lodge, at Richmond, one for Brazos Lodge, in Austin county, and one for Union Lodge, at Panama, New Grenada. The returns of Brazos and Morton Lodges are now before you, and a communication from Bro. Past Grand Se-

cretary Geo. Fisher, at Panama, requesting a continuation of the Dispensation, for reasons therein set forth, and to which I beg the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge. I had hoped by this time to have shown to your Honorable body a very handsome and suitable Grand Lodge Diploma, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last session; but, owing to a press of business in the hands of the engraver, he has been unable to have them in time. I am confident, however, that they have now arrived in Houston, and on my return will find five hundred copies on parchment. I have taken the design from the Grand Lodges of England, New York and the late Republic of Texas, and I feel satisfied it will be such a one as every Mason in Texas will be proud to have.

The appropriation made last year for a regalia was found insufficient for the object, and I would earnestly recommend an appropriation of one hundred dollars in money for that purpose.

With this report I beg leave to submit my annual account, with vouchers, which I hope will be found correct, and would most respectfully suggest that a committee be appointed to examine the Grand Secretary's books and report to the next Grand Annual Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

PANAMA, December 6, 1850.

Bro. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—We have received your communication of the 11th of October last, accompanied by a Dispensation from the R. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, constituting us into a regular body under the title of "Union Lodge" at Panama.

Since the receipt of the Dispensation, which was on the 25th of November, 1850, we have not been able to meet and organize, for want of a suitable room in this city, the tenantable houses being all occupied, in consequence of the great influx of California emigrants, &c.

As we shall not be able to do much work under this Dispensation, we shall be under the necessity of petitioning the M. W. Grand Lodge to extend the same for another year, or such time as it may be necessary, because we shall hardly be able to do any thing more than to organize and elect our new officers and install them. Whatever we may do, we will report to you in due time.

We are, fraternally, yours,

GEORGE FISHER,
Worshipful Master Union Lodge, Panama, N. G.

The amendment to the Constitution which was read the day previous was taken up and read the second time and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Charles A. Frazer, George F. Moore and W. Reid Moore.

The following amendment to the Constitution was read first time and passed to the second reading:—

Resolved, That the 36th Article of the Constitution be so amended in the 6th and 7th lines as to read "for each Degree conferred, and for each affiliation, twenty-five cents; for each member annually, fifty cents."

The following resolution was read and adopted, and Bros. Saml. McClarty, A. H. Lowrie and W. D. Goff appointed said Committee:—

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to procure an orator to deliver a suitable address before this Grand Lodge on the occasion of installation of officers for the ensuing year.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Boonville Lodge, No. 55, be authorized to hold its meetings hereafter at Wheelock, in Robertson county.

The following communication from Jackson Lodge, No. 35, was presented, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Petitions:—

JACKSON LODGE, No. 35, MILAM, SABINE COUNTY, }
January 15, 1851.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

We, the undersigned, Wardens and members of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, of Free and Accepted Masons, held in the town of Milam, Sabine county, would most respectfully represent that, in consequence of heavy expenditures incurred in the erection of our Lodge Room, we find ourselves unable to meet the amount due from this to the Grand Lodge—which is about \$96—for the Masonic year ending December 27, A.D. 1849, A.L. 5849.

We would further represent that the Lodge, which has only been established some three years, commenced her work without a dollar in her treasury, has heretofore met and discharged all her dues promptly, and has just completed her Masonic hall, which has cost her some twelve or fifteen hundred dollars, which has exhausted all the means we are at present able to control.

We therefore respectfully pray that you will grant us an extension of time—say twelve months—for the payment of our back dues. We make this request not with a view to avoid the payment of any of our liabilities, but merely to give us time to recover from the heavy pressure under which we have been laboring.

We refer you for particulars to our Past Master and Representative, D. W. Warrenner.

W. B. FRAZER, *Worshipful Master*,
J. S. NOBLE, *Senior Warden*,
F. M. WEATHENED, Jr., *Junior Warden*,
J. H. BROWN, *Secretary*,
A. D. OLIPHANT, *Treasurer*,
J. S. SCRUGGS, *Junior Steward*,
G. B. COUSEY, *Tyler*,
J. H. McRAE,
G. A. HORFORD,
G. W. YUGER,
R. J. OLIPHANT,
J. W. ALLEN,
J. M. MEADOWS,
F. M. WEATHENED, Sen.,
B. F. WEATHENED,
G. S. WILLIAMS,
W. S. SUMMERS,
R. H. SMITH,
J. C. BOYD,
JOHN BOYD,
S. W. COUSEY.

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original petition now before me.

W. B. FRAZER,
Past Secretary.

The following communication from Lockhart Lodge was read and referred to Committee on Petitions:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas in Grand Annual Communication at Henderson.

Lockhart Lodge; No. 59, would respectfully represent unto the Grand Lodge that during the present year they have built a Masonic hall in the town of Lockhart, at a great expense, (at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars,) and at the present time they are indebted some two hundred and fifty dollars yet, which they agreed to pay on the 1st day of January, A.D. 1850.

They would also represent that they have to support a widow and five children, which costs this Lodge a considerable amount; and also that a considerable amount has been donated for the purpose of removing the remains of Mrs. Crosby, who was killed in the battle of Plum Creek, whose remains have not been interred as yet, and the Lodge thinking it their duty to bury Mrs. Crosby, as her father and brother are Master Masons, they have made said donation: they have also made other charitable donations to a considerable amount, inasmuch as they have given the lower story of their edifice for school and religious purposes, without any compensation therefor.

Having exhausted all their means for these purposes, they would respectfully ask the M. W. Grand Lodge to remit their dues for the present Masonic year.

And, in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

JOHN B. McMAHON, *Worshipful Master*,
E. A. PERSONS, *Senior Warden*,
G. H. HATTOX, *Junior Warden*.

(Signed,) J. NIX, *Secretary*.

The following amendment to the Constitution was offered by R. W. Andrew Neill, read first time and passed to second reading:—

Art. 44, amendment in 6th line. Strike out "a" and insert "the" before Lodge, and strike out the words "under jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge."

The following resolution was offered by Charles A. Frazer, read and referred to a Committee of three, consisting of Bros. Sexton, Ochiltree and Reuter:—

Resolved, That no Master Mason who resides within the jurisdiction of a Chartered Lodge shall be allowed to take his seat in such Lodge more than three times previous to his affiliation in such Lodge, unless he be a member of some other Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

No further business being in readiness on the Secretary's table, the several documents were handed to the appropriate Committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment, until early candlelight.

Early candlelight, Tuesday evening, January 21, }
A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of R. W. Grand Master *p. t.*, and opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, forty-three were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the first day's proceedings were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Lodges under Dispensation was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Work and Returns from Lodges under Dispensation beg leave to make the following report:—

They have examined the work and returns from Springfield Lodge and found the same correct, with the following exceptions. The Lodge is reported in the minutes as having opened and closed in the same Degree several times during the same Communication. The minutes also show that the Lodge refused to ballot on a petition upon which the Committee had reported unfavorably. These are irregularities which should be avoided. We recommend that a Charter issue to the said Lodge upon payment of the usual fees.

The work and returns of Cherino Lodge are correct, and we recommend a Charter to issue upon payment of the fees.

We find the work from Washington Lodge correct. The returns from that Lodge require the following corrections:—Eleven members are reported, when it should have been ten, making the dues to the Grand Lodge \$17 instead of \$18.

The work and returns of Caledonia Lodge are correct.

We find the work of Boston Lodge correct. The returns of that Lodge are incorrect in the following particulars:—Only eight members are reported, when there should be sixteen; they have reported eight affiliations, when there should be but four; nine passings are charged for, when it should be ten; and three Dispensations they have neglected to charge at all. These corrections will make the dues of said Lodge amount to \$41, instead of \$24 50 as reported.

The work and returns of Hubert Lodge are correct.

We find the work of Brazos Lodge correct. The returns are incorrect in one particular:—Only ten members are charged for, instead of eleven. This will increase their dues to \$12 instead of \$11.

We have also examined the work and returns from Cameron Lodge and find them correct, except that four Degrees conferred by Dispensation are not charged. This will increase the dues of said Lodge to \$29 50, instead of \$21 50 as reported.

The work of Morton Lodge is unexceptionably good. The returns are correct and well made out, except that two Degrees which have been conferred since the 27th of December are charged. This correction will reduce the dues of said Lodge to \$36.

We therefore recommend that Charters issue to each Lodge mentioned in this report upon the payment of the several fees.

J. M. HALL,
J. C. HARRISON,
W. H. CUSHNEY,
A. J. FOWLER,
G. A. EVARTS.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Delegates from those Lodges U. D. whose work has been approved be invited to take their seats as members of this Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master then requested the Delegates to report their names to the Grand Secretary, and the following were found duly represented:—

Hubert Lodge, represented by Bro. Wm. S. Day; Boston Lodge, by Bros. B. E. Elliot and Jno. W. Ellett; Cherino Lodge, by J. H. Sharp,—who took their seats as members of this M. W. Grand Lodge.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions, having had under consideration the petition of certain Brethren for a special Dispensation from this Grand Lodge to form and establish a Lodge by the name of Terrell Lodge, at or near the town of Linwood, in the county of Cherokee, within less than ten miles of the usual place of meeting of Douglass Lodge, No. 43, beg leave to report that, after inquiring into and investigating the matters set forth in this petition, we are satisfied its prayer ought to be granted,—sufficient causes being stated, and, we are satisfied, truly stated, which render it expedient, and the petition being approved by a regularly-constituted Lodge in the vicinity of the petitioners.

We therefore respectfully recommend that the special Dispensation asked for be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. J. JENNINGS,
For the Committee.

The following report was received from the same Committee, read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions have had under consideration a petition from Jackson Lodge, No. 35, asking that said Lodge be allowed until our next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues to this Grand Lodge for the years 1849 and 1850; also one from Lockhart Lodge, No. 59, asking that the dues of that Lodge for the year 1850 be remitted.

After having duly considered these petitions, we beg leave to offer the following resolutions, and respectfully recommend their adoption :—

Resolved, That Jackson Lodge, No. 35, be allowed until the 1st of July next to pay their dues to this Grand Lodge for the years 1849 and 1850.

Resolved, That Lockhart Lodge, No. 59, be allowed until our next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues to this Grand Lodge for the year 1850.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. GOFF,
Chairman.

GRAND LODGE ROOM, January 21, 1851.

The following report from the Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges most respectfully report that they have carefully examined the work and returns of the following Lodges and found the same correct, and recommend that they be received and adopted,—to wit :

Holland, No. 1; Harmony, No. 6; Austin, No. 12; Marshall, No. 22; Red Land, No. 24; Paris, No. 27; De Witt Clinton, No. 29; Gonzales, No. 30; Forest, No. 19; Graham, No. 20; Lafayette, No. 34; Lavaca, No. 36; Jefferson,

No. 88; Van Zandt, No. 42; Alamo, No. 44; Gillespie, No. 55; St. John's, No. 58; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Lothrop, No. 21.

All of which is submitted.

A. NEILL, *Chairman*,
J. F. CROSBY,
A. K. ELLETT,
JAMES P. DICKSON,
CHARLES A. FRAZER.

The following report from the special Committee appointed on the resolution as offered by Bro. Charles A. Frazer was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the resolution providing "that no Master Mason who resides within the jurisdiction of a Chartered Lodge shall be allowed to take his seat in such Lodge more than three times previous to his affiliation in such Lodge, unless he be a member of some other Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas," would respectfully report that, after duly considering the same, they cannot recommend it to the favorable consideration of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

Your Committee are of opinion that all the relations and duties of Free Masonry must be voluntarily assumed by its members, and that it would be trenching upon the ancient landmarks of the Order to compel any Brother to connect himself with a Lodge. And your Committee are further of opinion that if a Master Mason (who proves himself to be such) is in good standing and unaffected with any charge of un-Masonic conduct, it is not in the power of any subordinate Lodge in the State of Texas, or in the world, to refuse him admittance as a visitor. Your Committee admit that it would bear somewhat the appearance of illiberality for a Brother to remain a resident within the jurisdiction of a Lodge, and enjoy its benefits as a visitor, without contributing any thing to its support; yet, if the Brother sees proper to pursue such a course of conduct, your Committee think that he cannot be required to unite with a Lodge. Masonry is coercive in none of its regulations. Moreover, if a Brother should apply for affiliation with a subordinate Lodge, and should unfortunately be rejected by one or two negative votes, his Masonic standing would thus be somewhat prejudiced under the action of a compulsory rule of the Lodge, when he still remains as fully entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry as he was previous to his application for affiliation. Such a useless mortification of a Brother's feelings your Committee think is not contemplated by the liberal and time-honored institution of Free Masonry; much less should subordinate Lodges be invested with the power to force any *Free* Mason into such a category.

Your Committee therefore offer it to the Grand Lodge as their opinion that the adoption of the resolution referred to them would be highly inexpedient.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,
W. B. OCHILTREE, } *Committee.*
LOUIS REUTER,

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

The undersigned Committee, appointed to select an orator to address the Grand Lodge, would respectfully report that they have obtained the consent of R. W. Bro. James Reily to deliver an address, and would recommend that (it being agreeable to said Brother) said address should be delivered in the Methodist Church under the Masonic Hall, on Thursday next, at 11 o'clock, after the installation of the Grand Officers,—should a public installation be determined on by your Worshipful body.

SAM. McCLARTY,
Chairman.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. W. Larkins, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year on to-morrow at half-past 9 A.M., or half-past 2 P.M.

The following report from R. W. James M. Hall, District Deputy Grand Master for the Second Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, referred to the appropriate Committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District, would respectfully report that my domestic duties have required my indispensable presence at home, consequently I could not visit many of the Lodges in my district; but, as far as I have visited, I have found the Lodges in a healthy and prosperous condition. I have granted, since the last regular Communication, a Dispensation to open and hold a Lodge at the town of Carthage, in the county of Panola, on the 22d day of May last; and, in obedience to a resolution passed by the Grand Lodge at the last regular Communication, found on p. 45 in the printed proceedings, I have inquired into the expediency of continuing Saml. McClarty Lodge, U. D., at Henderson, and I beg leave to report that, from my investigation of this matter, I find no good reason why said Lodge should be continued, as Clinton Lodge, No. 23, will be ample to attend to all the business connected with our Order, and, as there are other Lodges established in Rusk county—one in the northern and the other in the southern part of the said county—in my opinion it entirely supersedes the necessity of two Lodges being located in the town of Henderson; and would, therefore, recommend that the Charter be withheld from said Saml. McClarty Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Fraternally,

J. M. HALL,
D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

A petition was presented from the Brethren of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, which was read, and, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

The following report from the Superintendent of the Educational Fund was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on the District Deputy Grand Masters' Reports :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, having been appointed by your Grand Master, at the annual session of the Grand Lodge in January, 1848, *recipient* of the Educational Fund, begs leave to report that, soon after being advised of the appointment, I immediately took the proper steps to recover from the estate of our deceased Brother, H. B. Kelsey, the amount from him as Superintendent of the Educational Fund, by the Grand Secretary, for the year 1847,—viz.: \$103 40. To effect this, I wrote to Bro. J. F. Witherspoon, of Marshall, as to the probability of recovering the amount. In reply, he kindly offered his services in assisting me in the matter, and I immediately furnished him with Bro. Kelsey's receipt (which was the only voucher I could obtain) for the money paid him: not having heard from Bro. Witherspoon for some time, I presume the family of our deceased Brother are unable to liquidate the debt.

I have received from the Grand Treasurer for 1848 \$162 50; for 1849,

\$160 23; interest from March 1, 1850, to January 1, 1851, 8 per cent. on \$322 78, \$21 51,—making \$344 24 now in my hands.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. W. TAYLOR,

Sup't Educational Fund Grand Lodge of Texas.

Houston, January 1, 1851.

The annual account of the Grand Treasurer was received, and, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will go into a public installation of its Grand Officers on Thursday next, at 10 o'clock A.M.

Communications from Harmony Lodge, No. 6, and Austin Lodge, No. 12, were presented, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Grievances, without reading.

On motion, Bro. Andrew Neill, District Deputy Grand Master, was added to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The memorial of John H. Moffat, an expelled Mason, was presented and referred to the appropriate Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That that portion of the By-laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, fixing the time of meeting, be altered so as to read "Saturday evening next preceding the full moon in each month," instead of the "first Saturday in each month."

A. H. LOWRIE,

S. P. BURKS,

W. L. McMURY.

At the request of the members of the Grand Lodge, the work and lectures of the first Degree were exemplified by R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master, and R. W. W. D. Goff, Deputy Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 9 o'clock A.M. Wednesday morning.

9 o'clock, Wednesday morning, January 22, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. W. M. Taylor,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. J. H. Rogers,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" W. B. Ochiltree,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" F. B. Sexton,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" Stephen Crosby,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" W. Larkins,	Grand Marshal.
W. John C. Eaton,	Grand Tyler.

On a call of the Lodges, thirty-two were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master presiding, and opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

We, the Committee on By-Laws, beg leave to report that we have examined the By-laws and amendment to By-laws of the following Lodges, and recommend their approval, with their several amendments,—to wit:

By-laws of Cherino Lodge, U. D., No. —, with the following amendments,—to wit: In Article 3, Section 3, strike out the words “as well,” also strike out the words “as of the sums due from each member of the Lodge,” and insert “and.” In Article 2, Section 6, strike out “one dollar” and insert “three dollars for affiliation.”

By-laws of Friendship Lodge, No. 16, with the following amendments,—to wit: Article 6, Section 3, strike out “no further action shall be taken on the petition, and it shall be considered as rejected,” and insert “the ballot shall be taken.”

By-laws of Gilmer Lodge, U. D., No. —, with the following amendments,—to wit: In Article 2, Section 1, strike out “Marshall on the first Friday” and insert “Gilmer third Saturday;” Article 4, Section 5, and add “such as intoxication, profane swearing and gambling;” Article 6, Section 5, strike out “or should a member be excessively addicted to any gross,” and insert “or should he be guilty of intoxication, profane swearing, gambling or any other gross.”

By-laws of Woodville Lodge, No. 62. Accept the proposed amendments to the By-laws of said Lodge.

By-laws of Washita Lodge, U. D., No. —.

By-laws of Cameron Lodge, U. D., No. —. Article 1, strike out “Victoria, No. 41,” and insert “Cameron, No. —”; Article 3, strike out “second” and insert “third.”

By-laws of Olive-Branch Lodge, No. 26.

By-laws of Carthage Lodge, U. D., No. —. Article *Initiation*, strike out “six months” and insert “one year;” strike out “one year” and insert “two, and for three or more black balls four years.” For affiliations, strike out “two” and insert “three dollars.”

By-laws of Murchison Lodge, U. D., No. —. Strike out the entire Article 16.

By-laws of Concord Lodge, U. D., No. —. Article 5, Section 1, strike out the latter clause; Article 5, Section 2, insert “and notification.”

P. W. WARRENER,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge proceed to ballot for the place of holding its next Grand Annual Communication, on next Thursday, at half-past 7 o'clock P.M.

ISAAC APPLEWHITE.

The Committee on Returns and Work from Chartered Lodges further reported as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges beg leave to report, that they have examined and found correct the following, to wit:—

Constantine, No. 18; Trinity, No. 14; Warren, No. 56; Larissa, No. 57;

Lockhart, No. 59; Rocky Mount, No. 63; Palestine, No. 81; Tannehill, No. 52,—and recommend their adoption.

They have examined and found the work of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, correct, and the returns (\$61 50) correct, but cannot justify the allowance of the credits charged by the Lodge to this Grand Lodge, as it is not responsible for such accounts.

The returns of Friendship Lodge, No. 16, are correct, but the work is informal in this,—that it does not appear when the petitions were presented, or the work done: this is irregular, and must be condemned; and the Dispensations are not noted, which is indispensable to keep the returns correct. They, however, recommend their adoption for the present,—with the suggestion that the following resolutions be passed and added to the constitutional provisions now in force in the subordinate Lodges.

A. NEILL,

Chairman of Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge dues for all regular ordained ministers of the gospel be remitted where the subordinate Lodges have remitted their dues.

Adopted.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 8 o'clock P.M., January 22, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master presiding.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. William M. Taylor,	Grand Master <i>p. t.</i>
R. W. Wm. H. Cushney,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ A. Neill,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ G. A. Evarts,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ Charles A. Frazer,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. Larkins,	Grand Marshal.
W. John B. Eaton,	Grand Tyler.

On a call of Lodges, forty-five were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The special Committee appointed on the M. W. Grand Master's address presented the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your special Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report,—

That it is with much regret we learn the ill health of our venerable and zealous Grand Master, Thomas J. Hardeman, has been of such character as to

deny him the privilege, and this Grand Lodge the pleasure and benefit, of his presence at the present convocation; and this we regret the more, as our worthy Brother had confidently anticipated much pleasure in meeting with many old, zealous and efficient, as well as young Brethren, with whom, owing to remoteness of locality, he had but seldom, and, with many, never, the privilege of meeting.

Although brief, we much admire the spirit of this communication,—one of humble pretensions, and full of Masonic zeal and brotherly love, the publication of which we respectfully recommend.

Notwithstanding we highly respect the opinions and venerate the character of the proponent, your Committee are unable to discover any thing objectionable in the constitutional provision of which he finds fault and recommends amendments. It is a privilege that visiting Brothers will rarely exercise; but a case may occur when a salutary influence would be exerted by the use of the privilege; and, when we consider the universality of our ties, we feel inclined to the opinion that it is not only a needful regulation, but may in its effects be productive of the most beneficial results to the Craft at large. A proposition having already been submitted to test the sense of the Grand Lodge upon this subject, your Committee deem it unnecessary to recommend the adoption or rejection of the proposed change.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

GEO. M. PATRICK, *Chairman*,
C. A. FRAZER.

The Committee on By-laws further reported as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws beg leave to make further report, that they have examined the By-laws of the following Lodges, to wit,—and recommend their approval, with the following amendments:—

By-laws of Hubert Lodge, No. —. Received without amendments.

By-laws of Caledonia Lodge, No. —. Strike out in Art. 10, “if favorable and not otherwise” and insert “on.”

By-laws of Springfield Lodge, No. —, Art. 1, Sec. 4. Strike out “if favorable and not otherwise,” and insert “the.”

By-laws of Morton Lodge, No. —. Received without amendments.

By-laws of Boston Lodge, No. —, Art. 6, Sec. 2. Strike out “six months” and insert “one year;” strike out “one year” and insert “two years;” insert at the end of said Article, “at the same meeting.”

By-laws of Indianola Lodge, No. —. Received without amendments.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed,)

P. W. WARRENER, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. made a further report as follows, which was, on motion, received:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges under Dispensation would further report that they have examined the work and returns of Temple Lodge, and find the same correct, with the following exceptions: that they have reported only thirteen contributing members, when it should be twenty-one.

No raisings are charged for, when there should be twelve; and two Dispensations are omitted. These corrections increase the dues of said Lodge to \$48 50, instead of \$30 50 as reported. They have also failed to report when petitions were presented for initiation,—which is decidedly irregular.

The work of Mount Vernon Lodge we find unexceptionable. The returns

require the following corrections:—Only nineteen contributing members are charged for, instead of twenty; they report thirty-two initiations and passings, when it should be forty-one; no raisings are reported, when there should be eleven; three Degrees were conferred by Dispensation which are not charged. These corrections increase the dues of said Lodge to \$52, instead of \$35 as charged.

We recommend Charters to issue to the above Lodges upon the correction of their returns and payment of the usual fees.

We have also examined the work of Indianola Lodge, and find the following irregularity: that at a regular Communication of said Lodge an applicant was rejected, and at a subsequent special called meeting of said Lodge, at which there were only three regular members of said Lodge present, said rejection was reconsidered and the said applicant was elected,—which proceeding was an infringement upon the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and a removal of the ancient landmarks of the Order. The returns from said Lodge are incorrect in the following particulars: they report seven passings, when it should be five; they have failed to report any raisings, when there should be five; three affiliations are charged, instead of two; no Dispensations are charged for, when there should be two. These corrections make the dues of said Lodge amount to \$24, instead of \$19 as reported.

In view of the above facts, we would recommend that a Charter be withheld, and that the Dispensation of said Lodge be continued until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge.

We have also examined the work from Murchison Lodge, and find that at the August Communication of said Lodge there was an applicant rejected, and at a subsequent meeting the vote was reconsidered and the applicant elected, which was contrary to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas; and, there being other irregularities, your Committee would respectfully recommend that the Charter be withheld from said Murchison Lodge, and that the same be continued under Dispensation until our next regular Annual Communication. We have also examined the returns of said Murchison Lodge, and find that they have omitted to charge any raisings, when the returns show that there have been two: their dues to the Grand Lodge should be \$26, instead of \$24 50 as reported.

We have also examined the work of Oasis Lodge, and find the following irregularity:—At a regular Communication of the said Lodge an applicant was rejected, and at a subsequent Communication in September the vote was reconsidered and the applicant was again rejected. The reconsideration was of course an infringement upon the Constitution of your body. The returns of said Lodge show the following mistakes:—Only three passings are reported, instead of five, and they have failed to report when two of those passings took place; they have failed to charge three raisings; seven affiliations are reported, when there should be but one; they have also neglected to charge for three Degrees conferred by Dispensation. With these corrections the dues of said Lodge amount to \$24, instead of \$19 50 as reported.

We respectfully recommend that the Charter be withheld from said Lodge, and the Dispensation be continued until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

We have also examined the returns from Concord Lodge, and find but fourteen members charged, when there should be fifteen, making their dues amount to \$15, instead of \$14 as reported. The said Lodge having failed to send up their work, we recommend that the Charter be withheld and their Dispensation continued until the next Annual Communication of your Grand body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. HALL,

W. H. CUSHNEY,

J. C. HARRISON,

G. A. EVARTS,

A. J. FOWLER,

Committee.

On further motion, that portion relating to Concord Lodge was referred to the District Deputy Grand Master for that District, to be reported in the evening, and the other matter therein contained was adopted.

The Committee on the Reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters presented the following, which was received, and that portion relating to Sam. McClarty Lodge laid on the table and the remaining portion of the report adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom the various reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters were referred beg leave to report and recommend the acceptance of the several reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and the adoption of the accompanying resolutions in relation to the matters therein contained,—viz. :

Resolved, That the action of the District Deputy Grand Master, A. Neill, of the Sixth Masonic District, in relation to Indianola Lodge, U. D., be approved, and that the said Lodge be allowed to work under Dispensation for another year.

Resolved, That the recommendation of said District Deputy Grand Master in relation to the Travellers' Home Lodge, at El Paso, be approved, and the Dispensation granted to said Lodge cancelled without charge.

Resolved, That the Dispensation heretofore granted to Sam. McClarty Lodge, at Henderson, be cancelled, and said Lodge abolished.

Respectfully submitted.

ISAAC APPLEWHITE,
A. J. MCGOWN,
For Committee.

The Finance Committee presented the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Standing Committee on Finances and Accounts, to whom was referred the report and account of the R. W. Grand Secretary, would respectfully report that they have examined the account of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. A. S. Ruthven, and find that the same shows at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication a balance standing against him of one thousand two hundred and twenty-two dollars and ninety-eight cents, (\$1222 98,) for which amount he has the proper receipt from the Grand Treasurer.

Your Committee have examined the statement of disbursements, expenses, &c. on the debit side of the Grand Secretary's account, and find the same correct and duly authorized by this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have examined the credit side of said account, and find most of the amounts charged by the Grand Secretary against himself, as having been paid by subordinate Lodges, to correspond with the amounts due according to the returns of said Lodges. Some of the amounts, however, charged against the Grand Secretary do not precisely correspond with the amounts as reported in the returns of subordinate Lodges. The difference in these instances is small, and, from a conference with the Grand Secretary, your Committee has ascertained, arose from the following causes :—Some of the Lodges have committed errors in computing the amounts of the annual contributions due from them to the Grand Lodge : their returns, having been referred to the proper Committee at each Grand Annual Communication, show the corrected amounts due from them. The Lodges, however, have paid only the original amount due from them

according to their returns; the balance due from them still stands charged against them on the books of the Grand Secretary. Some of the Lodges also have not paid the full amounts due from them according to their own returns.

Your Committee are perfectly satisfied that the Grand Secretary has charged himself with all that has ever actually come into his hands. Your Committee are informed by the Grand Secretary that his books have never been inspected under the authority of this Grand Lodge since he has been in office, (which has been four years,) and that he much desires such an inspection. Your Committee think such a measure absolutely indispensable to advancing the prosperity of our Order, and therefore, as well as in compliance with the wishes of the Bro. Grand Secretary, would recommend the adoption of the second resolution hereto appended.

Your Committee would recommend the continuation of the Dispensation to Union Lodge, at Panama, New Grenada.

Your Committee exceedingly regret that the appropriation made at the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge has been inadequate to procure a new regalia for this Grand Lodge, of which your Committee think the Grand Lodge is greatly in want and should procure as soon as possible. To effect this object, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the fourth resolution hereto appended.

Your Committee cannot close their report without expressing their high appreciation of the services of the R. W. Bro. Grand Secretary for the past year. His devotion to the cause of Masonry and untiring industry in advancing its benevolent objects will long command the respect and fraternal regard of the Fraternity.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the account of the Grand Secretary for the year A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850, be received and filed.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and make a full report to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Dispensation to Union Lodge, at Panama, New Grenada, be continued.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to procure a new regalia for this Grand Lodge, of the description required by this Grand Lodge at its Grand Annual Communication, A.D. 1849, A. L. 5849, (to be found on p. 69 Proceedings of 1849,) and that the sum of five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for that purpose,—for which amount the Committee is hereby authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer: *Provided*, That the Committee shall purchase the regalia, if possible, for a less amount, and are hereby required to have the same ready for the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be hereby tendered to Bro. A. S. Ruthven for his able and efficient Masonic services as Grand Secretary for the past year.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,	} <i>Committee.</i>
W. S. DAY,	
P. W. GRAY,	
F. L. BARZIZA,	

The same Committee further reported, which was, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finances and Accounts, to whom was referred the account of the Grand Treasurer, R. W. Bro. E. B. Nichols, report that they have

examined the same and find it correct, showing a balance in his hands at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication of three thousand three hundred and fourteen dollars and sixty-nine cents, (\$3314 69.)

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,
W. S. DAY,
F. L. BARZIZA,
W. B. GRAY, } *Committee.*

The following report of Committee on the proposed amendments to the Constitution was read, and, on motion, received, the Committee discharged, and after considerable discussion was laid on the table until 10 o'clock A.M. to-morrow morning:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The undersigned special Committee to whom was referred the subjoined resolutions, proposing amendments to the Constitution of the said Lodge, respectfully submit the following report: That instead of the first amendment proposed, the following resolution is submitted and recommended for adoption,—to wit:

Resolved, That each Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall do its regular business and close the Lodge on the day of its regular Communication, and that the subordinate Lodges may call meetings to confer Degrees, provided that the applicant shall be balloted for at a regular Communication; and that such applicant shall at the next regular Communication be eligible to the next succeeding Degree, provided the preceding Degree shall have been previously conferred.

Your Committee respectfully recommend the second amendment proposed for adoption, which is as follows:—"After the words 'entire satisfaction,' in the 14th line of the 29th Article of said Constitution, insert 'of the Worshipful Master as well as.'"

As to the third amendment proposed, your Committee beg leave to report that they deem the duties therein imposed upon the Worshipful Masters of subordinate Lodges already enjoined upon them by obligations as binding as can be made.

As to the fifth amendment proposed, your Committee beg leave to say that the subject-matter therein sought to be regulated is already provided for by a resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, which may be found on the 20th page of the Proceedings of that Communication.

All of which is respectfully submitted and recommended to be adopted.

C. A. FRAZER,
W. REID MOORE,
GEORGE F. MOORE.

On motion of Bro. Sam. McClarty, Past Deputy Grand Master, the installation of officers was deferred until Friday morning at 10 o'clock A.M.

The following resolution was offered by R. W. H. D. Woodsworth, which, together with the substitute, was referred to the Committee on Finance:—

Whereas, it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that it is in accordance with the true spirit and design of Masonry, and in conformity with the ancient landmarks of the Order, that every Mason should attach himself to some Lodge; Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That each and every Master Mason residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby, required to pay annually an amount equal to the regular dues paid by the individual members of subordinate Lodges, to be paid to the several Lodges under whose jurisdiction they reside.

Resolved, That the consent of this Grand Lodge be, and the same is hereby, accorded to each and every subordinate Lodge to use such constitutional legislation as shall secure, from each and every non-affiliated Master Mason within their respective jurisdictions, regular quarterly and general Lodge dues.

WOOTTEN.

The Committee on Finance reported as follows, which was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

A majority of the Committee on Finances and Accounts, to whom was referred the accompanying resolutions, would beg leave to report, without further comment, that the questions intended to be raised by said resolutions have been decided by many of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and by this Grand Lodge successively at a number of its past Annual Communications, unequivocally against the resolutions. Your Committee therefore recommend that the resolutions be rejected.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,
P. W. GRAY,
WM. S. DAY.

The Committee on Chartered Lodges presented an additional report, which was, on motion, adopted as follows :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges most respectfully report that they have examined and find correct the work and returns of the following Lodges,—to wit: Milam, No. 2; Douglass, No. 43; Tyler, No. 50; Woodville, No. 62; Clinton, No. 23; Joppa, No. 65; Bastrop, No. 58; Eagle, No. 41; Euclid, No. 45; Milam, No. 11; Gilmer, No. 61,—and recommend their adoption.

They also find the work of Mt. Enterprise, No. 60, correct, and the dues overpaid by \$7, making their total amount \$55.

The returns of Washington Lodge, No. 18, are correct, but the work is wrong in this,—that it appears that several Brethren were initiated and passed during the same meeting, and no report of Dispensation. We would condemn this work entirely, if it were not that the Committee are assured it is a mistake in the Secretary's returns, and that the work was not done as reported, but on a subsequent month. The work of Montgomery, No. 25, is correct; but the contributions of members are returned at seventy-five cents instead of one dollar each, making forty-one dollars due instead of thirty-three.

The work of Victoria Lodge, No. 40, appears correct, except one member reported as demitted whilst he is still reported as an officer. The returns are incorrect by one dollar, which makes the amount \$31 50.

The work of Leona Union, No. 39, is correct, and the returns should be \$33 50, instead of the amount returned, one member being omitted. The Committee recommend that said work be approved, subject to the exceptions set forth.

The Committee have found a great deal to approve and little to censure in the returns sent up, many of which are well done, formal and concise. Many of the Lodges have been led into error by the old form, instead of observing the constitutional provisions which govern in the amount of dues. Altogether, the returns show that the cause of Masonry is flourishing in an unexampled degree, and the statistics will compare favorably with any former year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL, <i>Chairman</i> ,	} <i>Committee.</i>
J. F. CROSBY,	
CHARLES A. FRAZER,	
A. K. ELLETT,	
JAMES P. DICKSON,	

The following communication was received from Marshall Lodge, No. 22, read and referred to the Committee on Petitions :—

MARSHALL LODGE, No. 22, January, A.D. 1851.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

BRETHREN:—On the — day of February, A.D. 1849, Samuel J. Richardson, an applicant for the first Degree, was rejected by three black balls. Since said February, 1849, the objections to the said applicant have been entirely removed, and the said applicant, so far as we know or can ascertain, is acceptable to the members of said Lodge.

Therefore, this is to petition your Grand body to permit Marshall Lodge, No. 22, at an early convenience, to entertain and act upon the petition of said Richardson to be made a Mason.

By order of Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

W. H. DIAL,
Secretary.

VIRGIL M. DUBOSE,
Master p. t.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution, as follows,—

Article 44, amendment in 6th line. Strike out “a” and insert “the” before Lodge, and strike out the words “under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge,”—

Was read a second time and passed to the third reading.

The amendment to the 34th Article of the Constitution was read a second time and passed to the third reading.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns from Subordinate Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges under Dispensation beg leave further to report that they have examined the work of Carthage Lodge, and find the work unexceptionable. The returns only show fifteen members, when eighteen are charged. This correction will reduce the dues of said Lodge to \$25, instead of \$28 as reported.

We respectfully recommend that a Charter issue to said Carthage Lodge upon payment of the usual fees.

J. M. HALL,
W. H. CUSHNEY,
J. C. HARRISON,
G. A. EVARTS,
A. J. FOWLER, } *Committee.*

The following resolution was, on motion, read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Representatives of Lodges under Dispensation which have been recommended for a Charter be invited and authorized to take their seats as members of the Grand Lodge.

On a verbal report of R. W. James H. Rogers, District Deputy Grand Master for the First District, a Charter was granted to Concord Lodge upon the payment of the usual fees, and the Representative permitted to take his seat.

A resolution was offered urging the necessity of this Grand Lodge to pay the Delegates while in attendance annually,—which was, on motion, laid on the table.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until early candlelight.

Early candlelight, Wednesday, January 22, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master presiding. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, sixty were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had arrived for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Nominations were then received, and the election resulted as follows :—

M. W. Wm. B. Ochiltree,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ G. A. Evarts,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ H. R. Cartmell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ H. D. Woodsworth,	Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 9 o'clock A.M. to-morrow morning.

9 o'clock A.M., Thursday morning, January 23, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master presiding.

Officers as before.

On a call of Lodges, forty-seven were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Minutes of the previous meetings read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report from the special Committee appointed on the several communications from subordinate Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your special Committee to whom was referred the several communications from St. John's Lodge, No. 53, Palestine Lodge, No. 31, Alamo Lodge, No. 44,

and Friendship Lodge, No. 16, tendering to your Most Worshipful body the use of their respective Lodge Rooms, accompanied by a most cordial and fraternal invitation to hold the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge at their respective places, have had the same under consideration, and, as the result of their deliberations, most respectfully submit for the adoption of the Grand Lodge the following resolution:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge highly appreciates the kind and fraternal feelings manifested by said resolutions; and that there be hereby tendered to said Lodges the most respectful acknowledgments of this body for the same, although constrained to decline their respective invitations.

J. F. CROSBY,
VIRGIL M. DUBOSE, } *Committee.*
J. LAWRENCE,

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges further reported, as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges most respectfully report that they have examined the work of Grand Bluff Lodge, No. 54, and find the same correct. The returns are reported at fifty-eight dollars and thirty cents, which they are unable to say is correct or not, as the names of members are not given. They recommend that the returns be received subject to be corrected at next Grand Annual Communication, and that said subordinate Lodge refer particularly thereto in their next returns.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on District Deputy Grand Masters' Reports was amended and adopted, as follows:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Lecturer beg leave to report that they have had the various matters therein contained under advisement, and respectfully recommend that the power to grant Dispensations vested in the Grand Lodge be confined to the second and third Degrees, there being obvious and ample reasons why he should be thus restricted in the exercise of the dispensing-power. A candidate for the first Degree of Masonry has to undergo a strict examination of character by an appropriate committee appointed for that purpose; and it is evident that such committee cannot discharge that duty properly without the constitutional time being allowed them: and your Committee are of opinion that such investigation of character should not be dispensed with but in the strongest cases of emergency, and then only by the authorities at present authorized by the Constitution to do so.

In reference to various other measures suggested in said report, this Committee consider them either impracticable or inexpedient, and would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions,—to wit:

Resolved, That the report of the Grand Lecturer be received, and the measures therein recommended indefinitely postponed.

Resolved, That the report of the Deputy Grand Lecturer be accepted
Respectfully submitted.

ISAAC APPLEWHITE,
For Committee.

The report of Committee on Constitutional Amendments, consisting of Bros. C. A. Frazer, W. Reid Moore and Geo. F. Moore, was called up, and, after a lengthy discussion, was laid on the table.

The Committee on Petitions presented the following report, which was read, and, on motion, laid on the table until 3 o'clock P.M. :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the application of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, for a loan of money, beg leave to report that they have bestowed upon the subject of this reference such reflection and consideration as their time and other indispensable engagements would allow, and yet they are not prepared to make any definitive communication upon it. They find, upon examination of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, that an application of the same nature was then made by Harmony Lodge, No. 6, for the sum of \$2500, which is, by a resolution adopted at that time, to be acted on at this Communication. Your Committee are also advised of several other like applications which would be made to this Most Worshipful body if the one now under consideration was taken up for definitive action. They also deem it proper to call your attention to the well-known difficulty of recalling loans of money in this country. Your Committee at the same time are of opinion—from the consideration that your surplus funds now on hand, and which are expected annually to increase, will not probably be wanted for their legitimate purpose of building a Grand Lodge Hall for several years—that they ought to be invested in some safe way in which they would yield reasonable interest and yet could be *certainly* recalled at pleasure; but your Committee are not now prepared to determine what that investment should be, and respectfully suggest that even this M. W. Grand Lodge should not do so without first referring the subject to the subordinate Lodges for their consideration and instructions. To accomplish this object, and also to obtain the benefit of the mature reflection and consideration of a properly-constituted committee, your Committee respectfully beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the subject of disposition or investment of the surplus funds of this M. W. Grand Lodge be referred to a special Committee of five, with instructions to report at the next Grand Annual Communication.

W. D. GOFF, *Chairman*,
THOS. J. JENNINGS,
LOUIS REUTER,
WM. P. BRITTAIN,
A. H. LOWRIE.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M., January 23, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, fifty-one were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master *p. t.* declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The report of Committee which was laid on the table until 3 o'clock was now taken up, and, after much discussion, Bro. Virgil M. Dubose offered

the following substitute,—which was, on motion, referred to a special Committee consisting of Bros. Sam. McClarty, G. A. Evarts and F. L. Barziza :—

Resolved, That the funds of this Grand Lodge on hand at the close of the present Annual Communication be set apart as an Educational Fund, and be distributed among the several Chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction, the returns to the present Communication being taken as the basis of such division,—which is to be made *pro rata*, according to the number of Master Masons appearing on the returns of each Lodge; and that such fund so distributed shall be set apart and held forever exclusively for the purposes set forth in the premises of this resolution, by the said Chartered Lodges,—being in no wise subject to any future action of the Grand Lodge, the distribution being a free and irrevocable donation,—there being first the amount of five hundred dollars set apart to meet the contingent and necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge for the current year.

The following resolution was read and referred to the same Committee :—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to comply with the application of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, made at the last Annual Communication, for a loan of funds.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred a petition from Marshall Lodge, No. 22, asking a Dispensation to authorize said Lodge to ballot again for Samuel J. Richardson, who has been rejected by that Lodge as an applicant for the first Degree, would respectfully represent that they have duly considered the facts in relation to this matter, and would respectfully recommend that said Dispensation be granted to Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. GOFF,
Chairman.

A petition from sundry Master Masons to open a new Lodge in New Salem, Rusk county, was referred to the appropriate Committee without reading.

The following preamble and resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted, and the Representatives requested to take their seats as members of this Grand Lodge :—

Whereas, The work of Oasis Lodge and Murchison Lodge, both under Dispensation, have been condemned by the approval of the report of Committee of Returns of Lodges U. D.; and whereas, this Grand Lodge being satisfied of the spirit under which said work was done: Therefore,

Resolved, That Charters do issue to each of said Lodges from this Grand Lodge, on the payment of dues.

ROGERS.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges under Dispensation would further report that they have examined the work and returns of Rio Grande and Brownsville Lodges, for the years 1849 and 1850, and find the same correct

in every particular. Your Committee cannot permit the occasion to pass without expressing their high commendation of the very correct and handsome manner in which the said Lodges have sent up their returns, and take great pleasure in recommending that Charters issue upon payment of the usual fees.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. HALL, W. H. CUSHNEY, J. C. HARRISON, G. A. EVARTS, A. J. FOWLER,	}	Committee.
--	---	------------

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws beg leave to make further report, that they have examined the By-laws of Rio Grande Lodge, No. —, and recommend their adoption with the following amendments,—to wit:

In Article 10, add, “except in balloting for the Degrees and membership.”

In Article 19, strike out the latter clause, from the word “provided.”

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. W. WARBENER,
Chairman.

The report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, received, and the Committee discharged.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until early candlelight.

Early candlelight, Thursday evening, January 28, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by order of R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master presiding.

Officers as before.

Fifty-nine Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The report of the Committee on Grievances was, on motion, taken up, and, after considerable discussion, adopted as follows :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the grievances and appeals taken to this Grand Lodge at its present session beg leave respectfully to report thereon respectively as follows,—to wit: in the case of the suspension of Wm. W. Montgomery, by Lockhart Lodge, No. 69, and now here on appeal at the instance of said Montgomery, I am instructed by the Committee to present to the Grand Lodge the following brief statement of the charges and specifications against said Montgomery, the proof sustaining the same, and the recommendation of the Committee in the premises,—viz.:

Charge of un-Masonic Conduct.—Specification that said Montgomery maliciously

stopped the advancement of a Fellow-Craft, for purposes unconnected with Masonry, and to lend his personal aid to a man (one Coffey) not a Mason.

Proof.—That said Montgomery, on being consulted by a person (a Mason) who was probably one of the Committee appointed to investigate the character of an applicant (Sullivan) for Masonry, stated that said applicant was a perfect gentleman and would make a good Mason, and that he would cheerfully vote for him. Said Montgomery afterwards rejected him, and stated first that he would not for his right arm give any reason therefor, but afterwards stated his reason to be that if said Coffey and applicant fell into a difficulty, as was likely, he wished to help Coffey, and therefore voted against said applicant.

This was doubtless the true reason, as he had once voted for said applicant, and afterwards, without any other reason, voted against him,—when, as he stated, said difficulty was about to arise.

Almost the same course of proof appears against said Montgomery in a second case, and he admits that no misunderstanding had taken place since he had voted for said second applicant.

It further appears, by strong inference, from the very close intimacy between said Montgomery and Coffey, and also from Coffey's own statements, that, through Montgomery, Coffey was acquainted with the secret proceedings of the Lodge, and could control Montgomery in his votes in the Lodge, and had perhaps actually done it.

Before voting for said first applicant, Montgomery also stated to a Mason that said applicant was wholly unworthy of the honors of Masonry, and then voted for him; and afterwards, for another Degree, voted against him. Such a medley of contradictions by the same man, to different persons, and for and against different persons, and such a reckless disregard of truth, shows a great want of moral principle as well as mind or firmness, and a facility to be governed by others which should not be tolerated; and the Committee therefore recommend that the decision of said Lodge in said case be in all things affirmed.

In the case of the expulsion of John D. Hogan, Master Mason, from Bastrop Lodge, No. 58, the Committee have instructed me barely to say that the proceedings are very irregular, presenting among other things the anomaly of a rejected candidate for the honors of Masonry bringing charges against a Mason, and those charges being sustained, as far as appears from the records, by the unsworn testimony of said rejected candidate smarting under the lash of rejection by the Lodge.

It also appears that said Hogan afterwards applied for a rehearing of his cause, and that the Lodge, instead of granting the request, only opened the case so far as to expel him again, without any rehearing from Hogan. In view of these and divers other irregularities, the Committee recommend that the decision of said Lodge be reversed.

In the case of C. B. Stewart, now under suspension by Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, for non-payment of dues, and brought up to the Grand Lodge by memorial of said Stewart, the Committee have instructed me to say that the following presents a brief statement of the facts of the case, as far as they have been able to gather them from the records,—to wit: Said Bro. Stewart, being a member of Orphans' Friend Lodge, was one of the petitioners for a new Lodge, to be called Montgomery; that said new Lodge was recommended by Orphans' Friend Lodge for a Dispensation, which was granted. Said new Lodge went into operation, and said Stewart remained with it and considered that he was a member thereof, and not of Orphans' Friend Lodge, without having demitted therefrom,—that the act of Orphans' Friend Lodge recommending said new Lodge operated as a demit to him, and, as said Bro. Stewart expresses it, he had thereby seceded from Orphans' Friend Lodge, which by said recommendation had recognised the same. That afterwards Orphans' Friend Lodge had suspended him for non-payment of dues, which the said Brother conceives is contrary to all Masonic rule, and subversive of its principles, &c. For a full

understanding of this case, the Committee beg leave to refer the Grand Lodge to the memorial of said Brother, and have instructed me to present this as the true rule of Masonry in such cases,—viz.: that a member of a Lodge cannot by any act of his own discard his membership, unless his Lodge give their consent to it, either by demit, expulsion or some method which expressly names the same; that the act of joining another Lodge without a demit, with the knowledge of his Lodge, does not take him out of the rule; and that his dues continue to run against him in his own Lodge, until some of the methods above named shall release him, or his Lodge shall demit; and that his Lodge retains jurisdiction over him until he regularly releases himself as before said.

From all the circumstances of the case, as far as the Committee have been able to get them, they are of opinion that said Brother is still under the jurisdiction of Orphans' Friend Lodge, and can only clear himself of the suspension by paying his dues to said Lodge; and they have instructed me to recommend that Orphans' Friend Lodge revoke said suspension upon said dues being paid.

In the case of Bro. H. McLeod, now under suspension by Austin Lodge, No. 12, the complaint of Harmony Lodge, No. 6, regarding the same, &c., the Committee have found the affair very intricate and difficult, and have been compelled to gather information on the same wherever they could find it, the record not being in all respects of so full and clear a character as to allow them to look alone to that for information, and have instructed me rather to recommend such a course to this Grand Lodge as would harmonize the difficulty between the two Lodges, than to present a stated case which should hereafter serve as a precedent, and to explain the case orally, if required, to your Most Worshipful body.

The Committee therefore recommend that Austin Lodge revoke the suspension of said McLeod, upon his paying all his legal dues up to the date of his suspension; that the Grand Lodge remit the dues of said Lodge for McLeod from the time of his becoming a member of Harmony Lodge up to said suspension; that the stringency of the rule laid down in the case of Stewart above reported on should be in part relaxed, and therefore have made the above recommendation.

In the case of J. H. Moffat, now here on appeal from the decision of Tyler Lodge, No. 50, and the complaint of Woodville Lodge, No. 52, of an unwarrantable stretch of jurisdiction by said Tyler Lodge, in expelling a member of Woodville Lodge, the Committee have instructed me to present the following facts,—viz.: That Tyler Lodge preferred charges against said Moffat, a member of Woodville Lodge, for the commission of an offence in the town of Woodville, some fourteen miles distant from Tyler Lodge, against, as it appears, divers members of Tyler Lodge. The Committee deem it unnecessary to go into a recapitulation of all the facts and circumstances of the case, but have instructed me to say that enough has come out in the course of the trial to show that said Bro. Moffat has greatly erred if these facts are true, and should not escape scot-free until he clears himself from them.

The Committee fully recognise the principle in Masonic jurisprudence, that under some peculiar circumstances a Mason may be tried out of his own Lodge and convicted, provided no local prohibition exists; but, as this offence is charged to have taken place at the very doors of Woodville Lodge, so to speak, and as said Lodge and said Moffat complain bitterly of injustice, I am instructed, in order that peace and harmony may be restored between the Brethren of said Lodges, and as the Committee find that much excitement prevailed at the trial of said Moffat, and that said Woodville Lodge acted very hastily and un-Masonically towards said Tyler Lodge, though since rescinded and repented of, to recommend that the decision of Tyler Lodge expelling J. H. Moffat be reversed, and all the papers and proceedings of the case be transferred to De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, and that, at his earliest convenience, the Third District Deputy

Grand Master attend said last-named Lodge and preside at a second trial of the said Moffat; which it is recommended that the Grand Lodge order to take place before the 24th of June next, and that said Moffat be notified thereof by said District Deputy Grand Master at least ten days before the same takes place.

The memorial of F. M. Weathered, Jr., and twenty-three others, who all represent themselves as members of Jackson Lodge, No. 35, praying for the reinstatement of James M. Burroughs, who they allege to have been expelled from said Jackson Lodge, I am instructed to say, in their opinion, cannot, consistently with the usages of Free Masonry as understood by them, be acted on by this Grand Lodge; that, in order to the reinstatement of an expelled Mason, the Lodge from which he was expelled alone has the Masonic right in the first instance to reinstate; but that, if any member of the Lodge be dissatisfied with the decision of the reinstatement, an appeal could be taken to the Grand Lodge, which would revise the proceedings of the subordinate Lodge; and in no case could the Grand Lodge act in such case, except upon a full transcript of all the proceedings in the original expulsion, and the act of reinstatement by the subordinate Lodge. I am instructed, therefore, to recommend that said memorial be returned to said Brethren, and also a copy of this report thereon.

In the case of G. M. Mooring, now here on appeal from the decision of Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, expelling said Mooring from all the rights and privileges of Free Masonry, the Committee find the following facts from the record,—viz.: that said Mooring had been guilty of gross un-Masonic conduct in the violation of one of the most sacred laws of morality and friendship, on which the principal peace of society, and certainly of families, depends, in the seduction from virtue of the wife of an intimate friend and Brother Mason, and this, too, when that friend and Brother was making him welcome in his own house, which it appears said Mooring had sought under the specious guise of friendship. The evidence bears no loop-hole to admit of a doubt: all is proven by incontestable evidence, and the Committee can perceive no good reason for an appeal. Such cases need no comment. The Committee therefore instruct me to recommend to the Grand Lodge that the decision of said Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17, in expelling G. M. Mooring, be in all things affirmed and carried into effect.

The last case presented to your Most Worshipful body for the consideration of the Committee they found by far the most difficult and complicated, and especially as the offence charged is of so very delicate a character that it is improper from its very nature to be sent to the public through your printed proceedings, and, even in the private investigations which the Committee have been compelled by their duty to give to it, it presents such shameless features of depravity as to cause them to turn from its contemplation in shame, horror and disgust.

The case referred to is the appeal of Isaac M. Williams from the decision of Milam Lodge, No. 2, expelling said Williams for gross, outrageous and indecent attempted familiarities upon the person of a female child under the age of ten years, the daughter of a near and dear friend, who had made his own house and home the house and home of said Williams for twelve months, and who was also a Brother Mason.

The evidence to support this grave charge leaves no doubt on the minds of the Committee that the charge is true, and, as the crime is without precedent in some of its details, so it is submitted without comment. The Committee would fain hope that some circumstance may yet come to light that will free the unhappy man from this charge; and, if it ever should, they take the liberty of digressing so far as to say that there is no statute of limitations in Masonry which will prevent him from having a hearing, however distant the day when he may be able to clear himself; and, in any event, he is earnestly recommended to the mercy of Heaven.

I am instructed by the Committee to recommend that the Grand Lodge affirm

in all things the decision of Milam Lodge, No. 2, in expelling Isaac M. Williams.

The Committee, having thus, after infinite labor, and, as they hope, patient and impartial investigation, disposed of the onerous duties imposed on them, respectfully ask to be discharged.

JAMES H. ROGERS,
Chairman.

The following resolution was, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that a Master Mason can be a member of two Lodges at one and the same time.

No further business appearing on the Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment until 9 o'clock A.M., Friday, the 24th.

Nine o'clock A.M., Friday morning, January 24, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by R. W. Wm. M. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master presiding.

Officers as before.

Sixty-one Lodges represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge now proceed to ballot for the selection of a place to hold the next Grand Annual Communication.

Which resulted in the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be held at the City of Austin, Travis county.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws beg leave to make the following report: That they have examined the By-laws of Temple Lodge, No. 70, and recommend their approval.

We also recommend the approval of the By-laws of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 71.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. W. WARRENER,
Chairman.

The following report from a select Committee was adopted, together with the resolution and forms appended :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the resolutions respecting the form to be adopted for Dispensations and for returns of subordinate Lodges, as well as the resolution respecting the elections and installations which have taken place by reason of the form heretofore used for Dispensations, have had the subject-matter referred to them under consideration, and beg leave respectfully to submit that they have drawn a form for Dispensations to be used by our Grand Officers,

which is hereto appended, and which they recommend to have adopted; and that the Grand Secretary have a sufficient number thereof printed for the use of said officers.

They also recommend that the forms for returns which they have drafted and returned herewith be adopted; and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to have a sufficient number thereof printed and forwarded to each Lodge, to be used by them hereafter in duplicate, which mode will insure uniformity in all future returns and much relieve the committees and officers in their investigations.

The Committee also recommend the adoption of a resolution hereto appended, recognising the elections which have taken place by reason of the mistake in the form pursued in the Dispensations heretofore used, which will in future be avoided by the use of the new form proposed, as well as by strictly conforming to the rule that no Lodge under Dispensation can elect or install officers under any circumstances.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. J. FOWLER, <i>Chairman</i> ,	} <i>Committee.</i>
A. NEILL,	
J. APPLEWHITE,	
F. B. SEXTON,	
— SHARP,	

Whereas, the form heretofore pursued for the Dispensations granted by this Grand Lodge, has led some Lodges into error by their electing and installing their officers: Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That all elections which have taken place by Lodges, U. D. be recognised, provided the installation be conformed to according to ancient usages.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the Grand Master elect, whose duty it shall be to inform him of his election and introduce him to the officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

The Craft were then called off to prepare for installation, which being done, a Grand procession was formed and repaired to the Methodist Church, where an able and very eloquent address was delivered by R. W. James Reily, Grand Orator; after which, the officers of the Grand Lodge of Texas were regularly installed by M. W. Geo. M. Patrick, Past Grand Master. The Craft then repaired to a spacious apartment in the principal hotel, where a sumptuous repast was prepared by the officers and members of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, for the Grand Lodge.

After partaking of the feast, the Craft then returned to the hall, and resumed labor in ample form.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Wm. B. Ochiltree,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ G. A. Evarts,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ J. C. Harrison,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
“ W. P. Brittain,	Senior Grand Deacon.
“ G. H. Wooten,	Junior Grand Deacon.

R. W. E. B. Nichols, Grand Treasurer.

" A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions have had under consideration the petition of certain Brethren for a Dispensation or Charter to open a Lodge at New Salem, in the county of Rusk, and beg leave to report that, while they are satisfied that these Brethren present a fair order for a Dispensation from the proper officers of this M. W. Grand Lodge, yet, deeming it inexpedient to grant a Charter without a specimen of work first laid before it from the applicants, they respectfully decline recommending a Charter to issue to the petitioners. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. GOFF, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be hereby tendered to the R. W. Grand Orator J. Reilly, for the very able and eloquent oration delivered by him this day, and that a committee of three be appointed to wait upon him with an attested copy of this resolution, requesting the same for publication.

The following preamble and resolution was read and adopted, and the amount of twenty-five dollars appropriated for the purpose :—

Whereas, the present seal of this Grand Lodge, both from its design in the engraving and the words thereon, &c., is now inappropriate : therefore,

Resolved, That the Secretary be ordered to procure, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, a seal, appropriately engraved, and the words thereon to read,—The Grand Lodge of Texas.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated and paid over to the Secretary of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, for the purpose of placing its Lodge Room in as good condition as when the session of the Grand Lodge commenced.

The following amendment to the Constitution was read the third time, and, on motion, adopted, and became part of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge :—

Resolved, That the 34th Article of the Constitution be so amended in the 6th and 7th lines as to read, "for each Degree conferred, and for each affiliation, twenty-five cents; for each member annually, fifty cents."

J. C. HARRISON,
F. B. SEXTON.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That ten dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and also to the Grand Secretary, for the present year, also to those that acted last year, to pay their expenses upon postage on Masonic business, and that they be required to report the amount so expended at the next Grand Communication.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That Bro. Grand Secretary be instructed to dispose of the present regalia belonging to the Grand Lodge on the best possible terms, and report to the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

The following Committee was appointed to examine the Grand

Secretary's books and report at the next Grand Annual Communication :—Bros. W. S. Day, H. D. Woodsworth, W. D. Goff, W. H. Cushney, Sam. McClarty.

The following report from the select Committee on the distribution of the funds was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution to divide the funds now in the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, among the several Lodges under its jurisdiction, beg leave respectfully to report unfavorably to said resolution, and recommend the indefinite postponement of the same. The amount of funds on hand is so small that a *pro rata* distribution would reduce the amounts appropriated to the several Lodges to so small a sum that it could not be available in effecting any permanent good. The amount of funds on hand, as per Grand Treasurer's report, is about thirty-three hundred dollars, which, divided among seventy-two Chartered Lodges, would make a dividend of about fifty-eight dollars to each Lodge,—the dues from the different subordinate Lodges paid in at the present Grand Annual Communication being hardly sufficient to fill the various appropriations already made.

And also recommend the passage of the resolution that it is inexpedient to grant the request of Harmony Lodge for a loan of the funds.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by a majority.

FRANCIS L. BARZIZA,
G. A. EVARTS.

The amendment to the 32d Article of the Constitution, reducing the affiliation-fee from three dollars to one dollar, was read a second time and passed to its third reading.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Past Deputy Grand Master R. W. Bro. Wm. M. Taylor, for his able and efficient Masonic services as presiding officer at the present Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

The following preamble and resolution, offered by M. W. J. A. Greer, was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Whereas, Clinton Lodge, No. 23, has, within the past two years, lost a large number of her members by the formation of new Lodges within her jurisdiction, and being under heavy moneyed engagements for building and furnishing her new Lodge Room, and in consideration of the fraternal hospitality extended by said Lodge to the Grand Lodge during this session : therefore,

Be it Resolved, by this Grand Lodge, That the dues for the past Masonic year be, and the same is hereby, remitted by this Grand Lodge.

On motion duly seconded, the Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication to procure a stone, with suitable inscription thereon, for the Washington Monument, was allowed further time.

On motion, under resolution passed last Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Lecturer has authority to appoint a Deputy.

The following resolution was read and adopted, and the Committee consisted as follows :—Bros. Sharp, Sexton, Brittain, Lowrie, Wheeler,

Jennings, Day; and, on further motion, M. W. Bro. Geo. M. Patrick was added :—

Resolved, That a committee of seven members of this Grand Lodge be appointed to witness an exemplification of work and lecture by the R. W. Grand Lecturer and report this evening.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed the same sum for his salary as was voted to him by resolution at the last session.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be, and is hereby, appropriated for the Grand Lodge salary of the R. W. Grand Lecturer for this Masonic year.

The following Committees were duly appointed :—

On Printing,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, E. B. Nichols and James Reily.

On Grand Orator's Address,—Bros. Sam. McClarty, F. L. Barziza and H. H. White.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 8 o'clock P.M.

8 o'clock P.M., January 24, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master Wm. B. Ochiltree.

Officers as before.

Fifty-two Lodges were represented and the Craft declared to be ready to proceed to labor.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be required to pay the bill of Grand Tyler J. C. Eaton for the refreshments furnished during the present session, provided the amount does not exceed fifty dollars.

The special Committee appointed to witness an exemplification of the work and lecture as given by the R. W. Grand Lecturer made a verbal report, which resulted in some few trifling alterations, which were confirmed by the Grand Lodge, and said Committee declared themselves satisfied with the mode of work as now recognised by this Most Worshipful body, being the work as represented by R. W. H. D. Woodworth, Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing before the Craft, the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas was closed in due and ample form, in peace and harmony, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

A. S. RUTHVEN,

Grand Secretary.

WM. B. OCHILTREE,

Grand Master.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence are gratified to be able to state, from the perusal of the printed proceedings of the Lodges with which this Grand Lodge is in communication, that Free Masonry is in a most healthy and vigorous condition. In fact, it is apparent that the Craft has increased in the number of its members and the establishment of new subordinate Lodges in the last Masonic year to a degree beyond precedent. Your Committee would be pleased to enter into detail upon the facts contained in many of the reports, but are constrained to decline so doing, on account of the great length it would give to this communication. Before us are the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Ohio, Illinois, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Indiana, Maryland, Iowa, Kentucky, Delaware, Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, North Carolina, the District of Columbia, California and Wisconsin.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of this State was held at Concord, on the 11th and 12th of June, 1850. The address of M. W. Grand Master John Christie, among other excellent suggestions, contains the following, which we quote:—

“The present time is remarkable for the great number of societies and associations, which have been formed for a variety of purposes and objects; and, as many of the members of our Fraternity are connected with these different associations, care should be taken that no changes in our peculiar modes of action in our business-transactions are suffered to creep into the Order.

“As regards the principles of Free Masonry, no improvement can possibly be made, therefore no place for change is found, and for this reason: Masonry is an institution ‘founded [to use the language of our illustrious Brother, George Washington] in the immutable laws of truth and justice.’* But, in performing our ordinary business, some well-intentioned Brothers may, without reflection, adopt the opinion that changes with us, assimilating our practices to those of the associations of the day, might be advantageously introduced; and this view in some cases, and carelessness or inattention in others, has probably been the cause for the introduction, in some portions of the Order, of the changes referred to.”

MAINE.—The Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Portland, May 2, 1850. The east was filled by the R. W. John C. Humphreys, Deputy Grand Master, in the absence of the M. W. Grand Master, who was in attendance as a Delegate at the Convention assembled in Washington City for the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States,—the Grand Lodge of this State being one of the several Lodges which have concurred in the policy of a General Grand Lodge. Although there are sixty-three regularly-organized Lodges in the State of Maine, numbering 1483 members, yet but *two* days were consumed in the transaction of the business of the Grand Lodge,—a fact demonstrative of the working propensities of our Maine Brethren, and which we trust will not be without its effect.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The report of the proceedings from this Grand Lodge is not of very recent date, but we infer that Masonry, if not progressive, is nevertheless moving along peaceably, and that harmony and good feeling exist among the members and Lodges.

CONNECTICUT.—The Grand Lodge met on the 8th of May, A.L. 5850, at the Temple in New Haven, and, like that of the sister Lodge of Maine, remained at work but two days. The address of M. W. Grand Master Avery C. Babcock is brief but pertinent, and from it we quote the following extracts:—

* Letter of Washington to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, January, 1793.

"During the time which I have had the honor to preside over this body, your deliberations have been characterized by harmony and uncommon unanimity; and, if any advantage has resulted to the institution during my administration, I believe much more should be placed to your credit than to mine: the most I claim is to share it with you. No contention, or bitterness, or controversy has been permitted to disturb the harmony of our meetings, or to impair their usefulness; and my prayer is, that the same harmony and good feeling which have ever characterized the proceedings of this Grand Lodge may always be continued to our successors.

"At the present time the prosperity of our institution is without a parallel, not only within our own jurisdiction but throughout the length and breadth of our beloved country. Men of intelligence, worth and influence, are constantly at our portals, knocking for admittance to our privileges and mysteries, and to learn the principles of our time-honored institution; and our Brethren everywhere are devoting themselves to its interests with commendable zeal and faithfulness.

"I would further recommend to this Grand Lodge to take more definite action in regard to the difficulty in the Masonic family in the State of New York, to prohibit the members of Lodges under our jurisdiction from visiting any of the Lodges in New York who do not acknowledge the Grand Lodge of which J. D. Willard is Grand Master. As the decisions of the Grand Lodges are the embodiment of the wishes and directions of the whole Fraternity, and as nineteen Grand Lodges have spoken their opinions upon this subject, and have passed similar edicts to what I have above recommended, permit me here to add that our New York Brethren have a right to expect it from us. They wish the co-operation of this Grand Lodge in sustaining them in resisting anarchy and insubordination, such as was exhibited in their Grand Lodge on the 5th of June, 1849, when the rioters declared the Grand Lodge dissolved and then proceeded to form a new Grand Lodge, without a convention to form one, and not being elected for such purpose. Many of the subordinate Lodges whose Representatives joined in the riot have disapproved of their acts, and have made their returns to the regular Grand Lodge, after expelling their disorganizing members. On the other hand, the spurious and illegitimate body, calling itself a Grand Lodge, of which Isaac Phillips is called Grand Master and James Herring Grand Secretary, have restored several persons who had been expelled from Masonry some ten years since, and are now in full fellowship with them, notwithstanding they have long known them to be officers and active members of clandestine Lodges. Under such a state of things, can any one be insensible to the responsibility that rests upon us, or unmindful of our obligation to be true and faithful to the trust reposed in us? Are we not bound, by every consideration which honor and duty to the Craft can suggest, to use our best endeavors to promote the harmony and welfare of our beloved institution, by discountenancing disloyalty and rebellion wheresoever it may exist in the Order."

(From Bro. Huntton's Centennial Address before the Hiram Lodge, at New Haven, in September last.)

DISTINGUISHED MASONS OF CONNECTICUT.

"It is with this standard of excellence and worth, my Brethren of Hiram Lodge, that you this day recount the virtues and celebrate the memories of some of your departed, beloved and respected officers and members. Your first Master, Major-General David Wooster, who, a hundred years ago, planted the seed and watched over and protected the infant growth of that tree of Masonry which has extended its branches and imparted its friendly shade, and is now furnishing its generous fruit, to the various Masonic families and Lodges of this State, deserves your heartfelt tribute of affectionate remembrance and grateful commemoration on this occasion. That I should attempt his eulogy could not be

expected; and to review his various public services—as a soldier and officer in the Old French War, (in which Connecticut did her share of fighting on the land and on the sea,) as a gallant chieftain and commander in the army of the Revolution, and as the first major-general of the militia in his native State—would be but to repeat the authentic records of a history with which you are already familiar. The numerous and important offices of trust and honor to which he was called in the public service of his country and his native State are the best testimonials of his ability and fidelity, and of his honesty and capacity in the discharge of them. If any thing further were necessary to establish his reputation to an honorable and distinguished rank among his compatriots of the Revolution and fellow-citizens at home, we have the weight of a name that can never be uttered without sending a thrill of exulting pride through the heart of every American scholar, philanthropist and Christian. Dr. Dwight says of General Wooster, after speaking of his gallant services and lamented death at Danbury, May 2, 1777, ‘He was a brave, generous-minded man, respected for his understanding and for his conduct, both in public and private life: ardent in his friendship and his patriotism, diffusive in his charities and steadfast in his principles. He was long a professor of religion, and adorned the profession by an irreproachable and exemplary life. He married the eldest daughter of President Clap, a lady distinguished for the first intelligence and virtue.’

‘To have such commendation is *‘laudari a viro laudato,’* and, as Masonry regards the fair fame of the wife or daughter of a Brother as his own, it will be proper and appropriate to add what has been said by another:—‘No citizen of New Haven who remembers the annual visits of Madam Wooster, in the green and cheerful winter of her age, will ever forget that love, respect and reverence may be united. All were blended in her character; and the courtesy with which she was greeted as Madam Wooster by republicans gave better proof of merit than any title rank could have conferred.’

‘On the 10th of April, 1765, Benedict Arnold was admitted a member into your Lodge, then a man of standing in your city, of honorable connections and unblemished character. For a very considerable portion of the war his reputation as a patriot and a brave officer was universally acknowledged. He stood high on the list of fame, shared the friendship of Washington, and enjoyed in full confidence and respect the military honors of his country. It has been said ‘the love of money’ was his darling passion, and that to that he fell a sacrifice:—

‘Quid non mortalia pectora cogis
Auri sacra fames.’

‘If Hiram Lodge, with her scores of patriots, has had *one* Arnold over whose fall to lament, she may challenge the sympathy of the Church at Jerusalem, which had *one* Iscariot among her *twelve* apostles. If your labors have sometimes failed to accomplish their intended object,—if your emblems have been sometimes found in the society of the abandoned,—if you have sometimes been obliged to mourn over the blighted hopes of probity and to weep for the crimes of the apostate and traitor,—you can call on all moral societies to ‘hang their harps upon the willows’ and sit down beside you in sorrow, for they have experienced like disappointments and afflictions. And if your robes have sometimes formed cloaks for bad intentions and wicked practices, they were put on for the same end that hypocrisy assumes the habit and feigns the language of truth and sincerity. ‘If the splendid pall be thrown over the bier, it is to hide the ghastliness of death.’ For a like purpose the monster vice seeks to conceal his hideous form under the comely mantle of virtue.

‘In the different walks of life, among the various callings of men and ranks of society, you have had your share of the distinguished, the honorable and the revered. At the summons of patriotism, when the beacon-fires of freedom were lighted, and the strife of American Independence began, none were earlier, none more valiant, than the sons of Connecticut. Among that renowned band of pa-

trials, whose achievements in genuine valor, in noble daring, in brilliant exploits, bravery, prowess, intrepidity, have challenged the admiration of the world, you had your full quota of Masonic representatives. General Israel Putnam need but to be named to awaken the liveliest associations of courage, fearlessness and heroism. A hunter in peace, a soldier in war, and, as a soldier, always among the foremost and the bravest. William Munson, a captain in the Revolutionary War, for bravery, honesty, integrity and manly bearing was highly appreciated, and esteemed by all who enjoyed the honor of knowing his worth and participating in his friendship. He had a travelling Lodge attached to his regiment, to which the officers and soldiers of the army retired from the bustle and din of the camp, the noise and tumult of battle, and refreshed their hearts with a 'feast of reason and a flow of soul,'—in exchanging the sublime sentiments of universal friendship and humanity inculcated and enforced by the badges and lectures of Masonry. I can never think of the Masonic Lodges attached to the opposing armies of that war, without being reminded of the prophet on Mount Horeb. The wind, the earthquake, the fire passed on, but the Lord was not in these; and, after the fire, 'a still small voice.' And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went and stood at the mouth of the cave, and behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

"By that poisoned fountain of wrath whose streams were sending forth bitterness and death, the Genius of Masonry stood, mantled in sorrow, and silently dropped into it the sweetening branch of brotherly love and peace. How long, O Lord, how long ere man shall feel the mighty stirrings of a common nature within him, the responsive yearnings of the great heart of humanity, and find in verity that of one blood, of one law, of one destiny, has God made all nations?

"Samuel Bellamy—another of those worthies engaged in that Revolutionary struggle, whose triumphs, in its results, in the long career of its consequences, in the great course of events which followed it, and their effects upon human happiness or human liberty, has no parallel in the history of mankind—was an ardent Mason. His military laurels, his well-earned reputation, his talents, his influence and the weight of his character he offered at the shrine of Masonry; and for this generous devotion his Brethren of this and of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut awarded him the highest honor in their power to bestow,—that of M. W. Grand Master.

"I might tire you, were I to attempt the enumeration of the eminent civilians, statesmen, lawyers, physicians, poets, clergymen, farmers, merchants and mechanics who have been ornaments to their professions and callings, and 'pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty' in your Masonic family, during the past hundred years of our present remembrance. Their names are written in your annals, and a part at least of their reputations is your property and your praise. In the sky of your country's mental, moral and political hemisphere they form a cluster of stars as bright and distinguished as the Pleiades among the constellations of the heavens.

"There is living, venerated worth around me, which I should delight to applaud; but such applause would not become the occasion. The language of eulogy is not for the living, or I could name a name which, for a long period of time, has graced your records, adorned the Oriental chair of your Lodge, honored the Senate of the United States, and given dignity to the bench of the Superior Court of Connecticut. His works praise him more eloquently, more laudably, more effectively, than words of mine or mortal can do. Ye living, venerated Brothers and companions, ye revered patrons and fathers of our Order, whose locks are whitened with the clustering blossoms of age, we rejoice to see your faces once more this side of the grave! Your presence is a benediction on this commemoration of the past. To you this festival brings back and brightens the recollections of ancient times and past ages, and their great dead,

speaking to you with their clear and dispassionate voices. To you the past is reanimated, and seems, like the old earth, with unappreciated treasures. True, 'the memory of joys departed is pleasing, and melancholy to the soul.' There is sadness mingled with the pleasure in contemplating the ruins of earthly greatness, in musing on the wreck of mortal hopes, the expiring lights of the world, the memory of those we have honored and loved."

NEW YORK.—The Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge met in the City of New York, on the 4th June, A.L. 5850, at which ninety Lodges were represented. The address of M. W. John D. Willard we have perused with great interest and satisfaction. To no point has the Masonic eye been turned with more anxiety for the last few years than to the State of New York, anticipating with mingled feelings of hope and fear the result of that fearful contest which has there been waged between the true and loyal champions of our Order and those enemies to the peace and purity of our institution who by brute force and mob violence would have thrown down our ancient landmarks, degraded Masons to the level of fierce political partisans, and wrested from them all claim to the attributes of patience, charity and brotherly love. It certainly is a matter of sincere congratulation to the Brotherhood that Grand Master Willard was sustained by the events through which Masonry in New York has passed, to be able to address the body over which he presided, in the following language:—

"MY BROTHERS:—The circumstances under which I rise to address you are in striking contrast with those which presented themselves at the opening of the last Annual Session of this Grand Lodge. I now address the united representatives of a great and united Masonic Fraternity. I address men whose hearts are imbued with the noble principles of our Order, and who have assembled here to consider and act with calmness and dignity upon measures that shall advance the general Masonic good. Just the same kind of men—the true-hearted representatives of the Fraternity—were present, too, at the opening of our last Annual Session. But other men, also, then came up to our gathering. There were leaders whose motives I do not deem it necessary to discuss, but who came with the manifest object and intent with force and violence to break up and ruin a Grand Lodge in which they were no longer permitted to rule. They came with a numerous and organized band of adherents, and acts of turbulence and outrage succeeded, which none can justly estimate or appreciate who were not themselves witnesses of the disgraceful scene. The actors by whom the turbulent events of that night were planned and controlled signally failed in their great object and efforts. The Grand Lodge, though broken in upon by brute force and mob violence, did not, even for a moment, succumb to the un-Masonic power. She maintained, throughout, her high character and her dignity, and she has ever since pursued the even tenor of her way, firmly and calmly, without fear and without anger. She first purified herself by cutting off a very few of the leaders in those scenes, for whose offence there could be no excuse or palliation, and to all others she has, up to this very time, held wide open the door of forgiveness and oblivion.

"My Brethren, Representatives of the Lodges, need I doubt that under your wise control the future in this respect will be like the past? I do not doubt it. The Grand Lodge at the present important session will shrink from the responsibility of no acts which may be necessary to assert her authority and sustain her power. In this portion of the Masonic heritage which has been intrusted to her care, she will fearlessly discharge her duty, by upholding Masonic government and maintaining Masonic order. But, at the same time, she will act in a spirit of kindness and conciliation. If any who, from want of due reflection, or from a mistaken sense of duty, have been for a moment estranged from us, shall return to the Masonic fold, we will welcome them to our hearts and our arms; we will remember only that they are our Brethren; we will strive with them

to promote Masonic harmony, and will cordially receive them as our fellow-laborers in the great Masonic work of benevolence and good.

"I am happy in being able to congratulate you upon the great and increasing prosperity of our institution in this State. As in the natural world storms sometimes tend to purify the atmosphere, so, too, it has been found that the storm which one year ago swept over this Grand Lodge has not been without its health-giving and purifying influence. We have since been a united and harmonious Fraternity. The Lodges have had more confidence in the present and more hope for the future. The institution is held, by the general community who are not members of the Craft, more and more in respect and honor. The boundaries of our Masonic Zion have been greatly enlarged. Since June last, I have granted Dispensations for eighteen new Lodges, and two new Lodges have been constituted by Warrant, by the Grand Lodge, at a quarterly meeting, which had not previously been working under Dispensation, making twenty new Lodges in the State within the year. Applications have also been made to me for Dispensations to constitute several other new Lodges, which I have either wholly refused to grant, or deferred for fuller inquiry and the future consideration of the Grand Lodge, or my successor. In considering each application for a Lodge, I have inquired not only whether it was to be intrusted to prudent and safe men, but also whether the locality was such that a healthy and prosperous Lodge would probably be sustained there.

"The Lodges in the State through the year have been carefully and successfully at work. The accession to their number has been unusually large, and, as a cautious scrutiny has been exercised, for the most part, in the admission of members, I have reason to hope and believe that those who have been received into our Masonic temple are good men and true, who will hereafter be an ornament and support to our Order."

We consider it a most happy circumstance that Texas at an early day, through the report of a select Committee, took such proper and decided ground in favor of the present Grand Lodge against the attempts made to dissolve it. We sincerely hope that hereafter the cause of Masonry in that State may be as peaceful as it appears to be prosperous.

The union of St. John's Grand Lodge with the Grand Lodge of the State of New York is an event over which Masons cannot rejoice too much, and the Committee beg leave to present for publication, as a part of this report, the article on that subject contained in pp. 108, 109 and 110 of Moore's Free Masons' Monthly Magazine:—

"This important and anxiously-desired event has finally been consummated. St. John's Grand Lodge no longer exists as a distinct and independent body. Its organization has been dissolved, and its subordinate Lodges have been enrolled, with new Charters, under the lawful Grand Lodge of the State of New York. So far all is well; so far the Fraternity in New York are again at peace; and so far their Brethren throughout the country will rejoice and bid them God-speed in the great philanthropic duties before them. But they must not stop here. Their work is not yet finished. There is still a breach in the walls of their edifice. It may be difficult to repair,—there may be great and apparently insurmountable obstacles to overcome: but they can be overcome; and the end is worth the effort. The obdurate and selfish may rule for a season, but that season cannot last always. Uninformed men may be led astray by Jesuitical and selfish leaders; but a better intelligence and more truthful reasoning must ultimately prevail and bring them back to the paths of right and duty. Show them that they are wrong by calm and dispassionate reasoning, by enlightening their understandings, and they will return,—not all, but the majority. Kindness is an important auxiliary in all attempts to reclaim the erring. Harshness too often but strengthens and confirms the obdurate. All are not bad who are obdurate. If the heart be right the will may be broken. In masses of

men, the majority are always predisposed to the right. They may err from ignorance or be deceived into error; but their minds and affections may be reached, reasoned with and convinced. What has finally produced the important result which has just given so much happiness to our Brethren in New York,—a happiness in which their Brethren all over the country joyfully participate? Kindness,—conciliatory words: nothing else. Harshness—stern words and measures—would have been wholly inoperative for good. These were tried for ten years, and failed. The recusants grew strong under them,—strong in numbers, strong in respectability. Kindness subdued them by opening the way for their return to their allegiance, without wounding their pride. It would have accomplished the same result thirteen years ago, had it been tried, had their advances been met in the spirit of Masonry, in the spirit of brotherly love. We speak advisedly here. In 1837, we think it was, or soon after the organization of St. John's Grand Lodge, the writer of this article was commissioned by the late Bro. Henry Marsh, the Grand Master of that body, and speaking the sentiments of the Brethren associated with him, to intimate to an influential officer of the Grand Lodge of New York a proposition for a reconciliation of the existing difficulty. He did so; but the intimation was received in a manner which forbade all further proceedings on his part, and the subject dropped. He could not go further than he did without compromising his principal, and that he would not do. The proposition, therefore, never assumed an official form. It was not, however, objected to on this account, or the objection would have been immediately removed. Had it been received in a spirit of kindness, harmony would have been restored to the Fraternity in New York in less than three months thereafter.

“Having said so much on this particular point, it may not be improper to add, that the proposition referred to was to submit the whole subject, with plenary powers, to the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey, or any other three Grand Lodges that might be agreed upon by the parties. Their decision was to be final and binding. It will at once be seen that the proposition was in reality an offer to dissolve the new Grand Lodge, with such protection and guarantees to its members as the referees should see fit to afford them. The new organization would undoubtedly have been declared to be illegal and improper; yet the Brethren concerned in it would have been able to urge a justification so strong and reasonable, that the referees would probably have felt bound to afford them the protection they wished and needed. This was foreseen.

“But the end desired has finally been attained, on terms satisfactory and honorable to all parties; and we have no wish to recall the errors or mistakes of the past. Our purpose in referring to the circumstance we have named was merely to illustrate the principle, that in all cases of local differences among our Lodges, whether Grand or subordinate, kindness and forbearance are the true agents of reconciliation, while harsh and unnecessary stringency only tends to strengthen and confirm the erring. Humanity is so constituted that masses of men, like individuals, will yield to kindness when they will not to force.

“The terms on which the union of the two Grand Lodges has been effected are as follows:—

“1. That St. John's Grand Lodge shall, on or before the 27th day of December, 1850, pass a resolution to disband its organization as a Grand Lodge, on said 27th day of December, 1850.

“2. That each and every Lodge under the jurisdiction of St. John's Grand Lodge shall, on or before the 23d of December, 1850, with their consent, surrender their Warrants to St. John's Grand Lodge, and take out Warrants from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

“3. That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York shall, immediately on the adoption of the propositions, acknowledge the Lodges now subordinate to St. John's Grand Lodge as regular Masonic bodies, and their members as lawful Masons, entitled to the protection of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York,

throughout its correspondence: *Provided*, That St. John's Grand Lodge and its subordinates also adopt said propositions.

"4. On the consummation of the union of the two bodies, all the present and past officers of the now St. John's Grand Lodge shall be enrolled as Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and be entitled to all the honors and privileges thereto belonging.

"5. That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York shall, immediately after the confirmation of the above propositions, transmit the same throughout their own jurisdiction, and also to every Lodge in their correspondence.

"6. That whenever any of the subordinate Lodges, now under the jurisdiction of St. John's Grand Lodge, shall have passed a resolution or resolutions in accordance with the tenor of these propositions, said Lodge or Lodges shall forthwith transmit a copy thereof, duly authenticated by the officers of the Lodge, and the seal of said Lodge affixed thereto, to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

"The preliminaries having been settled as above, it was mutually agreed by the parties that the union should be consummated by public ceremonies and a celebration on the 27th of December ensuing. The place selected for the meeting of the two bodies was Tripler Hall. The Grand Lodge of the State was the first to enter the hall; and, having assumed its proper place, a prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain and a hymn sung by the choir. St. John's Grand Lodge, with its subordinates, next entered and filled the body of the promenade-room. The Grand Master then formally disbanded the organization over which he had presided, briefly alluding to the causes which had led to its formation, and expressing the hope that the union now formed would be lasting and beneficial. The Brethren were then received in due form by the Grand Lodge of the State, and an appropriate hymn was sung. New Charters were next delivered to the Lodges formerly under the jurisdiction of the disbanded body, and the following ode, written for the occasion by Bro. George W. Stevenson, was sung by the choir:—

"MASONIC ODE.

"Hail to the day that cements our loved band!
Hail to the day that sends peace through the land
Let Masons rejoice; spread the glad tidings wide;
Our union's completed, never more to divide.

"This day sees the blest consummation of love,—
The olive-branch borne in the beak of the dove;
Prosperity smiles, and bright Virtue stands pleased,
That the demon of Discord has at length been appeased.

"May we ne'er from the pathway of peace again stray,
Nor forget to pluck wisdom from life's stormy way,
That our future career may with pleasure abound,
When sweet mystical love does our circle surround.

"To the great Divine Architect let us give thanks,
That his wisdom has brought us in brotherly ranks;
Let the mantle of Charity cover all faults,
And from danger and faction we're safe from assaults."

OHIO.—The Grand Lodge of this State met at Masonic Hall, in the City of Cincinnati, on the 15th day of October last. It appears that in no State in the Union is Masonry more progressive or more prevalent than in Ohio. The address of M. W. M. Z. Kreider is replete with interest, and from it we present the following extracts:—

"Much complaint is justly uttered against Brethren for wilful absence from the Lodge Room. It is difficult to understand how Brethren can so easily forget a duty made so plain and enforced so solemnly. The ancient and unrepealed charges require 'that no Master or Fellow shall be absent from the Lodge, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appear to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him.' If the high moral obligations of Masonry fail to constrain a Brother to discharge his duty, no pecuniary penalty will correct his vitiated sense of right. In too many instances a few Brethren are expected to do all the work, while others under the same bonds are 'drones in the hive,' and seen only when the sun shines and during hours of refreshment.

"Notwithstanding it is positively enjoined that no candidate shall be advanced until he undergoes a satisfactory examination, there is much reason to fear that this wholesome and time-honored regulation is in many instances not remembered, or purposely disregarded. However apt to learn a candidate may be, it is distinctly declared, in the 'ancient regulations,' that 'no applicant shall receive more than two Degrees on the same day.' No Dispensation can suspend this rule.

"Allow me, my Brethren, to advert to a growing evil, uncongenial with the spirit of Free Masonry, and most mischievous in its results. I allude to a proselyting spirit, whose only aim seems to be to swell the host of our Israel. Persuasion is sometimes used to induce men to become Masons. Brethren who thus practise have misunderstood the precepts imparted. Masonry needs no such means to sustain her. In all times, whether of prosperity or adversity, she has, unsought on her part, opened her portals to 'good men and true' who of their 'own free will and accord' desired to partake of her 'rites and benefits.' An unworthy and puerile cause may need such help to sustain it, but the imperishable pillars of our glorious moral edifice possess inherent strength, for *magna est veritas et prevalebit*. Every right-hearted man, though a 'rough ashlar,' may become a living and polished stone in our temple; but he who is destitute of moral principle, though persuaded to be used, will only mar its beauty and endanger its strength.

"There is another practice of too common occurrence,—omitting the closing ceremonies, and adjourning a Lodge from time to time. 'The duty of closing the Lodge is as imperative, and the ceremony as solemn, as that of opening; nor should it ever be omitted through negligence or hurried over with haste, but every thing should be performed with order and precision, so that no Brother shall go away dissatisfied. From the very nature of our Constitution, a Lodge cannot properly be adjourned. It must either be closed in due form, or the Brethren called off to refreshment.' But an adjournment on motion (as well as some other anomalies in the Masonry of these days) are innovations, and until comparatively lately 'unknown to our Order. The Master can alone dismiss the Brethren; and that dismissal must take place after a settled usage. In Grand Lodges, which meet for several days successively, the session is generally continued from day to day by calling to refreshment.'

"Although the Grand Lodge has plainly expressed their opinion that any clothing other than white aprons and gloves is unsuited to funeral occasions, some Brethren are so forgetful as to put on 'gaudy attire,' and so express to the world that they rather regard it as a 'gala-day' than one given to solemn reflection. And here I cannot repress the sentiment that many of us are too fond of 'vain show,' making clean the outside and neglecting the weightier 'matters of the law.' I am attached to the old-fashioned 'Masonic clothing,' and would rejoice to see it alone worn both in Lodges and elsewhere. Unmeaning tinsel may serve to captivate the eye of the mindless, but the reasoning man will inquire the wherefore. The 'All-Seeing Eye' beholds the internal man. Let that be clothed upon with righteousness which is of faith: then we shall be able to 'stand complete in all the will of God.'

"The proper hours of work is a subject worthy of being pressed upon the notice of those who have the control of Lodges. Perhaps nothing else in the working of Masonry has tended so much to bring discredit upon the Craft as late hours. Our labors being in secret awakens curiosity and excites distrust in the minds of the uninitiated; and I have no doubt that many good persons have imbibed a prejudice against us from this cause alone. Lodges should so lay out their work as not to trespass upon hours naturally designed for rest. It is the fault of Masters if this evil is tolerated. The regular 'Lodge hours,' or hours of work, before or after which time (except in cases of very great emergency) no business should be transacted in the Lodge, are prescribed in the Book of Constitutions. They are, from the vernal to the autumnal equinox, between the hours of seven and ten, and from the autumnal to the vernal between six and nine. These hours ought scrupulously to be observed by a punctual attendance at the opening of the Lodge and regularity in the time of its closing."

As an evidence of the great prosperity of Masonry in this State, we report one hundred and fifty-nine Lodges as represented at the last Grand Lodge.

ILLINOIS.—The report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge informs us that it was held in Shawneetown, on the 7th day of October, A.L. 5850, and that there were present a large number of Representatives. The address of M. W. William C. Hobs gives a most interesting account of the rapid increase of the Masonic Order in that new State. He remarks:—

"It is very cheering to contrast the present prospects of our Order in Illinois with its state and condition upon the first organization of this Grand Lodge, in Jacksonville, ten years ago. Six Lodges, having in all but ninety-nine members, constituted then the organization. We have now ninety-six working Lodges, with an aggregate membership of several thousands. This great growth and prosperity should fill our hearts with gratitude, and should lead us to adore Him who giveth the victory."

On the subject of demits, granted as a matter of course to Masons desiring them, the M. W. Grand Master holds the following language:—

"I most respectfully invite your attention to the subject of Masonic demits. It is the prevalent usage of Lodges to grant a demit to any Brother desiring one, who is clear from charges and clear of the books, even though the Brother demitting has no intention to remove from the jurisdiction of the Lodge or to become attached thereby to another Lodge. This usage is eminently wrong, in my opinion, and detrimental to the prosperity and good of the Fraternity.

"This practice greatly encourages and augments the number of non-affiliated Masons,—a race of Masons perfectly inexplicable to me, and who occupy a most unnatural and unprofitable position in the Order. From its being known—as it frequently is—that these non-affiliated Brethren were formerly *attached* members, their present position conveys to the uninitiated world the erroneous idea that they discovered in the institution principles repulsive to their feelings, and usages and customs incompatible with their opinions of right and propriety. And yet this cannot be the case: Masonry 'to be known is to be admired,' and can never be otherwise than popular and pleasing to the enlightened and the good.

"I hold the opinion that no honest and good Mason at heart will desire to live non-affiliated, unless impelled so to do by some extraordinary and imperative cause beyond his control,—a cause which in the course of human events does not often exist. Many demits are asked for and obtained during moments of temporary excitement,—most frequently produced by imaginary wrongs, and which, if allowed to subside, by the wear of a little time, would be forgotten and forgiven. When demits are thus impulsively obtained, a false pride too frequently prevents a reaffiliation. There are men, no doubt, who join our

Order with the positive hope and expectation of finding the 'philosopher's stone.' They expect to become invested with supernatural knowledge or with necromantic power. Nothing short of becoming wizards, or of being continually excited by a complicated machinery or mummery equal to the false but bewitchingly mystical worship of olden times, when oracles and gods were almost as numerous as the stars of our present firmament, could satisfy the rapacious marvellousness of such beings; and, upon not being thus gratified, they demit.

"Benevolence should indicate the duty of keeping such men within the protection of our embrace. They unquestionably need some guardian to guide and direct their steps, and to restrain their desires within due and reasonable bounds.

"Some, no doubt, request and obtain demits, impelled by motives of parsimony and penuriousness alone, to avoid the payment of the small dues exacted by the Lodges. It is natural that such should withdraw. No **SOULLESS** man can be a Mason.

"Others demit from a feeling of absolute inertia, and nothing else. They are too lazy to do their duty.

"Scarcely a Lodge within this jurisdiction can be found which has not within its immediate vicinage a number of these backsliders and unfruitful half-Brothers,—a band who hang upon the skirts of the army, deriving in times of danger its positive protection,—and this, too, without adding an atom to its strength or a beam to its glory. I most earnestly commend the careful consideration of this subject to your wisdom and decision. Some plan should, unquestionably, be adopted to stay this evil, and, if possible, to remedy the inconvenience and wrong inflicted upon the Order. Difficulties will present themselves in the accomplishment of this task, but I think they will be only such as may be easily overcome or properly provided for. In your deliberations upon this subject, your justice will doubtless suggest the propriety of making provision for superannuated and diseased Masons, and such as live too remote from Lodges to enable them to attend."

NEW JERSEY.—The Grand Lodge of this State has under its jurisdiction but a limited number of subordinate Lodges, and but few Representatives were present at the Annual Communication; yet Masonry appears progressive and active. The Lodge was in session but one day.

RHODE ISLAND.—Twelve Lodges were represented at this Grand Lodge, which was held at Woonsocket, on the 25th of June, 1850.

INDIANA.—Eighty-nine Chartered Lodges and twenty-nine working under Dispensation were represented at this Grand Lodge. The address of Grand Master Eleazer Deming gives the following brief but eloquent history of the origin and progress of Masonry in Indiana:—

"Masonry in Indiana has advanced with education, the arts and the refinements of cultivated society. What has been wrought since the third Monday of December, 1817? Then, Delegates from the four following Lodges met at Corydon in convention, to form Indiana Grand Lodge by preparatory measures, agreeably to the rules of the Craft. Their names were Rising Sun, Union, Switzerland and Blazing Star. To these were added, on their first adjournment being called, Brookville, Harmony, Lawrenceburg, Melchizedek and Pisgah. We now have in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge more than one hundred subordinate Lodges, conforming to the ancient landmarks, abiding by the ancient Constitutions, and walking in the old paths, in peace, unity and concord. Then our temples were sparsely scattered along the margin of the Ohio, or standing in solitary grandeur in the almost unbroken wilderness of the Lower Wabash; now we are assembled in the growing capital of our State, with our eyes resting on the walls of a noble building devoted to the spread of the principles of universal benevolence, while the sound of the Masonic gavel and the answering voices to our roll-call are heard from the Great Miami to Lake Michigan. Brethren, we form an important part of the grand Masonic Temple of our coun-

try. It has already the largest altar of incense and the brightest light of any of its compeers among the nations. Its pillars rest on the opposite shores of a mighty continent; its cloud-covered dome echoes with the roar of two oceans. May its light remain undimmed, and every offering upon its altar signify goodwill to man!

"Within our own jurisdiction the past year has been one of marked prosperity. The elevating and ennobling principles of Masonry have had a more widely extended influence among our membership, and we trust the great heart of the Fraternity in Indiana has been more deeply moved than heretofore. From our private Masonic correspondence, we learn that in many of our Lodges there is a revival of the true Masonic spirit, manifested in a regular attendance at stated meetings, in increased zeal and earnestness, in acquiring the lectures, and in engaging in all proper and charitable enterprises, which have the sanction of the Craft or the philanthropic everywhere. Our hope and trust is that this spirit may spread abroad, and enter and purify every Lodge, that in days to come results may be seen, felt and realized in fruit amounting to an hundred-fold.

"The Brethren will pardon our prolixity; for we have been led into this train of reflection by the recent discovery of the long-lost records of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. For twenty-seven years they have been entombed: but, Brethren, their resurrection is unto life; they are filled with the undying spirit of our institution and covered with names hallowed to Indiana and Masonry, some of whom are yet moving among us, with their loins girded up and their working-tools in their hands, while others have passed within the veil of white, and tread with unsandalled feet the courts of the upper and eternal temple.

"Our State and Craft, viewed past and present, present an interesting aspect to every true Mason and to every lover of human progress. The past half-century has greatly developed the physical and moral resources of the State, and many of the principal actors in these stirring scenes belonged to our Fraternity. They came with the advancing tide of civilization, and contributed their full share in the toils and labors of removing the forest and enclosing our beautiful fields, thereby securing us a goodly heritage. Many also assisted in laying the broad foundations of our civil institutions and social relations: some were prominent as defenders of our cabin-firesides from the invasion of the savage foes. We see names on the roll of the old Melchizedek Lodge, who have with martial prowess faced the fire of the ambushade, and listened with calm and unblenched countenances to the midnight whoop that waked the sleepers in the frontier dwellings."

On the subject of the formation of a General, a Supreme Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Master holds the following language:—

"Since our last Grand Communication, the subject of a Supreme Grand Lodge has more specially commanded the attention of the Brethren at large.

"It seems to us, whatever may have been the judgment and feelings of eminent Brethren who oppose the object, or of Grand Lodges who have cast their votes and influence against it, that the overshadowing events of every year press it home to every Masonic heart. The postponement of the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge by no means lessens the necessity for its existence. The evils that require remedial powers are cumulative, and if not removed by some competent authority, sustained by the united suffrages of the Craft, they will finally succeed in removing the landmarks. Most of our difficulties are the result of our prosperity and great increase of numbers without a proper regard to obedience to the fundamental principles of Masonic law and order. Too many attempt to steady the ark by laying hold of it with unhallowed hands.

"This subject is by no means one of recent origin in our Fraternity. Within fifteen years after the declaration of our national independence, some of our most reflecting and matured minds suggested the propriety of the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States. We believe this honor belongs to the Grand Lodge of Georgia. At that time the existing Grand Lodges dis-

sented, for what to them seemed weighty reasons; yet some so far acquiesced in the necessity of a sort of supreme tribunal as to recommend Grand Lodge Delegates with examining and advisory powers on any questions of interest to the Fraternity which might come before them.

"We are not advised that any meeting of these Delegates ever took place.

"In 1822, a few distinguished Brethren at Washington City, being members of Congress from the different States of the Union, again suggested the propriety, and called the attention of the friends of the Order to the necessity, of forming a Supreme Grand Lodge. Those Brethren were far-seeing. While the present was all before them, their eyes with prophetic vision beheld the future. With clear and comprehensive views they ranged the whole field, and became satisfied that the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge in this country could be made the means of spreading the principles of peace, unity and concord among nations. They took the ground that the maxims of Masonry were lessons of virtue reduced to practical application. Certain evils then existed that now are manifold. What was then only germinating has now ripened and brought forth fruit: that fruit, we fear, will prove the apples of Sodom. The questions put forth by those Brethren on the general and local interest of the Craft were full of interest and meaning. What they foresaw, we trust, has had its final issue. When they asked the question, Is not Masonry a great arch without a keystone? we all trembled to give the response; for the scenes that followed in swift-coming years, although the keystone remained in its place, showed too plainly the grounds of these questions.

"The names of those who first earnestly urged this subject are among the most honored for intellectual and moral greatness:—

"M. W. John Marshall, of Virginia; M. W. Henry Clay, of Kentucky; M. W. William H. Winder, of Maryland; M. W. W. S. Cardell, of New York; M. W. Joel Abbott, of Georgia; M. W. John Holmes, of Maine; M. W. Henry Baldwin, of Pennsylvania; M. W. J. H. Eaton, of Tennessee; M. W. Wm. W. Seaton, of Washington; M. W. Christopher Rankin, of Mississippi; M. W. T. R. Ross, of Ohio; M. W. H. G. Burton, of North Carolina; M. W. Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, of Massachusetts.

"The several Grand Lodges who answered this circular, to which we have referred, set forth fully their objections; and we believe, in all charity, from that time to the present the same have been mostly recapitulated when the subject has been discussed by the several opposing Grand bodies.

"Independent of any minor considerations, although every thing appertaining to the essentials of the institution we deem vital, the law of progress demands that we have a supreme head. With the rapid increase of our population and the onward march of our civilization, the very nature of surrounding circumstances will frequently create emergencies which will call for the wisdom of a supreme tribunal. If we had any serious fears that the liberty or privileges of the institution or of individual Craftsmen would in the least be endangered, we would keep silent.

"But, having confidence in the Masonic wisdom of our Brethren, we doubt not such a system of regulations can be formed and adopted as will give general satisfaction to the whole Fraternity, by introducing a uniformity in the work, and being at all times ready to act for the preservation of universal peace and harmony.

"Three Grand Lodges have issued circulars on this subject,—viz.: District of Columbia, Maryland and Rhode Island. So far as we can judge, the project of Rhode Island is in most respects preferable.

"On the subject of supreme jurisdiction we are for confining its power to three points in the beginning:—1. To settle questions of jurisdiction; 2. To settle disputes between State Grand Lodges; 3. To regulate the work throughout the Union.

"If any further powers are necessary for the usefulness or well-being of the

institution, time and circumstances will develop. What action it may be necessary for this Grand Lodge to take on this question is left entirely to the judgment of the Brethren.

"It gives us unfeigned pleasure to announce that the difficulties in Louisiana have happily terminated. We trust the reconciliation will be lasting, and that nothing will again occur to sever the silken cords of brotherly love."

MARYLAND.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge held at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Baltimore, on the 18th, 19th and 20th November, 1850, exhibit twenty-two subordinate Lodges as under its jurisdiction. A fund of \$6212 62 offers loans to the Grand Lodge as a "Grand Charity Fund for the relief of indigent widows and orphans of Masons." In reference to this matter, M. W. Grand Master Charles H. Ohr, in his address, uses this language:—

"Five years have not elapsed since this Grand Lodge undertook, in part, a discharge of this duty by the establishment of a fund for the relief of widows and orphans of Masons, and I am happy to inform you that already that fund exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars. This sum has been accumulated by the contributions of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Royal Arch Chapter; and one Lodge—Concordia Lodge, No. 31, of this city—gave it her hearty support by an annual contribution of fifty dollars, and has pledged herself, in a certain contingency, to a further donation of one thousand dollars.

"The object of this fund is one which commands the approbation of every true-hearted Mason; it is one we all profess to have in view. It is one of the leading tenets of Masonry, to which we are each and all under the most solemn obligations to lend our earnest aid and influence. The Grand Lodge has made her appeal to every Lodge and its members to come forward and do something in the matter under consideration. How has that appeal been answered? I fear, my Brethren, but too many of us would have to plead guilty to a charge of neglect (and that a wilful neglect) of a solemn duty in this particular. Let us then seriously determine to make up in the future for our neglect of the past,—not only by contributing ourselves, but also by calling the attention of non-affiliated Brethren to this object and soliciting their aid to render it available. Let us endeavor so to do our duty that, when called to render our account, we may escape the denunciation, 'Ye knew your duty and ye did it not.'"

IOWA.—Here is another new State, where, a few years since, the savage roamed undisputed master, the forests were unbroken, and the rich prairie luxuriated in the fulness of its beautiful wild flower. Now, agricultural scenes, civilization and Masonry are here; the light of twenty-one Lodges is here; and the address of M. W. Ansel Humphreys leads us to believe that our brethren of Iowa are active and zealous in the good cause of "Faith, Hope and Charity."

KENTUCKY.—The Grand Lodge of this State met at Lexington, on the 26th of August, A.L. 5850. There are one hundred and fifty-nine Lodges in this State, and the funds of the Grand Lodge seem to be in a most healthy condition. Great interest is felt by the Masons of the State in the cause of education.

DELAWARE.—The Grand Lodge was in session on the 27th of June, 1850. There is no address from the M. W. Grand Master and no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in the printed proceedings.

VIRGINIA.—The proceedings in this State for the past Masonic year are of great interest, not only to our Brethren of that Commonwealth, but to Masons throughout the world. The Grand Lodge held its regular session in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Richmond, on the 9th day of December, A.L. 5850, in which many Lodges were represented. We conceive the institution of Masonry to be highly prosperous in this State, and are satisfied that the

finances of the Grand Lodge must be in a most healthy condition, from the fact that the Finance Committee report a fund belonging to it of \$13,600. The following extract from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence will exhibit the sentiment of Virginia Masons on the subject of education:—

“Our good old Commonwealth has worked at all times unflinching in this cause. True, some of our sister-States have gone before us in some respects, but none can surpass us in devotion and practical adherence to the sublime tenets of Masonry. We can boast of no costly and splendid Masonic edifices, but we can claim to have labored to provide for the wants of the orphan and the widow, to feed the hungry and to clothe the naked. Small as have been our means, they have been husbanded and applied to do all possible good. The education of the destitute orphan-children of Master Masons has been one of the earliest and most cherished objects to which our Charity Fund has been applied. Its work is quiet and unobtrusive, but its blessings are sensibly felt, and their fruits are shown in the admiration and respect—now almost without dissent—expressed for our Order. We have a faithful, and now never-ceasing, application of the revenue of our Charity Fund for the purposes of education. The number of those deriving benefit from it continues steadily to increase, and, could we quadruple our means, we would hardly now have accomplished the end designed to be attained by the founders of this pure charity,—a charity that stands pre-eminent for its beauty and singleness of purpose,—a charity that goes to the humble cottage and takes thence the destitute and uninstructed child, bears him to the school-room, and there opens to him the inestimable treasures of knowledge and moral teaching. But let us go no further. There may be doubt whether this be not more than truth; and yet how many living witnesses might we not call to testify to its entire accuracy! Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri have their Masonic colleges,—institutions created by Masonic charity. We tread the humbler, but, we hope, not the less useful, pathway of taking the humble, poor orphan Mason and instructing him in the first elements of an English education. We approve and prefer our system. It commends itself to us, because we separate not our people or our schools from the other people and schools of our State. The Masonic pupil is not placed with Masonic pupils alone, but each mingles and associates with all other pupils, without distinction in any respect whatsoever. Masonry regards no man for his outward rank or worldly wealth. It looks alone to the virtuous principles that direct his conduct and govern him in his actions. So should it be in all the applications of our charities. We love man as man: we love a good man because he is a good man. Not like the proud Roman, who held not the proper opinion of his own worth, but chose to protect himself by the supercilious declaration, ‘I am a Roman citizen,’ and who more worthily might have said, ‘I am an honest man.’ This is true Masonry. Its great and ever-enduring principles enter deeply into the hearts and govern the conduct of all its votaries. Let the storm come, and their mighty and protecting arms will arrest its assaults. We have heretofore met oppression and outrage and wrong in every form, and neither time nor change nor circumstance have even shaken the fidelity of our fathers, nor can they now sap the devotion of their sons.”

On the evening of the 21st February, A.L. 5850, a special Grand Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge was held at Masons’ Hall, in the City of Richmond, “for the purpose of carrying into effect the invitation extended by His Excellency John B. Floyd, Governor of Virginia, to the Masonic Fraternity to be present and assist in the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of a monument to be erected in the city, commemorative of the exalted character of an illustrious Brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, First President of the United States.” How sincerely do we regret that we cannot here recite the whole proceedings on that most interesting occasion! for it forms a chapter in the volume of Masonry which we of the present day and our successors will peruse with feelings of great and just pride. The ceremony was performed on the morning

of the 22d, in the presence of thousands attracted from every portion of this great temple dedicated to religious, political and Masonic liberty, and at the laying of whose corner-stone Washington was the most conspicuous Master Mason. After the deposits had been made and the capstone let down,—

“The Grand Master then received from the Master Architect (Thomas Crawford) the appropriate working-tools, and, having applied them, pronounced the stone square, level and plumb, or **WELL FORMED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.**

“The gold and silver vessels were next handed him, when, according to ancient ceremony, he poured upon the stone corn, wine and oil, at the same time saying,—

“‘May the All-bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with all the necessities, conveniences and comforts of life, assist in the erection and completion of this building, protect the workmen against every accident, and long preserve this structure from decay, and grant to us all a supply of the Corn of Nourishment, the Wine of Refreshment and the Oil of Joy!’

“*Response.*—‘So mote it be. Amen.’

“He then struck the stone three times, and, in response, the public Masonic grand honors were given; after, he turned to the Master Builder, delivered to him the square, level and plumb, and, with a few appropriate remarks, intrusted him with the superintendence and direction of the work.

“R. W. John Dove, Grand Secretary, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, then waited on His Excellency John B. Floyd, Governor of Virginia, and informed him that the work of laying the corner-stone of the Washington Monument had been completed by the Masonic Fraternity according to his directions, and then awaited his inspection; whereupon the Governor descended to the spot, examined the work, and pronounced the same well done and agreeable to instructions, and kindly thanked the Grand Master and the Fraternity for their promptness in aiding him in this most interesting and solemn ceremony.

“After which, the Grand Orator, M. W. Robert G. Scott, delivered the following eloquent, appropriate and Masonic address:—

“(GOVERNOR FLOYD:—The laying the first stone in the noble edifice here to be erected is completed. By the invitation of the Chief Magistrate of the State, which to us of the ‘Mystic Tie’ is understood to be a command, the Masonic body have come hither to act their—the humblest—part in the ceremonies of this day. Under your direction, sir, and in consistency with the high duty imposed on the Craft to be good, loyal and obedient citizens of the State, we have assembled to render our profound homage to the shining virtues of the great dead. And, my Brethren, friends and fellow-citizens, tell me what brings here this vast assemblage? Why do we see gathered together the men of the mountain and of the seaboard, of the North and the South, from the Potomac to the Roanoke, the white locks of age mingling with the ruddy faces of youth? Why come here all classes, conditions, orders and sects? The workshops stand still, the daily pursuits of life are suspended, the courts of justice are closed, and the strife of legislative debate is silent. In martial array, with streaming banners, stand yonder long line of citizen-soldiers of the State, and the deep-mouthed cannon is ready to speak to every hill and valley! But, above all, what brings to these ornamented grounds that countless and lovely assemblage of the best and purest of our God’s work? This can be no common occasion; else we should not be cheered by the approving smiles of woman,—lovely woman!—she who blesses us in prosperity and is devotedly faithful in the darkest hours of adversity. The day, the birthday of our great Chief, long remembered, and never, with us, passed uncelebrated and un-honored: it is not that—no, no, it is not that—which prompts to this imposing ceremony. Virginia speaks another language. She decrees a monument to be erected. To-day commences the work,—that work which is not to commemo-

rate the birthday of a man, but is to stand now and forever as a living and speaking evidence of the affection and gratitude of an enlightened, virtuous and free people to their first, their greatest benefactor. It is the remembrance of illustrious services and unbounded devotion to the good of mankind by one most pre-eminent and virtuous, the magic power and august influence of whose name all acknowledge, which gathers us here. It is the name of WASHINGTON—WASHINGTON! Half a century has gone by since, in God's providence, our country lost him, and yet, oh, how deep and thrilling are our feelings when his venerated name is uttered! The young and the old know his history, and talk of him as the best and greatest of mortal men that have ever lived. His name is lisped by the infant, under the teaching of the mother, to admire his virtues and follow his bright example. It is the common and universal sentiment of all our people to look on him as one of surpassing greatness and purity of purpose. It is not, however, with the people of Virginia or the United States alone that the vast proportions of his gigantic character stand above all others. In every civilized country his name is never mentioned but with affection and admiration. Go to Europe, and seek to know. In England, Germany, Italy, France, and even among the Russians of the North, we learn his character is known, and his eminent virtues and signal services for his country are unboundedly admired. The sculptor, the painter, the orator, the poet and the historian have each striven by some great effort to be connected with the name of Washington. From the poor but faithful mountain-republic of San Marino to the rich and powerful governments of Western Europe, all bow in reverence to the great American statesman and patriot, and each cherishes among its richest jewels the unadorned and simple portrait of Washington. What a wonderful triumph is this over the passions, prejudices and doctrines of past ages! The plain, modest, unostentatious planter of the Potomac in our Commonwealth has become the admired of millions of the Old World; of the prince and potentate; of the strong, the wise and the good; of the peasant and the lord; of the people of the Seine, the Rhine, the Danube and the Thames. The denounced traitor of 1776 stands now the beloved of his countrymen and the admiration of the world. Such is, and may such ever be, the reward of such services and such transcendent virtues.

"But I feel I invade the duties assigned to another vastly better qualified to speak of Washington,—of his virtues, his services and devotion to all that has made him the first among the good and great. I can, however, before you, my Masonic Brethren, and all here present, most appropriately allude to one of the best and purest of the associations of George Washington. In nothing was he a common man. All his undertakings were well considered and more than well executed. In none, in his long life, did he display this striking quality of his head and heart more strongly than by his early connection with, and unwavering adherence and devotion to, the Ancient Order of Free Masonry, and its liberal and philanthropic principles and objects. Learning from observation and reflection the benevolent ends our association designed to accomplish, he, at an early age, determined to become one of us. An honest advocate of the equal and inalienable rights of man, he became satisfied that Masonry had at all times and under the harshest trials been the unfaltering supporter of just and free principles. In Greece and in Venice, in the dark ages, in ancient and modern times, nay, in all ages, our Washington found Masonry true and steadfast in advancing the intellectual and moral improvement of the masses and the elevation of man to that condition of equality and happiness that now blesses more than twenty millions of American freemen. Yes, on this hallowed spot, hallowed henceforth and forever to the name of WASHINGTON, may I well say, and in all truth declare, that Masonry has done as much, nay, possibly more, than all other associations for the establishment of the just rights of man. Broad, comprehensive and never-yielding in its ends, it has steadily resisted wrong and oppression in all forms. It has defied and over-

come alike the commands of the despot and the tortures of the Inquisition. It has triumphed morally over the seductions of power and the temptations to render a servile obedience to the most powerful monarchs of the earth. In our own loved land it has proved itself pure and devoted to the principles of morality and stable free government.

"And why—oh, why—should not the name of WASHINGTON be most intimately associated with such an institution? He thoroughly studied and knew all that concerned it. In the closet he pondered over its designs; in the camp he ministered at its altar. And when war, with all its trials, sufferings and carnage, had ceased to desolate his native country,—when peace brought happiness and liberty to every fireside,—still he is the same steadfast Masonic teacher and its unchanged friend. Neither the patronage of power nor the advance of age ever chilled his ardent attachment to our Ancient Order, or made him less an active and a working Mason,—active in all its charities and working to give it an eternal endurance. In his youth George Washington became a Mason. Here is the record of his initiation; and here, too, I exhibit the Bible then used in the Lodge, and which, as we all know, is the first and greatest light of Masonry. In infancy he had been baptized in the Church of Christ, of which he remained to his death an humble and pious member. Here I exhibit to you the cloak that covered the infant Washington in the arms of that admirable mother at the moment of the ceremony, and who taught him the ways of virtue and religion.

[Here the speaker held up the cloak, which the immense audience hailed with cheers.]

"On the 4th of November, 1752, in Lodge No. 4, in the town of Fredericksburg, he became one of us, my Masonic Brethren; and you of that Lodge who stand here to-day, the representatives of your illustrious ancestors, who were the compatriots of Washington and of Mercer, should ever hold these relics of by-gone days in the deepest reverence. He hesitated not, and on the 3d of March, 1753, was passed a Fellow-Craft, and on the 4th day of August, 1753, was raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason; and a Master, indeed, did he thenceforth prove himself to be. Master of all our mysteries; but, more than all that, a Master deeply imbued with, and ever practising, those charming virtues that adorn our association. When the mighty struggle came with our fatherland, and he was called, by the united voice of his country, to lead her armies and guide her destiny,—when heavily taxed by the cares of office and command, and his herculean frame was almost borne to the earth with the grave and innumerable demands on his time and intellectual powers,—he often devoted hours to the soft and chastening duties of Masonry. Frequently, when surrounded by a brilliant staff, he would part from the gay assemblage and seek the instruction of the Lodge. There lived in 1842, in our sister State, Ohio, Captain Hugh Maloy, then ninety-three years old, who was initiated a Mason in the marquee of Washington, he officiating and presiding at the ceremony. Would that that venerable man was among us this day, to bear his testimony to this marked incident in the life of his great captain!—that captain who would cheerfully turn from the world, its pleasures, temptations and powers, and meet, on the square, the plumb and the level, one of the humblest in his camp. How lovely, how surpassingly beautiful in all that commands the respect and admiration of the good are such practices! Maloy was known to Washington to be a good man and true, and in the sincere and bright spirit of Masonry he hailed him as a Brother. Faithful to our principles and never halting in his duty, an incident occurred during our Revolutionary War which afforded him an opportunity to display them practically to the enemy. A detachment of the American army had met and gallantly overcome a British force, and captured from them the working-tools, jewels and clothing of a military travelling Lodge. Washington learned this, and he would as soon have sanctioned the plundering of a church as to have approved the retention of the booty. He ordered and made its restoration

under a strong military escort, accompanied by the declaration that his countrymen waged no war against philanthropy and benevolence.

"The hour of peace arrived. Our beloved great man had passed, untouched and unharmed, through many a hard-fought battle, and a kind and watchful Providence had guarded and saved him for a long life of after-usefulness. His military labors terminated on the heights of Yorktown. In that village was Lodge No. 9, where, after the siege had ended, Washington and Lafayette, Marshall and Nelson, came together, and by their union bore abiding testimony to the beautiful tenets of Masonry. The simple white apron, the unsoiled and unspotted lambskin I wear, were the property of that Lodge. Retirement to the quiet shades of Mount Vernon did not remove Washington from his Masonic labors and usefulness. On the 28th day of April, 1788, Edmund Randolph, the then Grand Master and Governor of Virginia, issued a Charter to Alexandria Washington Lodge, No. 22. Of this Lodge Washington was a member, and was constant and punctual, and ever ready to communicate light and instruction,—that light which time has never dimmed, and that instruction the bountiful fruits of which are manifested in the uniform prosperity of the Lodge and its now numerous and respectable attendance here. Elevated shortly after this to the first office in the Republic in 1787, and though surrounded by the numerous and perplexing difficulties incident to the early organization and development of our infant institutions, he is yet found in constant correspondence and active connection with the Masonic body. His letters written in 1784, 1790, 1791, 1792 and 1797 speak the language of a true, faithful and ardent follower of Masonry; and, while these letters give enduring evidence of a great mind deeply imbued with the abiding utility and truthfulness of our beloved Order, they show conclusively that there were times when even he thought it not improper to relax the sterner requirements of Masonry and to unite with his Brethren around the innocently festive board. Thus we find him in the following letter accepting an invitation to dine with the Fraternity of Alexandria, on the 24th of June, 1784:—

"MOUNT VERNON, June 19, 1784.

"DEAR SIR:—With pleasure I received the invitation of the Master and members of Lodge No. 39 to dine with them on the approaching anniversary of St. John the Baptist: if nothing unforeseen at present interferes, I will have the honor of doing it. For the polite and flattering terms in which you have expressed their wishes, you will please accept my thanks.

"With esteem and regard, I am, dear sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"WM. HERBERT, Esq.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"Of the high veneration and lofty appreciation of his living character which the sages, patriots and Masons entertained who were his contemporaries in the eventful drama entitled 'A Struggle for the Equal Rights of Man,' and which had just successfully closed, let the following correspondence speak. I would not under ordinary circumstances obtrude this correspondence on you, my fellow-citizens; but it is due to the illustrious dead that his Masonic character should be known to the world by irrefragable testimony, the original of which is now in our possession:—

"ANSWER

To the Master, Wardens and Brethren of King David's Lodge, in Newport, Rhode Island.

"GENTLEMEN:—I receive the welcome which you give me to Rhode Island, and with pleasure, and I acknowledge my obligations for the flattering expressions of regard contained in your address with grateful sincerity. Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity

is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interest of the society, and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother. My best wishes, gentlemen, are offered for your individual happiness.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

“ANSWER

To the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“GENTLEMEN:—Flattering as it may be to the human mind, and truly honorable as it is, to receive from our fellow-citizens testimonials of approbation for exertions to promote the public welfare, it is not less pleasing to know that the milder virtues of the heart are highly respected by a society whose liberal principles are founded in the immutable laws of truth and justice.

“To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy the benevolent design of the Masonic Institution, and it is most fervently to be wished that the conduct of every member of the Fraternity, as well as those publications that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.

“While I beg your acceptance of my thanks for the ‘Book of Constitutions’ which you have sent me, and for the honor you have done me in the dedication, permit me to assure you that I feel all those emotions of gratitude which your affectionate address and cordial wishes are calculated to inspire. And I sincerely pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may bless you here, and receive you hereafter in his immortal temple.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

“Can more conclusive, more unqualified evidence be adduced of the ardent and unwavering attachment of any man to the principles of an institution of which he professed to be a member? Certainly not; and our only regret is that the unobtrusive character of Masonry should have so long induced her to withhold from public gaze and inspection these inestimable testimonials in her favor of one who, by the universal opinion and sentiment of mankind in both hemispheres, has long since been pronounced a judge.

“At all times, whether in the working of Lodges, or in the open ceremonies of public occasions, he was ready to perform his part. When the Capitol of the nation was commenced he was present, and the leading actor on that occasion. But he was there as a Master Mason. This marble mallet, or Master’s gavel, was then used by him, and is the property of Potomac Lodge, No. 5, in the District of Columbia. This apron and sash adorned his noble form. He understood the use of the one and the high moral instruction derived from the other. With these simple relics of olden times how many and interesting associations spring up! That apron and sash were, in 1824, moistened with the affectionate tears of the gallant Frenchman who toiled and shed his blood for us. They are yet the property of Alexandria Washington Lodge, and the liberal gifts of La Fayette to his Brother Washington. Inestimably valuable as this connection renders them, oh, how precious and above all price do they become, especially with you, my countrywomen, when we know they were prepared at La Grange and are the work of the fair hands of Madame De La Fayette! Keep and preserve them, my kind Brothers of Lodge No. 22, unused and unworn by any, the most elevated and distinguished. They are sacred legacies to you, and never can be looked on that the mighty name and virtues of Washington do not freshly spring up before us. The Master’s chair, too, was given by Washington to the same Lodge. He often occupied it; and may it continue to be adorned by successors who may imitate, but can never equal, the donor, in wisdom, strength and beauty! Such is an imperfect and half-finished outline of his Masonic character and services. He died as he had lived, devotedly one of us, and was buried, as he desired, with Masonic honors.

“If we look for a bright and spotless example,—if we seek for light and truth,

—if we desire to follow the blazing pathway of a noble spirit,—then Washington should be our beacon-light: by him we may be guided as by ‘a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.’ As the great exemplar of our Order, he never, never failed to inculcate ‘peace on earth and good-will to all men.’

“Around him shone lesser lights. Many of them, had they lived in other periods, would have given lustre to their times. But he stands not alone in the temple. As the chief key and cap stone of that temple, he is sustained and supported, by other tried and trusty workmen. Franklin, the scholar and the patriot,—Warren, the first Grand Master of Masons in America, and who died, loved and admired, gallantly battling for his country,—La Fayette, Green, Marshall, Mercer and Randolph,—were his Masonic associates. It is of such as these that our temple has been erected. They are the examples of our own country, the bright and shining lights of our Order, adding power and beauty to all its parts. The historian informs us that all the major-generals of the Revolutionary army except one were Master Masons. Each of them had beheld

“That hieroglyphic bright
Which none but Craftsmen ever saw;”

and all, save that benighted one, died respected and beloved. He alone proved a traitor and went to his grave stamped with the infamy of a traitor. Turning to our own time, the lights of Masonry burn yet brilliantly. How many of our best and purest do we find united with its hopes, its prospects and its fortunes!

“Look around us now and behold the men who blush not at being hailed as sincere and honest Masons, and esteem themselves honored with being this day with us and dressed with the simple badge of a white apron. Yes, on this stand is the Governor of our State, the respected first officer of the Commonwealth. He is one of us. Shall I tell you who sits beside him? Does the hero of the Rio Grande, the victor of Buena Vista, the elected President of the Nation, who has long served his country with devotion and fidelity, (and although not one of us,) require a higher compliment than to say that he too will meet us as a Brother!

“But among us we have some young members and devoted associates,—our tried friend and amiable, brave and true Selden, the hero of Chapultepec; and the sterling soldier, too, of the ancient county of Amelia, he who gloriously won his brevet at Resaca de la Palma,—the gallant Graham,—they are others of the Craft.

“Well may this, the greatest assemblage of Masons ever collected in this Commonwealth, exclaim, ‘How lovely and how beautiful it is for Brethren to dwell in harmony and peace!’

“The power and the influence of our Order are here most happily exemplified. So great indeed have these been known to be, that in the heat and fury of the battle-strife, when men, even the red and wild Indians of the forest, were maddened by rage, and the scalping-knife and tomahawk were reeking with the blood of their victims, a single word has stricken down and paralyzed the uplifted arm of the warrior, and saved his prostrate and helpless foe. Such was the case at the river Raisin.”

TENNESSEE.—The report of the proceedings from this Grand Lodge gives to us the most satisfactory evidence of the growth and prosperity of Masonry. One hundred and fifty-two Lodges were represented.

MISSISSIPPI.—The proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication of this Lodge, held at the Masonic Hall in the City of Natchez, February 4, 1850, present a long roll both of Lodges and of members. M. W. Grand Master Charles A. Lacoste congratulates his Brethren on the condition of Masonry in Mississippi, in the following language:—

“Allow me to offer you my hearty congratulations on your safe arrival at the

scene of your labors, and, in accordance with a prevailing custom, briefly to advert to a few topics that seem to claim some allusion on my part.

"The reports of the Grand Officers and of subordinate Lodges afford proof that the past year has been one of unusual activity and prosperity within this jurisdiction. These gratifying results are justly attributable in a great measure to the wise and economical policy adhered to by our predecessors, while they indicate the gradual diffusion of the pure principles of Free Masonry."

Upon the right of taxing non-affiliated Brethren, he holds this language:—

"In other jurisdictions, the right to tax non-affiliated Brethren continues to be a mooted question,—several Grand Lodges and eminent individuals arraying themselves in uncompromising opposition, others preferring to abstain from the exercise of a doubtful power. This Grand Lodge was, by the resolutions adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, committed in favor of the measure, and an attempt has been made to enforce it throughout the jurisdiction during the past year. The result will be laid before you, affording the most satisfactory test of its practicability and adaptation to the object in view."

ARKANSAS.—We are unable to judge from the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge whether Masonry is progressive in this State or not. There is no address of the Grand Master, and all the business transacted is of a local character.

GEORGIA.—The proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1850 have not been received. The report before us is for the year 1849. One hundred and nine Lodges were represented, and Grand Master W. C. Dawson speaks in most gratifying terms of the advance of Masonry:—

"In Georgia our prosperity is very gratifying, and is still on the increase, not merely in numbers, but in those moral influences and virtues which our principles inculcate, and which constitute the Mason good and true. A review of the last ten years will increase our confidence, encourage us in well-doing and add to our energy.

"In 1839, only eleven Lodges had Representatives in the Grand Lodge, and represented about 430 members. In 1840, twelve Lodges were represented, and seven made no returns and were in default. In 1841, twelve Lodges made returns, and six were in default. In 1842, twenty-three Lodges made returns, and I have no means of ascertaining the number in default. In 1843, thirty-four Lodges made returns, including six chartered at that Communication, having 907 members; initiations reported, 279. In 1844, eight new Lodges were chartered, making forty-two: initiated, 826; members, 1110. In 1845, three new Lodges were chartered, making in all forty-five: initiated, 344; members, 1600. In 1846, the Grand Lodge, for the first time, was held in Macon: initiations, 402; members, 1863; six new Charters granted, making fifty-one Lodges. In 1847, twelve new Lodges were chartered, making sixty-three: initiated, 776; members, 2568. In 1848, fifteen new Charters were granted, making seventy-eight Lodges: initiated, 828; members, 3088.

"Since the last session of the Grand Lodge, about thirty-one Dispensations have been granted by the constituted authorities, and Charters will, no doubt, be applied for at this session of the Grand Lodge, which will increase the number of our Lodges to about one hundred and eleven, and our working-members to near five thousand. There has been a regular and large increase within the last six years in initiations, members and Lodges, and it gives me much satisfaction (and it is, indeed, very honorable to the subordinate Lodges) to say that, previous to the last returns, no Lodge was in arrears in any respect, and that all the returns were made for the last year, and all the dues paid, with one exception, and it is believed that satisfactory reasons will be given for the failure of that one.

"Upon the subject of education, I feel assured there is but little, if any, difference of opinion among us. Although the Grand Lodge of Georgia has no

Masonic college yet, the members of the Lodges throughout the State, as Masons, men and citizens, are generally faithful to the cause of education; and if I could combine their individual efforts in that cause, and present them at one view, it would reflect great credit on the principles of our institution. Our principles, indeed, demand of us the improvement of the mind. Masonry is a system of morality, having for its foundation a belief in God and the immortality of the soul of man. The teachings and precepts of the Bible are enjoined and inculcated by Masonry. Infidelity and Masonry are incompatible. 'Universal benevolence and relief' are among its well-known precepts. To assist those upon whom the hand of Providence rests heavily, to watch over the widow and the orphan, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, are practical moral duties peculiar to every Mason. But these are bodily and physical wants: there are higher wants which man feels, and which make life at least little else than a burden. The mind and the heart have their times of destitution alike with the body, and no less need the relieving hand of mental charity and sympathy. To these spiritual necessities Masons are no less commanded to minister than to the gross deprivations of the body. To shed the light of knowledge on the mind which wanders, unprovided, in the darkness of ignorance and superstition, and to encourage advancement in the arts and sciences and in the acquisition of truth, is a part of the mission of Masonry. To warm up the heart which has been chilled by adversity or misfortune with the gentle rays of sympathy,—to console the broken-hearted,—to pour the oil of gladness on the wounded and bruised spirit,—are among her sacred behests inculcated into the breast of every one who is imbued with the genuine spirit of Free Masonry.

"Masonry also urges upon her child all those personal virtues which serve to make up the character of a perfect man, and which give him influence and respectability in the society of his fellow-citizens. To be a good man and true, of unsullied honor and unflinching honesty, without improvement of the mind, without education, cannot be done. How, then, can education be obtained by children of indigent Masons, or the orphans of poverty? Let the principles of Masonry answer:—By benevolence and charity.

"Let me, therefore, recommend the consideration of the education of the dependent children of our Fraternity to your sincere reflection. And I also suggest the propriety of having diligent inquiry made into the state and condition of the poor in each Masonic District, so that immediate provision may be made for their improvement.

"I also recommend to your consideration the propriety of establishing one preparatory school in each Masonic District, if the means of education cannot be otherwise provided; but, wherever schools are already established, I would deem it unwise to establish another, but prefer to send the children under our care to those already in existence. The number of colleges in Georgia is so extensive, and the opportunity for a collegiate education so easy of access, I do not at this time deem it proper to recommend the establishment of a Masonic college, but most earnestly recommend appropriations sufficiently large to commence a system for the education of the children of the needy Brethren of our Fraternity, with a determination to persevere to the end. Thus shall we lay an early foundation in the minds of those under our care for usefulness and respectability, and thereby discharge, at least partially, this part of our duty.

"A multiplicity of questions, seeking light in regard to the ancient usages of the Craft, have been presented to this Communication: some have recited the action of this Grand Lodge upon such matters, and have been referred to this Committee for their consideration. Among them all, however, we deem but one of sufficient importance to merit observation in this report. It has been asked if, in the absence of the Master of a Chartered Lodge, a Senior Warden could confer the Degrees? And a resolution of Social Lodge, No. 1, upon this sub-

ject, has been laid before your Committee. A brief reference to the usages and history of Masonry, it is supposed, will settle this question.

"By the ancient usages of the Craft, the requisite number of Master Masons could assemble and confer the three symbolic Degrees in their discretion, and the usage is preserved to this day in the custom of making Masons at sight by the Grand Master. But the Grand Lodge of England, in 1717, prohibited this indiscriminate exercise of the power of making Masons, and declared no Lodge should assemble without a regular Warrant. Of necessity the powers of the Lodge are defined in the Warrant, and to the Master and Wardens are confided the exercise of the power of making Masons,—the Master alone being authorized to preside. Delegated powers cannot be delegated; and it is only by express provision of the Constitution that a proxy can represent the Master in the Grand Lodge.

"Your Committee are thus brought to the conclusion that, unless the Senior Warden be a Past Master, he cannot, under the existing Constitutions of Masonry, rightfully preside in the absence of the Master and confer Degrees. The By-laws of the Lodges usually authorize him to take the chair in the absence of the Master, but it is manifest they cannot alter the ancient Constitutions, and such authority only extends to the transaction of business alone."

SOUTH CAROLINA.—It appears, from the proceedings before us, that a special Communication of the Grand Lodge of this State was held on the 18th of January, 5849, for the purpose of installing the Deputy Grand Master elect, J. J. Caldwell, which ceremony did not take place at the General Grand Communication, in consequence of the absence of that officer from the city. Connected with the proceedings of the Communication is a report from the Grand Secretary, from which we make the following extracts:—

"The Grand Lodge of Alabama, at its Annual Communication in December last, adopted a series of resolutions declaring that it is anti-Masonic to require any religious test other than a belief in God; that the Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction throughout the State in which it is located, and concurrent jurisdiction with other Grand Lodges over States or Territories where there is no Grand Lodge; that each Grand Lodge is sovereign and independent; that a subordinate Lodge cannot reinstate a Mason to membership who has been suspended or expelled by another jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of that jurisdiction; that it is contrary to Masonic regulation to suffer any Mason to vote except the members of the Lodge where application is made; that the mere refusal to readmit a Mason to membership does not inhibit the rights and privileges to which he is entitled as a Mason, and that the expulsion or suspension from an Encampment, Chapter or Council does not necessarily suspend or expel from a subordinate Lodge.

"Of the correctness of these maxims of Masonic law there can be, I presume, no question. The concurrent opinions of other Grand Lodges have too often sustained them to allow any longer doubt as to their authority. Another doctrine, however, was advanced by the Grand Lodge of Alabama at the same time, of which a similar verdict cannot so unhesitatingly be rendered. This is, that in no event ought the Grand Lodge to initiate, pass or raise a candidate, its powers being more of an appellate and legislative order than otherwise. Of the power of the Grand Lodge to confer Degrees there can scarcely be a question, though it will readily be admitted that it is rarely expedient that such power should be exercised. It is, however, clearly impolitic in any Grand Lodge by unnecessary declarations to attempt to circumscribe its rights and privileges, since, under the peculiar organization of Masonry, its prosperity, harmony and perpetuity are mainly owing to the absolute authority of one supreme, superintending and controlling body.

"The Grand Lodge of Ohio has declared, in reference to petitions for charity, that all cases of a local nature should be provided for by the subordinate Lodges

in whose jurisdiction they occur; and they assign as a reason for this opinion, that the Grand Lodge is, and has been, intended merely as a legislative body to enact laws and regulations for the government of the subordinate Lodges, and not to supersede them in the exercise of those charitable duties which are the great aim of the institution and for the attainment of which all subordinate Lodges are or should be established.

"The Grand Lodge of Arkansas has promulgated several maxims of Masonic jurisprudence, with all of which it is believed that this Grand Lodge will cordially agree, and to some of which it has on former occasions officially subscribed. These are, that a Master of a Lodge cannot be tried by his Lodge, nor a Grand Master by any tribunal during his term of office; that, in his Lodge, the decision of the Master is final; and that a further test than a belief in the Supreme Being is unwise, and an innovation. In suggesting, however, that expulsion from a Chapter, accompanied by a notice of said expulsion to a subordinate Lodge, should at once act as a sentence of expulsion from the Lodge, until the opinion of the Grand Lodge be heard, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has differed from the general voice of the Fraternity as well as the opinions of a majority of Grand Lodges.

"The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, in their report in the year 1847, had enumerated, among the requisites for admission into the Fraternity, 'a belief in a Deity and a future state of rewards and punishments.' At its last session the Grand Lodge declared that the last part of this clause had been inconsiderately inserted, and by correcting the error a threatened controversy of a most painful nature was promptly and wisely averted in that jurisdiction.

"Among the instances in which the principles of our institution have been fairly and triumphantly tested, I will notice but one. In the commencement of the present year, I received an affecting letter from a young lady, the orphan-daughter of a Brother Mason in one of our upper Districts, who, dying the year before in the service of his country, had left his widow and children in a destitute condition. In this letter she stated her circumstances, and expressed a desire that she might be enabled, by the aid of her father's Brethren, so to complete her unfinished education as to fit her to obtain a livelihood by instructing others. It required but little effort on my part to enlist the warm aid of the Fraternity in her behalf, and she is now, by the generous benevolence of Hiram Lodge, No. 68, at Anderson, aided by the contributions of a few other Lodges, creditably supported at one of the best seminaries in the upper country, where she is receiving such an education as will prepare her in after-life to buffet successfully with the storms of poverty. She is now emphatically the daughter of the Craft, and I trust that an appeal to the Grand Lodge to add something to the fund which has been collected for her maintenance will not be in vain."

FLORIDA.—The address of M. W. Grand Master Thomas Brown is the most full of any of the Grand Masters' addresses which have come into our hands. We regret that the example of the Grand Master has not been more generally adopted, for we conceive it to be the duty of the presiding officer to give to his Lodge a communication on Masonic matters. Masonry holds a most enviable position in Florida.

From the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence we select some quotations:—

"*Mental and Physical Deformity.*—The Grand Lodge of New York has done the Grand Lodge of Florida the honor of appointing a special committee, to whom was referred the transactions of the Grand Lodge of Florida in relation to this subject. We at all times read with pleasure and profit the able reports of the Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York. We have no hesitation in saying that we consider this report unanswerable. This declaration may at first view seem inexplicable to the Grand Lodge of New York, and in contra-

diction to the opinion of this Grand Lodge on this subject, as expressed by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence at our last Communication; but, if the Grand Lodge of New York will examine with care the report of the Committee, and the 9th section of the 8th Article, they will find that virtually there is no difference of opinion on this subject between the Grand Lodges of New York and Florida, and that this Grand Lodge has no false step to retrace. In drawing the report at our last Communication, the chairman of the Committee, the better to elicit truth and to enable the Grand Lodge to decide understandingly, cited the decisions of the several Grand Lodges *pro* and *con.*, but this Grand Lodge did not assent to the position of any Grand Lodge except that of Kentucky, which has been adopted as the 9th section of the 8th Article of the Constitution of Florida,—viz.: ‘When the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the mysteries of the Craft, the admission will not be an infringement of the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of Free Masonry.’”

The Committee, in continuation of the report, stated:—

“This may be true, if properly construed; but your Committee fear it is opening a door to admit a dangerous innovation, and regret any attempt has ever been made to explain the ancient charges, the observance of which must at least remain a matter of conscience and judgment.”

The Committee then presented the following resolution, which was adopted:—

“*Resolved*, by the Grand Lodge of Florida, That the 9th section of the 8th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge shall not be so construed by the subordinate Lodges as to authorize any innovation upon the ancient landmarks of the Order.

“We have no doubt that, according to this construction of the 9th section of the 8th Article of the Constitution of Florida, we should as promptly exclude any candidate for the same cause as the Grand Lodge of New York. If we have any thing to regret, it is making the construction of the ancient charges a part of our Constitution, which we regard as useless, even if there be no doubt of its correctness. But it is at least nothing very material whether the construction of the ancient charges be verbal or written. Some construction must be given by the Lodge to all the ancient charges and Constitutions of Masonry as cases occur before the Lodge. The Book of Constitutions declares ‘that the men made Masons must be free-born, of mature age and of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of their making, *but* no woman or eunuch.’ Of every requisite the Lodge must judge. There are other requisites not here specified. He must be of sound mind, and possessed of the Masonic senses,—seeing, hearing, feeling. The exclusion of women and eunuchs are positive Masonic prohibitions, which we are bound to obey without inquiring into the motives or reasons which induced the patriarchs of our Order to exclude them. But every intelligent Mason must be convinced that this prohibition is founded in reason. But, in relation to the requisites for initiation, we know that without any one of them the candidate is incapable of being instructed fully in the science of Masonry, as all are necessary for Masonic instruction; none can be dispensed with. But here again the question occurs,—We know what dismemberment is, but at what point does symmetrical proportion of form cease and deformity commence? The requisite senses of seeing, hearing, feeling and intellect of the candidate must be at least submitted to the judgment of the Lodge, that the ancient charges, though positive as a mandate can be, may receive a reasonable construction. On this account we have said in Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution, ‘When the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of the Craft,’ &c. From the paucity of language, no better word could be selected to convey our meaning. But intelligent Masons must know

that physical as well as mental requisites are absolutely necessary for the instruction of the candidate.

"The Grand Lodge of Kentucky resolved that the decision of Morrison Lodge, No. 108, refusing to admit a visitor who was born blind, is correct."

We make the following extract from the address of the Grand Master of New Jersey:—

"I received from the Lodge at Ashley a petition for a Dispensation to initiate into our Order a gentleman of high respectability who unfortunately has been maimed. I refused my assent, with the provision, however, that I would lay the petition before you for your action. I now redeem my pledge, and suggest that we adhere to the injunctions of our first Most Excellent Grand Master Solomon,—‘Remove not the ancient landmarks which our fathers have set.’ I have also refused a similar request from the Lodge of which I am a member. The fact that the most distinguished Masonic body on earth has recently removed one of the landmarks should teach us to be careful how we touch those ancient boundaries."

Widows of Masons.—The following question was submitted to the Grand Lodge of Virginia:—If a Mason should die and leave a widow, and the widow should again marry a gentleman who is not a Mason, at the death of the second husband has the widow a claim upon the institution for charity or other relief?

The principle in this question has been decided by the United States Pension Office. Where the widow of a soldier marries again, she is still considered as the widow of the soldier after the death of the second husband and entitled as such to a pension. We consider the widow of a Mason entitled to all the benefits of the institution during the life of her second husband or after his death. A contrary principle would be against sound policy, as it would operate in restraint of marriage.

The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution, which has been passed by the Grand Lodge of Illinois and Michigan:—

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be required to provide each deceased Brother Master Mason's widow, who is in good standing, with a certificate of such Brother's standing at his death, that she may derive the advantage belonging to a Master Mason's widow.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge bears date December 8, 1849. Nothing of any great interest transpired at the meeting. Masonry is stated to be on the advance. We regret that we have no communication of a more recent date from this State. We extract as follows from the Grand Master's address:—

"BRETHREN:—Another Masonic year has expired, and we are again permitted to meet together around the altar of brotherly love, to exchange our affectionate greetings and to unite in council for the purpose of advancing the common interests of the Order. It affords me great gratification to be able to congratulate you all, and through you our Brethren of subordinate Lodges whom you represent, on the prosperity of our Order in North Carolina and the advancement of our principles during the past year. The working of the Craft for the last twelve months has been diligent, zealous and praiseworthy in a most eminent degree. Masonry has not only in North Carolina, but throughout the Union, waked up as it were from the temporary lethargy from which it had for some years been laboring. The beauties and benefits of our time-honored institution are developing themselves in all directions, and inviting the friends of humanity and benevolence to participate in those mysteries which are preparatory to the formation of the human character for deeds of philanthropy."

"I now approach that subject which has engaged the deepest feelings of my heart for some years; and it is doubtless one of the most important measures upon which you will be called upon to act at this Communication. I allude to the proposition heretofore submitted for founding a seminary. Agreeably to instructions of the last Grand Lodge, I issued a circular to the subordinate Lodges, informing them that this seminary would be located at the present Communication. I trust each Lodge have sent their Delegates with instructions to this effect.

"In accordance with instructions from that body also, an agent was sent out during the past summer to visit the subordinate Lodges and obtain contributions. He returned after some three or four weeks, having received no donations or appropriations,—at the same time expressing his opinion that the proposition relative to the seminary was favorably received by the Lodges which he visited, and believed that it would eventually meet their hearty co-operation. I can conceive of no measures by which the subordinate Lodges can be brought to act with decision on this subject, but to locate this seminary, appoint a committee to draft a plan of the buildings and lay the corner-stone. If this is done, I have sufficient confidence in the Masons of North Carolina to believe that they will carry the project onward, that the building will rise from its corner-stone to its completion, and that we shall soon have established an institution which will fully meet the wants of the Order and reflect its beauty and glory to the eye of the world.

"I see no reason for reversing the decision of the last Grand Lodge in regard to this subject. I believe now, as I believed then, that the subject should be finally disposed of before this body adjourns,—either that the seminary should be located and measures taken for the erection of the buildings, or that the proposition should be for the present rejected. This recommendation is made by me in order that the subordinate Lodges, if they are to expect no aid from this quarter, may adopt some means for the education of the destitute within their jurisdiction according to their several circumstances. I do not think this project should be deferred upon the plea of inability. No one believes this; no Mason can urge it. If every little band of Christians in every village in the State can build beautiful and commodious churches for the worship of God, and can pay their clergy annual salaries equal to the interest on \$10,000, most assuredly three or four thousand Masons, embracing the wealthiest men of the State, are able to build a seminary upon the basis of \$15,000.

"I do not believe this subject ought to be deferred on the plea that there may be an indefinable, indistinct opposition in some sections of the State. No day has ever yet dawned upon any great and noble enterprise that has not met with more or less opposition to its accomplishment. All books of history are full of examples, from Creation's time till the present moment. All the great lawgivers and benefactors of the world have had to encounter opposition. Moses, Socrates, Solon, Washington,—all felt it; but it vanished before their paths like mists before the morning sun, while their names and their deeds, like the sun, shine fair and bright above the abyss of darkness in which their opponents lie buried.

"Besides all this, delay weakens not opposition, but rather confirms and strengthens it. Unreasonable procrastination makes the active and the vigilant indifferent and the idle and careless more so. The former become disgusted and discouraged, while the latter believe their ground firm and their reasons for opposition tenable. Their half-formed, shadowy phantoms of fright and fancy take shape and distinctness, and become downright, walking, pale-faced ghosts. Can you reclaim a man of this character? Can you empty the sea with a thimble? Try it. This man's error has become fixed,—his resolution a part of his being, which no reason can eradicate, no fire can burn out. If there are Masons opposed to this school, upon what grounds do they build their opposition? What do they propose? What do they wish? Do they desire to do

nothing for this Fraternity? Were such a proposition made to any Mason, he would reject it with scorn and indignation, as an insult to his understanding and a base reflection upon his moral character as a man and as a member of this Order. Consequently I believe it to be the truth, which needs no argument to prove, that every Mason is desirous of appropriating whatever means and time he can spare to promote the charitable principles of this Fraternity.

"But how are they to do this? As a general rule, there are but two ways by which Masons can show their zeal and activity for this highly-honorable institution. First, They are expected to relieve the temporary necessities of those who have claims upon them. Second, They are required to give a sound, practical and moral education to the children of destitute Masons. God has so blessed our State with a mild, genial climate, abundance and prosperity, that there are but very few persons who do not, by their own exertions, provide themselves with the comforts and necessities of life. Consequently the only field left open for the exercise of charity and benevolence is that of education. And here there is room for great exertion and noble efforts. Although there are but few good schools in North Carolina in proportion to its extent and territory, yet almost every Church and every other Order have their schools, except that of Free Masonry. There are about twenty-five hundred active Masons under your jurisdiction, and there are about two children for every twenty-five Masons who have not the means of acquiring an education,—making in all about two hundred who are swiftly approaching the terrible destiny of a dark and ignorant manhood. If this is a correct statement, (and I believe it to be nearly so,) for the past ten years, during which the subject of this seminary has been agitated before this Grand Lodge and appeals made to the Fraternity throughout the State, two hundred children who have claims upon this Fraternity have passed the bounds of instruction and gone forth to battle with the storms and tempests of life,—have launched their barks upon that dark, savage ocean upon which no sun ever rises, no star ever shines, whose terrible billows move onward and forever onward in darkness, reaching no harbor of sunshine, no haven of peace, until they break upon the shores of eternity. This is a terrible state of things,—a state which I trust will no longer exist. In view of all that has been said before and on the present occasion, I leave the subject in your hands, trusting—confidently trusting—that you will so dispose of it as to do honor to yourselves and credit to our glorious institution."

ALABAMA.—We have no report from this Grand Lodge of a later date than December, 1849. It gives us great pleasure to present to our Brethren quotations from the address of Brother Hoit:—

"Masonry as an institution is world-wide. It exists in every quarter of the globe,—in most if not all the nations and kingdoms of the earth, and the chief isles of the sea. It is a staff for man in every clime from East to West, between the North and South. And wherever it does not exist as an institution, (if such a place there be,) still, one possessed of the talismanic sign may raise the spirit almost at pleasure.

"To say that a society possessed of such ubiquity must be possessed of immense power were a needless declaration. That it must be possessed of some superior, inherent charm or tendency for good is equally apparent; otherwise, how could such vast numbers of men of different races of so many languages, prejudices, manners and customs, be united, subdued and moulded to the same forms and ceremonies and the same laws and regulations?

"Here the question naturally occurs, When and for what purpose was an institution of such magnitude and importance founded, and when will its destiny be accomplished? It is my purpose to answer this question, so far as time and ability will allow. First, then, When had Masonry its origin?

"In order to answer this intelligibly, and to make the answer more satis-

factory, it will be necessary briefly to trace back the history of Masonry and show its existence at different and distant periods of time.

"It has been well said that 'Masonry has existed from the hoariest antiquity down to the greenest freshness of the present time;' but, like all other institutions, it has felt the renovating and improving influence of civilization and the general spread and increase of learning. Its origin is enveloped in obscurity; and the path of him who traces its history from star to star, as they shine out in the annals of the past, is obscured by mists and often perplexed by doubts: like the artist in perspective, he has to look down the long vista of events in ages past, until all individual objects are lost with the power of vision, and history ends in tradition and fable. The history, however, of Masonry is not more difficult or more obscure than the history of the men, the events, the cities, nations and empires of ancient times.

"Previously to A.D. 1717, Masonry was chiefly an operative institution, and had been known at different periods, in different nations and languages, by different names. About that time it wholly ceased to be an operative and became a speculative or moral institution. This therefore seems to be the most proper time from which to trace back its history; for its history since that time is too well known to need comment.

"The Grand Lodge of England was formed A.D. 1717. The minutes of the proceedings of St. Mary's Chapel, the oldest Lodge in Edinburgh, extend as far back as the year 1598. In the privy-seal book of Scotland is a letter dated September 25, 1590, granted by King James VI. 'to Patrick Copland, for using and exercising the office of Wardenrie over the Art and Craft of Masonrie.' In 1441, William St. Clair, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, obtained a grant of the office of Grand Master from James II. This grant was subsequently confirmed to him, his heirs and successors in the barony of Roslyn, and continued in the family until the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in the year 1736.* During the minority of Henry VI. of England, in the year 1425, at the instigation of Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, a severe Act of Parliament was passed against the Fraternity. This act, however, seems soon to have become a dead letter, for in the year 1429—five years after—a Lodge was held at Canterbury, under the patronage of the archbishop himself.† And when Henry attained his majority, he not only permitted Masons to hold their meetings without molestation, but was initiated and visited the Lodges as a Brother. In Dugdale's History of Warwickshire, we are informed that Robert de Skillington was Master Mason of the Hall in Kenilworth Castle in the year 1392. As poets cannot write of things beyond their knowledge, we may even invoke Chaucer, who was born in the year 1328, and who speaks of Masonry in some of his poems, to show its existence in his time. In the year 1200, Edward I. employed Adam de Glaphan and Patrie de Carlile, two Master Masons, to build Caernarvon Castle.‡ And T. Walsingham informs us that previously to the rebuilding of Westminster Abbey, in the year 1220, Henry III. consulted with many Master Masons. These few facts, scattered through the whole period from the twelfth to the eighteenth century, constitute but a small part of the mass of evidence which may be adduced to show both the existence and general prosperity of Masonry during that time, not only in England and Scotland, but throughout Europe, where the Fraternity were employed in erecting those gigantic monu-

* Hay's manuscript, in the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh. Free Masons' Magazine, vol. i. p. 259.

† Manuscript Register of Wm. Molart, Prior of Canterbury, p. 28.

‡ Lib. Gardiobae, Edward I. published by the Society of Antiquarians, 1787.

§ Free Masons' Magazine, vol. viii. pp. 73 to 80, and notes. Encyc. Amer., article "Masonry, Free." Manuscript Register of Wm. Molart, Prior of Canterbury. Dibdin's Tour, Strasburg, vol. iii. Graudidier's Essais sur la Cathédrale de Strasburg, 1792, 8vo.

ments of architectural skill and science which excite our amazement and which are the pride and ornament of cities and kingdoms.

"But our difficulties increase as we enter the vale of Cimmerian darkness which succeeded the downfall of the Roman Empire. Here we find fewer lights to guide our steps, but sufficient, however, to enable us to trace the thread of history.

"Gervase informs us* that in the eleventh century the prelate Lanfranc introduced into England not only the style of architecture which was peculiar to Normandy, his native province, but the artificers—the Masons also—who had been employed in building the two great churches at Caen, and that he employed them on the Cathedral of Canterbury. The Grand Lodge at York was formed in the year 926, by Edwin, the brother of King Athelstan, who confirmed the Constitution. This old Constitution, in the Anglo-Saxon dialect, is still preserved in York. It contains some of the most ancient laws of Masonry, which agree with the provisions made in the *corpus juris* relating to the College of Architects, and which principally continue in force among Masons to the present day.† In the eighth century, Charlemagne invited artificers—Masons—from every country in Europe in which they were established, to erect his magnificent church at Aix-la-Chapelle.‡

"The insatiable desire for external finery and gaudy ceremonies which was displayed by the Catholic priests introduced during the "Middle Ages" a corresponding desire for splendid monasteries and magnificent cathedrals.' And the Bishops of Rome and the princes of Europe, in order to encourage architecture, conferred on Masons‡ the most important privileges, and allowed them to be governed by the laws, customs and ceremonies peculiar to themselves. And the members of the Fraternity alone were permitted to engage in those buildings which Free Masons only had a right to erect.||

"During the Roman Empire—and, for the most part, for some centuries after its fall—the Fraternities of Masons were known by the name of Collegia or Colleges. In the *corpus juris Romani* are various laws for their regulation, such as were contained in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge at York already mentioned. These Collegia were spread over the whole Roman Empire, and we are told that 'there was no town at all important, no province ever so distant, where they did not exist with their peculiar Constitutions, until the downfall of the Eastern and Western Empires.'¶ They retained the name of Collegia, together with that of Corpora, until these names were supplanted by the Saxon name of *Lodge*, which was probably occasioned from the fact that the Fraternities lived in a camp of huts or lodges erected in the vicinity of the edifice which they were engaged in building.**

"These Collegia vanished from Britain, with most of their works, after the Romans left the country, when it was devastated by the Picts, Scots and Saxons.** The earliest information we have of an associated body of artificers—Romans—who established themselves in Britain, is a votive inscription in which the College of Masons dedicated a temple to Neptune and Minerva and the safety of the family of Claudius Cæsar.†† Claudius died A.D. 54, and was succeeded by his step-son Nero. Neither his character nor family commanded lasting

* Chron. Gervasii, X. Script.

† Encyc. Amer., article "Masonry." Rees's Cyc., article "Masons." Harleian Manuscript in the British Museum, and contained in Smith's Use and Abuse of Masonry.

‡ St. Gall, Legend I., i. c. 32. Free Masons' Magazine, vol. viii. p. 38.

§ Prof. Robinson's Proofs of a Conspiracy, Edinburgh Encyc.

|| Wren's Parentalia, pp. 306-307. Henry's History of England, 8vo, vol. viii. p. 273. Robinson's Proofs of a Conspiracy, p. 20.

¶ Encyc. Amer., *ubi supra*.

** Henry's History of Great Britain. Wren's Parentalia. Encyc. Amer.

†† Free Masons' Magazine, vol. viii.

respect. We may therefore reasonably conclude that the temple was built during his lifetime, and probably while he was in Britain. Almost contemporaneous with this, we learn that the younger Pliny, while Proconsul of Asia Minor, wrote to the Emperor Trajan, informing him of a most destructive fire at Nicomacha, and requesting him to establish a College of Masons (*fabrorum*) for the rebuilding of the city.*

"This concludes a brief outline of the history of Masonry during the Christian era, at the commencement of which we find Masonry identical with the *Collegia artificum et fabrorum* of the Romans, among whom three were required to form a college, (*tres faciunt collegium*.)

"Numa, the second king of Rome, who lived about B.C. 700, has the honor of being the founder of these colleges at Rome.† By his laws of the 'twelve tables,' they had the right of making their own laws, if not contrary to the public laws,‡ and also had other privileges granted them.

"The Collegia established by Numa were afterwards undoubtedly much modified and improved, or revived, by the society founded by Pythagoras, about the middle of the fifth century B.C., at Crotona, in Italy, in which he taught the sciences of the East, and imparted those mysteries and rites into which he had been initiated during his travels in India, Syria and Egypt. But what particular influence the society of Pythagoras had upon the Collegia cannot now be known. Those societies in a short time were extended over Italy and through ancient Greece and the islands of the Ægean Sea;§ but soon all distant trace of them was lost, and they were probably absorbed by the Collegia of the Roman Empire. Besides, from the peculiar character of the Pythagorean fraternities, the principles therein inculcated, the doctrines taught, the ceremonies used and their rules and regulations,|| there is no reasonable room to doubt that those associations were Masonic fraternities and identical with the Dionysian fraternities of Ionia,¶ in Asia Minor, and the Essenian** of Judea, and perhaps, also, with the Eleusinian of Athens,†† as there were many points of similarity between the Eleusinian and Dionysian.

"The Essenes existed in Jerusalem after the building of Solomon's Temple; but concerning their origin there is much diversity of opinion. They were patronized by Herod; and, though respected for the correctness of their conduct and the innocence of their Order, they were persecuted by the Romans, and finally abolished about the middle of the fifth century,‡‡—a period noted for bigotry, tyranny and oppression.

"Herodotus§§ informs us that the Dionysia were introduced from Egypt into Greece, and from thence were carried by a colony into Ionia during the first half of the tenth century B.C. From these originated the Dionysian artificers, who were so celebrated for their skill and their knowledge in the arts and sciences, and who possessed the exclusive privilege of erecting temples, studia and other public buildings in Asia Minor.|||| To them the late Professor Robinson, of Edinburgh,—who had no partiality for Masonry or its pretensions, but who examined its history with much labor and research,—ascribes the origin of

* Plutarch's Lives: *Numa*.

† Plinii Epistolæ, lib. x. epist. 42, 8vo.

‡ Amer. Encyc.

§ Gillie's Greece, vol. ii. p. 28. Iamblicus de Vita Pythagoræ, c. 35.

|| Aulus Gellius, book i. chap. 9. Basnage's Hist. of the Jews. Iamblicus, chaps. 6, 7, 8, 17, 23 and 33.

¶ Robinson's Proofs of a Conspiracy.

** Pictet. Theolog. Chret., tom. iii. pt. 3. Basnage's Hist. of the Jews. Dr. Prideaux's Connections, vol. iii.

†† Encyc. Brit., vol. vi. article *Eleusinian*.

‡‡ Basnage's History, book ii. chap. 12.

§§ I Liber i. and ii.

|||| Gillie's Greece, vol. ii. p. 160.

Masonry.* To this conclusion of Dr. Robinson I have but one objection to urge, which is, instead of ascribing the origin of Masonry to the Dionysian architects, as he does, that the origin of Masonry is to be traced through them to a higher antiquity,—in the Dionysian mysteries of Egypt.

“Solomon’s Temple was completed in the year 1005 B.C., and I propose now to consider whether the Dionysian architects assisted in its building. It has been shown that, prior to the time of its building, they had spread over Asia Minor: they were therefore living in the vicinity of Tyre and Jerusalem. They had attained great celebrity, and, soon after, existed under the same name in Syria, Persia and India;† and a similar association, of uncertain origin, we have seen, existed in Judea. King Solomon was nearly connected with the royal family of Egypt,‡ from whom the Dionysia originated. Besides, the Jews were not an architectural people, for the Temple was chiefly built by strangers in the land,§ and by the ‘cunning workmen’ sent by Hiram, King of Tyre, then the most commercial nation in the world. He also sent Hiram,|| a widow’s son of the tribe of Naphthali, one of the most skilful workmen of his time, who was the chief architect of the building.

“Under these circumstances, it would seem that no impartial mind can doubt that the Dionysian architects not only assisted, but were the principal workmen, in the building of that stupendous and magnificent edifice.

“Such is a brief outline of the history of Masonry for a period of three thousand years. A long period: but this alone satisfies the claims of Masonry. During that period what mighty and frequent changes swept over the world! From age to age the moaning winds have sighed their requiem over the ever-varying, changing lot of man; on the ruins of empires, empires have risen and flourished and fallen; whole cities and peoples have been entombed in the vortex of oblivion, with barely a headstone to tell us that such once were. But our ‘time-honored’ institution yet remains,—the Methuselah among associations,—stronger and more vigorous for its years, and unsurpassed by the latest improvements in this society-creating age,—a striking monument (shall I say?) of the wisdom and genius of its founder, or (shall I not rather say?) the miraculous monument of the blessings of Him before whom all should bow with the profoundest reverence and adoration. But, to sustain the claims of Masonry for its origin to the high antiquity to which I have traced it, it relies not solely upon its history. It has other and inherent evidence which sustains it. Every human institution partakes of the character of the time and place of its origin.”

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Limited as is the territory under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, yet nowhere is Masonry more prosperous or her principles embraced and cherished with greater zeal. M. W. B. B. French describes the condition of Free Masonry in this District as follows:—

“MY BRETHREN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:—Although, compared with some of the State jurisdictions that surround us, we stand like the republic of San Marino, as compared with our own immense and increasing nation, I will venture to assert in your behalf that, in enlarged and liberal views regarding all your Masonic obligations and Masonic duties, you will endeavor not to be surpassed by any Masonic jurisdiction within this Union. In unity of sentiment and of feeling, and in following the sublime precept, ‘Brethren, love one another,’ which was so often and so faithfully inculcated by that gentle and affectionate being, St. John the Evangelist, on whose day we are now assembled, I can truly and proudly affirm, the Free Masons of the District of Columbia cannot be surpassed.”

* Proofs of a Conspiracy.

† Strabo, lib. iv. Chishull’s Asiatic Antiquities. Ionian Antiquities.

‡ 1 Kings iii. 1.

§ 1 Kings v. 6. 2 Chron. ii. 17.

|| 1 Kings vii. 13, 14. 2 Chron. ii. 13, 14.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is most full and satisfactory. We take pleasure in making extracts from it:—

“In the address of the Grand Master of Missouri, in June, 1848, there occur the following words:—‘There is another subject which requires that power be somewhere vested for its correction. Some of our Brethren have caught the spirit of the age, and are manufacturing and conferring Degrees on Masons, their wives and daughters, with an avidity deserving of a better cause,’ and the practice is severely censured. This portion of that address is referred to by the Committee on Correspondence of New York and commented on; and, as the subject is a new one to your Committee, and, most probably, to many of you, it has been deemed most advisable to give those comments made in justification of the practice, not only as information on the subject itself, but as a sample of the plausible arguments which can be made in favor of as serious an innovation (in the opinion of your Committee) as has ever been attempted upon Ancient Craft Masonry, and sanctioned by a body to whom we have been accustomed to look for the most rigid adherence to the spirit of the old Constitutions. It may be said that these ‘side-degrees,’ as they are termed, are no innovations, as they do not affect primarily the three ancient Degrees. But, though they are made a part of Masonry by their adoption, (indeed, they are defended upon the ground that, as they are under the protection of the Grand Orient of France and other Grand Lodges in Europe, and are ‘good Masonry there, they ought to be good Masonry here,’) they are an innovation upon the ancient mode of effecting the only object upon which they are defended or in any manner defensible; and, so far as they go, they are the media by which so much of Masonry as the advocates believe they constitute are imparted to persons whom those old Constitutions and something else known to all true Brothers sedulously exclude from all participation in the Order. The argument drawn from the ‘side-degrees’ given in the higher orders of Masonry has, in the opinion of your Committee, no weight. Those Degrees are conferred upon Master Masons, and those only. Those under consideration are primarily intended for females, and are given to Masons merely for purposes secondary to the main design. Your Committee most heartily join in reprobation of these female ‘side-degrees,’ and hope never to see such new-fangled notions—such modern excrecences of the Old World—engrafted on the true, simple, ancient Masonry of the New. But to the comments referred to:—

“‘There is another subject which requires that power be somewhere vested for its correction. Some of our Brethren have caught the spirit of the age, and are manufacturing and conferring Degrees on Masons, their wives and daughters, with an avidity deserving of a better cause.’ Other remarks are added, but this extract is sufficient for our purpose. We would inquire, Does the Grand Master of Missouri know what these Degrees are? Or, Does he condemn them unknown and untried? It is a good rule in regard to every thing to inquire, ascertain and possess some degree of knowledge before we adjudge a case. How can one judge that does not know? Our institution originally was, probably, founded by males, who were operative mechanics, in whose mechanical pursuits females were physically and naturally unfitted to take a part. Hence, and not on account of want of natural endowments, physical prerequisites, free birth, mental or moral qualifications, females were excluded. But shall we say that the Free Masons’ Lodge is an unfit place, on any other account than that, for female morals, female purity and female piety? Never! The ancients provided for their participation in all the benefits of the institution but those peculiarly pertaining to membership. And they bound every member of it to award, on proper demand, to all worthy Masons’ mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, widows and children, peculiar immunities and benefits. But they failed to provide them with any means of making themselves known as such.

“These Degrees supply the omission, and do that only, except giving moral

instruction and conveying religious ideas, such as Masonry everywhere gives and conveys, and also give such knowledge of real Masonry as the monitors universally afford to the uninitiated in the really 'ancient mysteries.'

"This is all. Are women unfit to possess this talisman against evil, accident, want, danger or distress,—this key to a treasury that is theirs,—this knowledge of their rights and that of their children,—and this amount of information of the true design, nature, character and object of the institution? We trow not. And are these Degrees modern? They have been conferred on Masons' wives, widows and daughters in France, Switzerland, Italy and Germany for a period of three hundred and ninety odd years at least. Are they un-Masonic? They are conferred by the Masters of Lodges throughout those countries, and in Lodges of Masonic Sisters affiliated to the Masters' Lodges, and under their visitation and government and closely allied to them. Nor is this all. They are under the protection of, and specially protected by, the Grand Orient of France and other Grand Lodges in Europe. What is good Masonry there with those whom we affiliate ought to be good Masonry here, provided it does not encroach upon the ancient Constitutions; and these Degrees do not. They have been introduced into this country: how, is unimportant. They are legitimate here, and they have been extensively conferred. The chairman of this Committee willingly and cheerfully avows having conferred them upon large numbers, both male and female. Not one that ever received them, of either sex, to our knowledge, condemned or otherwise than approved of them. They are pure as that purity of which the lambskin is the emblem. They are beautiful as the beauty of the sun's first rays in the light of the morning. Innocence itself can find no fault with them. Why should Masons, then? Their purpose is innocent. Their use to the Fraternity and to the recipients is very great. The latter secure by them access to the rights which are theirs under our well-known laws. The former secure the confidence, secrecy and co-operation of the latter in the glorious work which is the mission of our Order. And, again, are 'side-degrees' injurious? Do they overturn and destroy Masonry? Then why, if so, in seven hundred years and upwards, has not Masonry been destroyed by the 'side' or 'manufactured' Degrees of Holy Sepulchre, Christian Mark, Knights Hospitallers, Knights of St. John and Knights Templars? Do we recognise in the possessors of those Degrees Masons? Do we recognise those as Masonic Degrees? Then why not these? Are none Masonic but the three ancient? Then what are the Chapter Degrees? We have written on this subject more at length because the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi and that of Iowa have, in addition to the authority of the Grand Master of Missouri, spoken disparagingly of such Degrees. Whether they alluded to these or others we cannot say. Yet, kindly differing from them, we can say that we have seen no real or fancied injury result from the conferring of any such Degree out of the many we have received and conferred, and which are generally conferred in this State. They are all independent of Ancient Craft Masonry. We have one more fact in point. The United Grand Lodge of England in 1814, and the Grand Lodge of New York in 1819, if not earlier, authorized the conferring in Masters' Lodges of 'The Union Masters' Degree,'—a 'side-degree' designed to detect clandestine Masons and impostors; and it is still conferred in some parts of both countries and in the British Provinces. How is this? Anti-Masonic? It was deemed wise and proper at the time by old, wise and prudent Masons, and has worked no injury that we know of. We would only remark, in conclusion, that it is better to know than to guess."

We feel that we should be doing injustice if we failed to give to our Brethren in Texas the pleasure and benefit to be derived from portions of the address of Bro. Joseph R. Chandler:—

"The spirit of inquiry into the character, affinities and general tendencies by which this age is distinguished is not confined to the commoner arts of life, to the

investigation of chemical combinations or mechanical discoveries. Everywhere the spirit of man is awakened, and all upon which it is exercised is submitted to scrutiny and exposed to the dangerous test of its capability of usefulness.

"I repeat it: this test of simple utility is applied to every thing,—to the mechanic arts and their products, to science, to literature, to the domestic, the social, the political and even the religious relations of life,—not always with the same results, not always to the introduction of the new,—but with such an indifference to the past, and with such determination to allow of no test but that of utility, that we cannot doubt that what remains owes its influence rather to its ability to make its utility apparent, than to any hallowed association with antiquity, or any belief that the present is to be ascribed to a regard for the past, or made valueless to secure some shadowy ideal in the future.

"The work is going on, and all that cannot stand the test must and will be condemned. And who is he so foolish as to hold on to the institution, the principle or the instrument which evidently awaits its sentence of condemnation? Who will renounce the pleasure of holding to the right and avoiding the evil, by clinging to any object which must perish when the Ithuriel-spear of utilitarianism is applied. When all institutions, religious, political, social and domestic, are coming to the great crucible of public opinion to be tried for approval or condemnation, let us, my Brethren, submit Free Masonry to the ordeal, and openly profess our willingness to abide the result. If Free Masonry is unable to stand the test, if it has not the adaptation to the wants of social man, if it has not been capable of the good which is claimed in its behalf, if indeed, having ever been capable, it has by a change of circumstances or human affairs ceased to be longer useful, longer necessary, let us manfully now here, in this presence, and on the festival of our titular saint, honestly confess that our Brethren of olden times were deceived in the principles of Masonry, or, at least, that the circumstances of society no longer require the existence of the Order,—that it partakes no longer of the character of the useful, and therefore is no longer entitled to public regard,—that it no longer possesses claims upon our reverence, our services, our time and our affections.

"I am prepared for all this, whenever my reason is satisfied that the institution which I have so long loved, so long served, and in the light of whose honors I have so long stood, has ceased to possess the means of usefulness to others. Convince me that I am enrolled with those who have no motive of good, and that the institution cannot come up to the standard of the present and the coming time, and I will immediately vote to dissolve the Order of which I am a member, or will withdraw from an association that is productive of no benefit.

"While creeds and principles, altars and thrones, customs and attachments, are undergoing examination, we will not withhold Masonry from the inquiry; nay, we will use this occasion to submit the principles of the institution to public examination, and profess ourselves ready to abide the decision. If the Order can be useful to mankind, let us, its members, make ourselves happy in its ordinances by promoting that usefulness. If it should appear that the power of utility has departed from the institution, still let us be useful, by withdrawing from a society that demands the time which might be usefully employed on other means.

"In the first place, I claim for the institution of Free Masonry the respect of the wise and the good, on the grounds of its past usefulness, its means of diffusing kindness, the universality of its operation and the ubiquity of its presence for good, during the time when men of different climes, creeds and castes had little association. Secondly, I claim from the wise and the good their wishes for the perpetuation of the Order, founded on its adaptation to the changing circumstances and various wants of man. In former times few of the arts of life required extensive combination; individuals or small numbers could effect purposes of ordinary kind, and domestic and social requirements were satisfied with limited associations, while political institutions were sustained by each bringing

up his share to the general stock or submitting himself to the requirements of existing authority.

"Architecture—the child of prosperity, dedicated at first to God—seemed alone to demand extensive association; and, while it admitted of various degrees of excellence and position, it required of all a common spirit and a common object, and, consequently, a common sympathy. Such requirements constitute the attraction and ligaments of social combination; and, as few capitals could long give employment to all of those whom it had for special purpose called to the exercise of some of the higher or lower branches of architecture, it followed that those whose augmented science and skill gave them claims to marked consideration would seek elsewhere the exercise of their talents and the consequent reward which true science may justly demand.

"Thus architectural skill became peripatetic, but certainly liable to abuse: to secure the former and prevent the latter, evidences of attainments were important, and while these by one means assured the world of the utility of the possessor, they in another way became the symbols of fraternal relations and the tokens and evidence of existing relations.

"The wandering architects of other times thus dispensed the blessings and beauties of social life. They took with them, wherever their professional pursuits called, the best customs and choicest friendships of the people with whom they had associated; and, while they possessed in themselves the delights of confraternal relations, and all the enjoyments that spring from the redemption of pledges to kind feelings and gentle conduct, they scattered abroad the healthful influence of the principles which they professed, and became useful to humanity as the garnerers and the distributors of correct social doctrines; and especially were they profitable to communities by the necessary influence of such a life as they were bound to lead.

"Thus these wandering masters of the Masonic or architectural art became missionaries of divine intelligence; and, while they erected temples and fanes to the best of gods, which ignorance created from the attributes of the true Divinity, they, the Masons, in the sanctuary of paganism, in the holy of holies of Baal-Peor, of Jupiter, Venus and Bacchus, offered incense to the living and true God, and sanctified the altars of pantheism by early prayer and holy sacrifice to Him who was and is,—and, most of all, to Him who was to come; and paganism itself caught something of the spirituality of the truth from the mysteries of the itinerant Masons, and learned to invest her titular gods with subordinate and accountable power, that made reasonable the assertion, when circumstances would warrant the declaration, that there was a God above their gods, and that Jove himself and his Olympic deities were but the divided attributes of the newly-proclaimed Jehovah.

"Everywhere the missionary influence of these men was felt; everywhere they gathered a few to their ranks, and from land to land and from generation to generation passed onward the lamp of science and fed it with the oil of eternal truth; so that, when the apostles of Christianity preached to the learned, they appealed to the truth which had been hidden like sustaining threads in the great woof of their religious fabric; they quoted the unexplained passages of certain of their own pagan poets to prove the belief in the existence of one God; and he who bore the gospel to the enlightened of Athens found his way opened for the illustration of his divine mission by the altar to the 'unknown God,' which the Masonic missionaries of a single great truth had long before erected among the innumerable sacrificial points of the 'hill of Mars,' for the offering of the incense of contrition and piety, when the time for the promulgation of the all-pervading truth should have come.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I regret, in opening up such a theme as this, that the nature of the ceremonies of the day, and the time properly allotted to a public discourse, limit me to almost a simple enunciation of a truth which I would willingly and could easily prove by the concurrence of the legends and

traditions of the Masonic Order with the well-established facts of history; and I may add that all the new discoveries, in temple, tomb and pyramid of Egypt and the Desert, while they throw light upon scriptural records and make revealed truth comprehensible by those remaining monuments, as it has her credible, by faith in the inspiration,—all these new discoveries connect Free Masonry with those elder times before the movements of the patriarchs gave consequence to story,—times to which Babylon, Jerusalem and Athens were of the remote futurity, and in which Abraham, the father of the faithful, belonged to distant coming generations.

“While its light and heat were doing the good work among those who had received its revelation, it was guarded carefully and worshipped heartily in the congregation of the elect, not because it had not been revealed, but from a deep sense that its light might be dimmed amid the impure blaze of the world and its heat be diminished by the incombustibility of what the unsanctified might supply. And, when the gold had become dim and the false incense was offered at the altar, those who could, resorted to the secret and sanctified recess, and lighted at the unconsumed bush the lamps which idolatry and polytheism had quenched. When the uninitiated, the weak and sensual, bowed down to sun, moon and stars, and kissed their hand to the host of heaven, the men of our Order clung to the sanctifying truth, and looked beyond the Pleiades, Orion, Arcturus and his hosts to a single creative power, and to every weak or wavering acolyte they exclaimed, ‘The Lord thy God is one God.’

“The tendencies of my remarks thus far—or rather let me with more becoming modesty say, the intention of my remarks thus far—have been to prove the generally beneficent tendency of Free Masonry in the early ages of mankind,—to show that, while the association of architects enabled the great and the wealthy of the world to carry out their views of enriching their ago, by evidences of their opulence in gorgeous temples, magnificent palaces, stately tombs and cloud-aspiring towers, that same association, banded for such purposes, received from ancient mysteries the revelation of the existence of the true God, and carried that one purifying idea into all countries where there was a demand and a reward for their architectural labors.

“But I shall be told that these were elder times,—centuries when such a truth was to be concealed; but, when the fulness of time had arrived, and life and immortality were brought to light by the mission of the Anointed One, then such machinery ceased to be useful; as the chrysalis, that conceals while it conveys the aerial inhabitant, is worthless when the new being springs into action for its own and others’ enjoyment.

“That would be an argument against the portion of my plea for the utility of Masonry, if the existence of a God was everywhere acknowledged; and it would be still more dangerous if such a plea as I have put in was all that could be said in favor of the Order. But the ark of the covenant, that bore for the Israelites the copy of the law and the revelation of the will of Divinity, contained also the means of physical gratification, lower indeed in spiritual estimation, but more necessary to corporeal prosperity and physical existence.

“Side by side with the awful revelation of the book of the law was the machinery of the stupendous miracles of Moses, the mysteries of his dealings with friend and foe, and a portion of the manna which supplied the lowest wants of animal life and conveyed to the people, not only a memorial of what had been done in their behalf, but seemed to say, with emphatic teaching, that though ‘man might not live by bread alone,’ yet the proper comfort and support of his body were intimately connected with the sustenance and salvation of his higher nature, and though the immortal soul is as much preferable to the perishable body as eternity is more durable than time, yet, as to us mortals eternity is only attainable through time, so the soul’s enlargement and peace may be measurably dependent upon the position and condition of the body.

“But let me not be mistaken. I do not argue for Free Masonry as a means

of salvation; I do not presume to present it here in rivalry of revealed religion, either in the beauty of its immediate operation or the ultimate benefit of its influence. I know to whom I speak and of what I speak,—to men whose religion is of divine origin, whose faith takes hold on eternity and whose hopes are of immortality, who trust only human relations to human contrivances, but whose plan of eternal salvation is of the construction of God; while Masonry, older than Christianity, and of far greater geographical extension, springs from the ingenuity of men stimulated by man's necessities, and its primary calculations only regard the temporal wants and social condition of his kind.

"Free Masonry is an institution arising in those countries and ages of which there is no other record than that which Free Masonry itself furnishes in its own works. You look to the sacred volume for the history of the chosen people; you consult profane writers for the opinions of nations that existed before them or were contemporary with them: but enter the Valley of the Nile or penetrate the deserts of Idumea, and you stand amid lofty monuments of man's earliest greatness; and, though you may hesitate in adopting the views of writers as to the attainments of the people who dwelt in these imperishable habitations, or at least may safely doubt as to the powers imputed to them by some dreamy historian, you cannot withhold your assent from the assertion that men of a hidden science wrought these wonders and chiselled the solid rock into the elaborated dwelling-place of a mighty people,—habitations not of combined material or separate location, but a single material, immovable, inseparable, as much one in all objects and positions, excepting that of office or use, as was the affiliated body that carved them,—the wonder of an admiring world, the delight of those who enjoyed their beauty, the astonishment of those who gazed at their incomprehensible existence.

"Thus the Free Mason is furnished with the right and the means to claim aid whenever his circumstances rendered that aid necessary; and, while the individual is approaching the Lodge with a record of his wants, the hearts of the Brethren are being softened to charity and fraternal love by the exhibition of the mysteries, the rehearsal of the duties and the repetition of the lessons which insure to the initiate afflicted a fulfilment of his wishes and ministration to his wants.

"But you may say, perhaps, that, while this is well in itself, still, it has not the high claim to utility which once might have been allowed, because revealed religion—Christianity, I mean—makes this kind of charity a universal duty. I admit the fact, but deny the application. Christianity does require all men to love their neighbors as themselves; but all men do not admit the claims of Christianity. One-half the world never heard the gospel proclaimed; and one-half of those who have heard it do not receive it; and, of those who do, how few—how very few—are willing to allow the claims of those whose creed differs from their own!

"But admit, if you please, the perfect work of Christianity, and allow that its heavenly precepts are operative throughout Christendom: still, socially, politically and commercially the Christian has intimate connection with the Jew, the Mohammedan and the Pagan.

"What tie binds these? what obligation operates beyond that of interest?

"Shall the follower of the great Teacher of Nazareth quote to the sun-worshipper his divine Master's precepts of neighborly love? Shall the shipwrecked Christian or the cast-away Jew plead with the wandering Arab the partial concurrence of their creeds?

"Alas! the Ishmaelite will prove the truth of the scriptural assertion that his hand is against the hand of every man.

"Do the missionaries of peace urge against the cruelty of the savage the divine command, 'Go teach all nations'? Alas, the aboriginal lord of the soil knows nothing of the Lord of the human heart, and recognises no obligation to spare from the hatchet or the stake the man whose claim of fraternity is founded on an inadmissible gospel.

"Yet the fiery zeal of the worshippers of the sun has been quenched in the tears which established Masonry shed in its presence; the sign of the Craft has arrested the fierce hand of the Bedouin; and the hatchet of the hostile Indian has fallen harmless at the feet of the person who breathed into the ear of his savage Brother that equalizing, awful word which has come unspoken down to us from the time towards which history looks as to the unrecorded past.

"That Christianity has not done all this is not because it is not capable of all good, but because the hardness of the human heart has not allowed of its entire operation.

"In time the blessed influences of religion will secure to all the quiet enjoyment of natural and social rights. Till then Masonry may be allowed to do its work in behalf of a part. In time the blessed influences of the gospel of peace will banish war and bloodshed from the earth. Till then let Masonry pause upon the battle-field and arrest the blow that might have fallen upon the head of a Brother, or gather, from the heap of fallen foes, the perishing companion who can demand peculiar aid. Till all the earth is filled with charity, benevolence and purity, let that institution be entitled to respect for usefulness which exercises those virtues to its own multitudinous members, and gives for imitation to others the beautiful example of its own peculiar excellence.

"You will not mistake this course of argument. You will not suppose that, in thus presenting in a strong light the claims of Free Masonry to be regarded as a useful institution, I mean to derogate aught from the high and holy claims of revealed religion, or that, by instituting a comparison, I suppose any thing like an equality between Christianity and Free Masonry. God forbid that I should thus offend against the good sense of my Brethren or the well-established opinions of my audience!

"Free Masonry is a plan of cultivating social feelings into social virtues and concentrating them upon a particular class, expecting a general benefit only from the incidental operation of individual virtues upon the community in which it abounds.

"Religion looks to a change of the moral sentiments by which the principles become fixed to virtue. Religion is heaven-descended, and teaches the existence of the means of attaining another and a better world. It is the one great principle and hope whereto all minor means of virtue and social comfort are auxiliary.

"Free Masonry assists to pluck the thorns from the pathway of life, that the feet of its own professors may not be wounded. It adjusts the burden of the individual to the level of the social relation, and thus spares him the weight that might crush him to the earth. Primarily and confessedly it lays down its duties and rewards at the grave, and, chanting its requiem where it plants its cassia, it turns back to its earthly labors and its earthly rewards, deeming itself eminently useful in the exercise of philanthropy, and demanding respect for the universality of its operation.

"May not Free Masonry, then, claim at your hands the praise of doing good? Does it not challenge your respect for its means and labors to mitigate human sufferings and correct the evils consequent upon the inequalities of human condition?

"What then? Shall we enjoy no moonlight? Shall the stars be dimmed because they reflect no heat with their borrowed lustre, or shall we quench our lamp because the yet-unrisen sun will, when it shall have risen, shed more light than our feeble luminary now gives? Let us rather thank God for the diffusion of His heavenly grace wherever it abounds, and bless the humble, earth-born means of good which His providence permits to our kind, nor doubt that works for the benefit of man must be approved of God.

"But it is even charged that Free Masonry is unfriendly to republicanism,—that it is hostile to our free institutions,—that in the folds of its secrecy it hides

treachery to the country. These are charges that have been fulminated against the Order.

"Why? Who if not Free Masons have an interest in an institution which so many Free Masons aided to establish? We dangerous from our secrecy, who have assembled here, with open doors and with crowded promiscuous assembly, if not to present our mysteries, at least to make public our ceremonies and avow our relations?

"Here, too, within the shadow of the nation's Capitol, whence almost the voice of our nation's legislators may be heard in our midst! We plot treason with the sentinels of liberty walking their round within sight of our congregation? We traitors, who have with us in this assembly, clothed with the insignia of the Craft, the people's representatives? We unfriendly to the nation and to republican institutions, who wear the garb and follow in the footsteps of Washington, and call him Brother? We plot treason here in sight of his grave,—that Delphos of Masonic purity, of piety and of patriotism? Plot treason here in the city that bears his name, whose atmosphere is yet odorous with emanations of his national love and redolent with the sweets of his Masonic piety?"

CALIFORNIA.—This Grand Lodge met at Sacramento City, on the 26th November, 1850. The proceedings were all local. Masonry is described as being in a highly-prosperous condition, and several new Lodges organized since the last Communication.

WISCONSIN.—The report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge bears date in December, 1849. We regret that we have not before us the Proceedings of 1850, for, in addition to other considerations, we should be gratified to see what progress Free Masonry had made in this new State. More than thirty Lodges were represented. The address of M. W. William R. Smith embraces several important topics:—

"The exercise of exclusive Masonic jurisdiction within prescribed boundaries in our country has been conceded, by general opinion and consent of the Masonic Fraternity, to such Grand Lodges as are erected within the limits of the States. The several Proceedings of Grand Lodges for very many years past exhibit the fact that such jurisdiction is considered as of high Masonic value and important as an established right, the infringement of which has always been resisted and condemned. Such being the case throughout the United States, the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in issuing her Warrants to Lodges within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana cannot in my opinion be justified even under all the circumstances relative to the present situation of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The questions of there being a legitimate Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons in the State of Louisiana, and whether or not such Grand Lodge has forfeited her rank and standing and the respect due to her among her sister Grand Lodges, are of too grave a nature to be solved and determined by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi alone. Every Masonic power in the United States might with equal propriety, in the present conflict of jurisdiction between the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Louisiana, extend its own jurisdiction into Louisiana. In the absence of some supreme authority of arbitrament or of appeal and final decision, the only manner in which such important questions can properly be determined is by obtaining the opinions resulting from the wisdom and justice of the several Grand Lodges of the Union.

"Denying advancement to an Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft by the operation of a single vote of negation in the ballot-box. This I consider to be not only wrong in itself, but also un-Masonic: without sufficient cause shown to the contrary, the advancement may be demanded by the candidate as a matter of right. He has already submitted to the ordeal of the single negative in the ballot-box, and he stands in the Lodge as a man and a Mason, subject to the action of a majority of his Brethren on his merits or demerits: the single voice

is bound to speak *openly*, in order that the whole Lodge may be enabled to judge on the subject justly and correctly. At the last session of this Grand Lodge resolutions were adopted to this effect, and we find, in the last Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maine, that the Grand Master repudiates the doctrine that a Lodge is doing right to deny advancement to an Entered Apprentice, provided he shall not be impeached for any offence committed subsequent to his acceptance. He contends that if a candidate be accepted and is initiated, and afterwards refused advancement to the Degree of Master Mason, he is to all intents and purposes no Mason at all, entitled to no privileges as such, and therefore totally defrauded of the money he has paid.

"The question of expulsion from a Chapter or an Encampment operating as an expulsion from a Blue Lodge has been a subject of disquisition in many Grand Lodges. It is well to inquire, By what authority do Chapters and Encampments work, independent of Masonic authority inherent in and deposited with Blue Lodges? Is not the position assumed of the effect of such an expulsion an encroachment on and an unwarranted interference with the rights of Blue Lodges? Such a doctrine would not only destroy the rights of the Brethren to a trial as guaranteed by the ancient Constitutions, but would also destroy the right of a Lodge to try its Master, and the right of a Grand Lodge to try one of its own members: it places the subordinate above the superior, and converts Chapters into self-constituted proxies and representatives of Blue Lodges in the exercise of their highest prerogative,—the question of the retention or expulsion of a Master Mason. The Grand Lodge of Indiana proposes to obviate all difficulties on this subject by allowing an appeal from the action of a Chapter to the Grand Lodge, through the Blue Lodges. I consider this as wholly unnecessary: it is admitting all power to reside in a Chapter, and proposes a mere concession on the part of Chapters to Grand Lodges. The powers of Grand Lodges have been secured to them by the action of Blue Lodges, and have never been lost, much less conceded by them to Chapters. This subject is of vital importance to the whole Fraternity.

"Some Grand Lodges, particularly that of Pennsylvania, authorize the Degree of Past Master to be conferred by Dispensation in Lodges working in the symbolical Degrees. I consider this wrong, as an infringement on the rights of Chapters, in which the Past Master is actually a *Degree*; whereas in Blue Lodges it is an *Installation*, which does not advance the Brother beyond the Degree of a Master Mason, except when, on application to a Chapter, his progress in Masonry is thus far duly allowed. Therefore the conferring of this Degree or Installation in Blue Lodges and in Grand Lodges, or in any manner under their authority, should rightly and Masonically be confined to such Brethren only as have been duly elected to the chair in a Chartered Lodge, and not merely in a Lodge working under Dispensation. Consequently no Past Master as such can properly be a member of any Grand Lodge except his membership be claimed by virtue of his election and service of one year as Master of some subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of such Grand Lodge wherein his membership be claimed. This alleged confliction of jurisdiction between Grand Lodges and Chapters on Past Masters' Degree has been, I believe, set at rest by the expressed opinion of a majority of the Grand Lodges of the Union; if not, such should be their action as to settle the disputed question.

"The subject of non-affiliated Brethren, resident within the vicinity of a Lodge, and the power and propriety of such Lodge to exact from such Brethren Grand Lodge dues, or any other contribution to the funds of a Lodge, has certainly become a vexed question. This Grand Lodge has already taken action on this subject, and I cannot see any good reason that her course should be changed. A Mason ceases in the discharge of his duties when he withdraws from his Lodge, except on removal from its vicinity or for the purpose of joining some other Lodge, and neglects or refuses to submit to the well-known rules and regulations of the Order in respect to all its regular members. If he volun-

tarily assumes the character of an irregular member of the Fraternity, he can only blame himself if the consequences are visited upon him. He who never contributes to the support of his Order can scarcely hope to receive its benefits when demanded by him. It is not merely enough to become a Mason; it is necessary to continue to act with the Brethren; for as the Fraternity, whenever it is in their power, must congregate to be acknowledged and protected, and as such congregation is the very vitality of the Order, so segregation in any Degree must be considered as the inception of destruction to Lodges, and consequently to Masonic power and jurisdiction and to Masonic knowledge and integrity. By some Grand Lodges it has been proposed to tax non-affiliated Brethren for each visit to a Blue Lodge; but this measure does not reach the whole difficulty: non-affiliated Brethren may never visit Lodges,—they may never contribute in any manner whatsoever towards the fiscal concerns and prosperity of the Order; and in such case the penalty of temporary ostracism from the Fraternity and its benefits cannot be considered too severe by those who have voluntarily withdrawn themselves from the community of their Brethren.

“Any attempt to introduce into the body of Masonry any new test by which the qualification of a candidate is to be judged and acted on should be at once condemned as an innovation and rejected by every Mason who holds in veneration our ancient Constitutions, our time-honored rites and ceremonies and our world-pervading, universal language. The Holy Bible is one of our great lights, without the presence of which no regular Lodge can be permitted to work: every Mason is instructed in the importance and efficacy of this great light for his rule and government. The one great and universal test is acknowledged and respected by all true Masons, be they Christians, Jews, Mohammedans or Hindoos, and the introduction of any new tests must be considered as not only sectarian in themselves, but as innovations on the great body of Masonry, and tending in the highest degree to a total subversion of the very foundations of the Order. As a Grand Lodge, we have some four years since fully explained in our published transactions our views and opinions on this highly-important subject; and we trust that the sound and just judgment of our sister Grand Lodges who may differ with us in opinion on this doctrine of the introduction of any new test may be so exercised as to lead them into the conclusions which a majority, I believe, of the Grand Lodges of the United States have arrived at in this matter.”

We also quote from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

“During the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge for the year A.L. 5847, this Grand Lodge received and acted upon a petition, and initiated, passed and raised Franklin Whitaker. To this proceeding exceptions have been taken by several Grand Lodges, the right and power of the Grand Lodge questioned or denied, and the expediency of the exercise of such power by the Grand Lodge also denied.

“But if, indeed, the Grand Lodge had no such power, then we have sadly erred and should hasten to make amends. The Grand Lodge of Iowa thus disposes of the subject:—‘We have no doubt but that the Grand Lodge was wrong in initiating the candidate; but we have extended this report already too far to go into the argument, and many of our objections might not with propriety be published, as being deduced from the work and lectures; but, even admitting the right, its great inexpediency is too palpable to admit of an argument.’

“Again: by the old Constitutions the Grand Master has the right to make Masons at sight. Having such right, he may exercise it in open Grand Lodge as well as in a subordinate Lodge. If the Grand Master has such power, it will hardly be denied the Grand Lodge has the same power. It is believed that, had our Brethren who have seen fit to criticize this proceeding of ours given themselves the trouble of investigation, they would hardly have ventured to pass us

over to condemnation by a slight dash of the pen merely. It is quite easy to pen down simple assertion; but it is not quite so easy to sustain remarks thoughtlessly made, or support dogmatism by facts and arguments when facts and arguments really become necessary.

"Having thus far discussed the power exercised by this Grand Lodge upon general principles, it only remains to refer to one or two precedents to show that the exercise of this power is not new, but sanctioned by the oldest records in possession of the Fraternity.

"The following is an extract from the record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England:—

"Grand Lodge in ample form at the Rose Tavern in St. Mary-de-la-Bonne, on Friday, 14th May, 1731:—

PRESENT.

The Right Honorable the Lord Lovell,	Grand Master.
Thomas Batrou, Esq.,	Deputy Grand Master.
George Douglass, M.D., }	
James Chambers, Esq., }	Grand Wardens,

and other members and Lodges.

"His Royal Highness Francis, Duke of Lorraine, (now Grand Duke of Tuscany and Emperor of Germany,) at the Hague, was made an Entered Apprentice and Fellow-Craft by virtue of a Deputation for a Lodge there consisting of

The Rev. Dr. Desaguliers,	Master.
John Stanhope, Esq., }	
Jno. Holzendorff, Esq., }	Wardens,

and other Brethren, — to wit: Philip Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield, Lord Ambassador Jeremiah Strickland, Esq., nephew to the then Bishop of Namur, Mr. Benjamin Hadley and a Dutch Brother.

"Our said Royal Brother Lorraine coming to England this year, Grand Master Lovell formed an occasional Lodge at Houghton Hall, Sir Robert Walpole's House in Norfolk, and made Bro. Lorraine and Bro. Thomas Pelham, Duke of Newcastle, Master Masons. And ever since in the Grand Lodge and in particular Lodges, the Fraternity joyfully remember his Imperial Majesty that now reigns in the proper manner."

"ASSEMBLY AND FEAST, June 24, 1719.

"Bro. Payne, having gathered the votes after dinner, proclaimed aloud the Reverend Brother,

"John Theophilus Desaguliers, LL.D. and F.R.S., Grand Master of Masons, and, being duly invested, installed, congratulated and homaged, forthwith revived the old regular toasts or healths of the Free Masons.

Mr. Anthony Sayer and Mr. Thomas Morris, aforesaid, Grand Wardens.

"Now several old Brothers that had neglected the Craft visited the Lodges. Some noblemen were also made Brothers, and more new Lodges were constituted."

"ASSEMBLY AND FEAST AT STATIONERS' HALL, }
June 24, 1721, in the 7th year of George I. }

"Payne, Grand Master, with his Grand Wardens, the former Grand Officers, and the Masters and Wardens of twelve Lodges, met the Grand Master elect in a Grand Lodge at the Queen's Arms Tavern in St. Paul's Churchyard, in the morning, and, having forthwith recognised their choice of Bro. Montague, they made some new Brothers, and particularly the noble Philip Lord Stanhope, now Earl of Chesterfield."

"On the 5th of November, 1737, an occasional Grand Lodge was held at the

palace of the Prince of Wales, Past Grand Master, the Rev. Dr. Desaguliers presiding, William Grafton, Sen., and Erasmus King, Jun., Grand Wardens, when His Royal Highness Frederick, late Prince of Wales, was in the usual manner introduced and made an Entered Apprentice and Fellow-Craft.'

"These extracts from the records of the Grand Lodge of England are sufficient to show that the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has not acted without precedent. It is presumed that numerous other precedents might be found if it were worth while to pursue the search. Your Committee beg leave here to remark that they have not only been highly interested, but much instructed, in reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England in early years, and have, they trust, been thereby saved from the expression of hasty and crude opinions and the premature censure of sister Grand Lodges.

"The action of this Grand Lodge in relation to the universality of Masonic suffrage, and in relation to demits and non-affiliated Brethren, is excepted to by some Grand Lodges; and your Committee have carefully reviewed those subjects, and, so far as regards suffrage and non-affiliated Brethren, they cannot discover any good reason for changing or modifying the order of this Grand Lodge in reference to either of them. While to every particular Lodge is cheerfully accorded the exclusive management and control of its own local or domestic affairs, yet it is submitted that the making of a Mason, the introduction to the great Brotherhood of a new candidate, the investing him with rights as extensive as civilization, and the binding of every Mason to him by ties and obligations of the most intimate and sacred character, are not among those purely local acts over which a Lodge may rightfully claim exclusive control. It affects the whole Fraternity, and this Grand Lodge has declared that all the Fraternity present have a right to a voice in a matter so important.

"The subject of non-affiliated Masons is one full of difficulty; and, while we concede the trouble or impracticability of carrying out our regulation as it stands, we would find it difficult to frame another more easy of execution, more likely to remedy the evil, or less liable to be productive of evil, danger or abuse.

"In relation to demissions, our regulation is 'that no Brother shall demit from one Lodge unless for the purpose of uniting with another Lodge.' And the design was to retain jurisdiction of the person in one Lodge until he had actually become a member of another, and thus, if possible, prevent the increase of the number of non-affiliated Masons.

"Your Committee have anxiously considered this subject. It is contended that we have no power to compel a Brother to unite with any Lodge, and that no Lodge has a right to compel him to remain a member against his will. There is great force in these objections. Every act of a Mason should be the free-will offering of a heart alive to the general interests of the Order and imbued with its heaven-born principles. Masonic zeal cannot be forced. Love for the institution cannot be infused into the hearts of its members by the decrees of its supreme authorities. Unless the beauty of its structure, the benignity of its principles and the holy objects at which it aims can inspire reverence, love and zeal, it will be in vain to legislate for those ends.

"But again: a lukewarm or cold Brother, restrained to membership which he feels to be irksome or galling, cannot but be seriously prejudicial to the best interests of the Lodge. The service which he renders, if any, is unwilling; his duties, if he performs them, are performed with reluctance bordering upon disgust; and his influence is injurious in every respect, chilling every energy and blighting every enterprise. His absence would be of infinitely more benefit to the Lodge than his compulsory attendance. Your Committee, therefore, have changed their opinions upon this subject, and concur with those Grand Lodges who dissent from our former action; and they recommend that members be permitted to demit at pleasure, but that they be denied the privilege of visiting Lodges,—that Grand charities be withheld from them,—that they be excluded

from Masonic processions and festivals and other benefits enjoyed by regularly-affiliated Masons."

It would give your Committee great pleasure, in concluding the duty assigned them, to comment on the renewed evidences of the increasing prosperity of our Order, not only within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, but of the various Grand Lodges of the United States. Time and the limits assigned for this report will not permit, and we must content ourselves with tendering to our Brothers assurances of our own heartfelt pleasure at the advance of Free Masonry everywhere throughout the length and breadth of this country, and at the erection of so many new altars whereon burns the pure and bright flame of benevolence and love.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PETER W. GRAY,
JAMES REILY,
THOMAS J. JENNINGS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The undersigned, to whom was referred the package containing the Correspondence from European Lodges, beg leave respectfully to report, that from the proceedings of the Grand Mother-Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Or, (the East,) Frankfort-on-the-Maine, he has been able to obtain the following, to which he respectfully invites your attention. That the Lodges in Germany under the jurisdiction of and in correspondence with that Grand Lodge are endeavoring to "keep their lambskins unspotted, and their hands free from untempered mortar, by strictly guarding the portals of their Masonic thresholds, through the ballot-box." They have truly said, in their proceedings to which my attention has been called, "that light is good; but it will not give warmth without heat: we desire to have light and heat combined. Wisdom and knowledge are precious, but love is beyond price. Give us a clear head and a warm heart for a Mason." In their charitable and truly Masonic efforts to ameliorate the condition of the exiled emigrants, they have formed, under the supervision of the Grand Lodge, a Masonic Union, to which they invite the attention and cordial co-operation of the American Grand and subordinate Lodges to aid them in the protection and work on the building of human happiness. "Then the poor exiled emigrant who leaves his family and fatherland, to search a new home across the wide waste of waters, may have extended to him here a Brother's hand at parting, and be greeted by a Brother's welcome in that strangerland. Then Masons upon the Eastern and Western Continents may be able to carry into effect a truly humane and therefore Masonic undertaking, to the honor and glory of the Royal Art."

Several Grand Lodges in Europe are debating the propriety of prohibiting persons from visiting who are not members of the Christian church or professors of the Christian religion. This is sincerely to be regretted, as a fire-brand fraught with mischief.

The Brazilian Grand Lodge has adopted the following Article:—

"In giving the obligation, the candidate may at his option be presented with the Gospels, Bible, Old Testament, or the Constitution of Masonry."

The Grand Lodge of Switzerland, to protect themselves from imposition, have established a yearly Masonic password, to be communicated by the Grand Master in a circle or chain formed by the Brethren.

This, however, is a local matter, and alone concerns themselves. The Grand Mother-Lodge in Frankfort-on-the-Maine solicit a continuance of Masonic intercourse.

All of which is submitted with sentiments of fraternal regard, &c.

LEWIS REUTER,
Committee on European Correspondence.

HENDERSON, RUSK COUNTY, January 24, 1851.

We, the undersigned, a Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of Texas to procure a copy of your address delivered before the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in the year 1851, A.L. 5851,

Respectfully solicit of you a copy of your able and eloquent address delivered before the Grand Lodge of Texas, at Henderson, Rusk county, on the 24th of January, 1851, A.L. 5851, for publication.

Yours, most respectfully,

H. H. WHITE,
SAM. MCCLARTY,
F. L. BARZIZA.

To

R. W. JAMES REILY,
Grand Orator.

January 24, 1851.

BRETHREN:—Your communication of this date, requesting a copy of the address I had the honor to deliver before the Grand Lodge of Texas on this day for publication, has been received. You will please accept of my thanks for the terms of approbation in which you have been pleased to speak of my effort; but I regret that I cannot present you a copy for publication.

I beg you to accept for yourselves, and for the Grand Lodge of Texas, assurances of my highest Masonic and personal regard.

Yours, respectfully,

JAMES REILY.

To

H. H. WHITE,
SAM. MCCLARTY, } *Committee.*
F. L. BARZIZA, }

The following communication from Union Lodge, U. D., at Panama, New Grenada, has been received by the Grand Secretary since the closing of the session of the M. W. Grand Lodge at Henderson, a copy of which I have since forwarded to our M. W. Grand Master and the other elected officers of our Grand Lodge, and, from the importance of the object in view by the Brethren in that country, (although novel and yet unknown in Masonic history,) I have been induced to append it to the printed Proceedings, so that the Craft throughout our State, in particular, may take the matter into their serious consideration.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

AN APPEAL TO FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Texas.

PANAMA, NEW GRENADA, February 11, 1851.

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER:—At a special meeting of Union Lodge, U. D., held on the 30th January, A.L. 5851, A.D. 1851, at the Lodge Room in the City of Panama, in the Republic of New Grenada, in South America, the following proceedings were had,—to wit:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Worshipful Master to inquire into the expediency of soliciting our parent Grand Lodge to declare Panama in the Republic of New Grenada a *Masonic missionary station*, and this Lodge the agent, for the purpose of aiding the poor distressed worthy Brethren crossing this isthmus.

Resolved, That the said committee be required to report the most efficient plan for soliciting voluntary contributions from the Masonic world, in money,

clothing, medicines and other necessities and comforts, to be ministered to the sick and worthy Brethren visiting this part of the globe, and to bury those who may die in this place.

Resolved, That the said committee report in full in writing at the next regular meeting.

The following Brethren were appointed the Committee on the foregoing resolutions:—Bros. Middleton, Dinneford and Smith.

At the regular meeting held on the 6th February, A.L. 5851, A.D. 1851, the following further proceedings were had on the same subject,—viz.:

The Committee on the "Missionary Charity Fund" made a report, which, after having been read and discussed, was received and unanimously adopted:—

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Union Lodge, U. D.

BRETHREN:—The undersigned Committee, appointed to inquire into the expediency of soliciting our parent Grand Lodge to declare this City of Panama a Masonic missionary station, and this Lodge the agent, for the purpose of rendering aid to distressed worthy Brethren, &c. &c., as per annexed resolutions, beg leave to report,—

That, since the acquisition of California by the United States, the emigration to and from it by the way of this isthmus has been and continues to be immense; that among the wayfarers are men of all nations, many of whom are members of our Fraternity. During the past eighteen months, several meetings of Masons have been held here for charitable and social purposes,—when finally, on the 21st September, A.L. 5850, A.D. 1850, for the first time, several Brethren (to the number of eleven) met in convention and resolved to apply to a superior Masonic authority for a Warrant of Dispensation to assemble and work in a legal and constitutional form as Masons, for the purpose of ministering aid, comfort and consolation to distressed worthy Brethren who might be cast upon this highway of the two oceans in a destitute condition, and to consign to mother-earth with decency the mortal remains of those who might end their career among us. Application accordingly was made in a regular manner to the M. W. Grand Master of Masons of the State of Texas, (for want of a competent Masonic authority in this republic, and because three of the petitioners hailed from that State, where they were favorably known both as men and Masons,—one of them being a Life Member of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the said State, and Past District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District of said State,—and, for these reasons, feeling more than usual confidence that their prayer would meet with a hearty and prompt response.) In this reasonable expectation they were not disappointed, and on the 20th December of the same year the Brethren met by virtue of the Dispensation thus granted them by the M. W. Grand Master of the State of Texas. Thus Union Lodge in Panama exists as a regularly-established Masonic body.

Your Committee have deemed it necessary to preface this report by this historical account of the establishment of this Lodge for the information of the Craft at large, and, while explaining the motives of its organization, to point out the means necessary to its maintenance and the carrying out the laudable intentions of its founders,—intentions which, it is to be hoped, will meet the support and assistance of all good Masons throughout the world.

Your Committee deem it proper for one moment to draw attention to the position of Panama, situated as it is at one end of the bridge connecting the two oceans. Even now, as has been shown, the travel through it is immense; and as commerce and the mechanical arts shall further demonstrate the advantages of its geographical position, we may reasonably feel every assurance that the tide of emigration for years to come will constantly be an increasing one. Among the vast multitudes who thus flock to it in transit are Masons, "good men and true," some of whom are suffering sorely from the vicissitudes of for-

tune, and who require at our hands all the succor and aid which not only the tenets of our time-honored and beloved institution, but also humanity, teach us to extend to the "weary and heavy laden." To effect any practical good in this way, it is evident that a regularly-constituted Lodge should be established and supported here under the sanction of a competent superior Masonic body,—for the maintenance of which funds are necessary. The Brethren who came forward and united as a body for the formation of this Lodge have taxed themselves higher than is known in any part of the world, by way of monthly dues or contributions, for the creation of a "General Fund" to defray the ordinary expenses of this Lodge, which amount on an average to \$150 per month. The number of members comprising this Lodge at its organization was not more than seven,—although eleven Brethren signed the proceedings of the Convention; but four have been since compelled to leave the place in pursuit of their various avocations. Hence it will be perceived at a glance that the heavy expenses of organizing, furnishing and maintaining this Masonic Lodge, which stands as a "good Samaritan" in the desert to aid the impoverished, cherish the weak, to nourish the sick and to bury the dead of our numerous transient Brotherhood, bears most heavily upon its very limited membership. The Committee would here take occasion to remark that the monthly contributions of each member, as fixed by our By-laws, are five dollars American gold, which may produce a revenue barely sufficient to defray the ordinary expenses of the Lodge; consequently, further taxation and voluntary donations will be necessary in cases of emergency, either for a deficit in the "General Fund," or for charitable purposes, which latter needs most funds, and the attainment of which is an object of deep solicitude with this Lodge and the immediate purpose of this appeal.

With the view, then, of acquiring this "Charity Fund," with which to administer comfort to the sick and distressed worthy Brethren or to bury the dead, your Committee deem it expedient to call the attention of the parent Grand Lodge (and through it to appeal to the whole Masonic world) to the facts herein set forth, in the full hope that this "voice from the wilderness" will be heard and responded to with all convenient and prompt liberality. In conclusion, your Committee would submit to the consideration of this Lodge the following resolutions and recommend their adoption,—viz.:

Resolved, That the M. W. the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, our parent, be respectfully solicited to declare Panama a Masonic missionary station, and Union Lodge the agent to carry out the object of the said mission, and to recommend to the Lodges subordinate to her jurisdiction to call upon the Brethren for voluntary contributions for the formation of a Missionary Charity Fund, to be transmitted to Panama for objects of charity among Masons.

Resolved, That our parent Grand Lodge be solicited to use her influence and kind offices with the Grand Lodges with which she may be in correspondence, to adopt a similar course for the collection of the said Charity Fund.

Resolved, That this report, with the resolutions creating this Committee, be printed in circular-letter form, in sufficient number to be addressed to the Masonic world, as an appeal to this Lodge for voluntary donations in money and such other articles as the donors may deem proper to give for the formation of the said Charity Fund; and that the same be promulgated through the press in this city and abroad, with a request to the editors to take a favorable notice of the same and to bring the matter fairly before their philanthropic and Masonic readers.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this Lodge be charged with the carrying these resolutions into effect, and that the Secretary attest the same. Also to receive and receipt for all donations made in accordance with these resolutions, and to report the same from time to time to the Lodge, and render an account of their administration every quarter, at the regular meetings in

March, July, September and December of each year, and that the same be sent up annually to the parent Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEWIS A. MIDDLETON,
W. DINNEFORD,
A. Y. SMITH, } *Committee.*

PANAMA, February 6, 1851.

In obedience to the requirements of the last resolution, we, the Executive Committee, take great pleasure in laying before you these proceedings, with our solicitation to submit the same to that part of the Masonic world under your jurisdiction, and that you may, on behalf of our said Lodge, appeal to the liberality of the Brethren composing your household, and to the humane feelings of the philanthropic, that the object of this Lodge as set forth in the foregoing proceedings may be realized for the benefit of the poor and needy, and to enable this Lodge to imitate the example of the "GOOD SAMARITAN."

We are, Most Worshipful Brother, respectfully and fraternally, your Brothers and friends.

GEO. FISHER, *Worshipful Master*,
LOUIS C. MEERTENS, *Senior Warden*,
JULIEN PEZENTY, *Junior Warden*,

Executive Committee of Union Lodge, U. D., at Panama, N. G.

Attest, W. DINNEFORD, *Secretary*.

TO MASONS.

A Lodge has been established at this place, after a great effort and at great expense, for the noble purpose of relieving distressed or sick Brethren who may pass here on their way to and from California. It has cost a great amount of money to start it, and the noble spirits who have so done deserve the thanks of all Brethren, and more especially their encouragement and assistance in carrying out their glorious and charitable purpose. The Lodge is young and small, and will have to work hard to meet, for a season, their expenses; and we recommend to Brethren passing through this place, who have the ability, a donation to their Charity Fund, that they may be more abundantly able in time of need to relieve a worthy Brother,—and would also ask Brothers in the States and in California, who have the ability, to circulate this notice through other papers. We visited the Lodge last evening and can vouch for the above.

CHARLES W. COOK,
Richmond Lodge, No. 230, Pennsylvania.
MARTIN VICE,
Integrity Lodge, No. 187, Philadelphia, Pa.
E. J. SMITH,
Lygonia Lodge, Ellsworth, Maine.
WM. M. LUBBOCK,
Strict Observance Lodge, No. 73, Charleston, S.C.
HENRY S. LUBBOCK,
Moniteau Lodge, No. 106, New York.
JACOB RICH,
Devotion Lodge, No. 160, Lexington, Kentucky.
SAMUEL LYON,
Adelphi Lodge, No. 23, New York.
FRANK ISAACS,
Adelphi Lodge, No. 23, New York.

PANAMA, February 14, 1851.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas met at the Masonic Hall of Austin Lodge, No. 12, in the City of Austin, on Monday, the 19th day of January, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852, being the Fifteenth Grand Annual Communication.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. W. B. Ochiltree,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ G. A. Evarts,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ H. R. Cartmell,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ Wm. S. Day,	{ District Deputy Grand Master 5th Masonic District.
“ W. H. Cushney,	Senior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ J. E. Cravens,	Junior Grand Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
“ H. D. Woodsworth,	Grand Lecturer.
“ J. C. Harrison,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
“ Thos. P. Cartmell,	Grand Steward.
W. Harvey Smith,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Adolphus Sterne, of Nacogdoches; Andrew Neill, of Seguin.

The regular call of Lodges having been made by the Grand Secretary, thirty-eight were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas was then opened in due and ample form, with prayer by Bro. Jno. R. McCall, Grand Chaplain *p. t.*

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered the following,—his annual address and communication:—

BROTHERS:—The Fifteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas assembles under most favorable and flattering auspices. But fifteen years have elapsed since the assemblage of the first Communication of this Grand Lodge: there were then in this broad-spread land but three Lodges holding Charters from the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana. We now number seventy-one Lodges working under Charter, besides twenty-two to whom Dispensations have been granted since the last Grand Annual Communication,—the returns showing two thousand members who have been made in Texas. It affords me most unalloyed pleasure to state that, so far as my information extends, the most undisturbed harmony prevails among the Lodges and the Brethren.

The reports from the Deputy Grand Master and the several District Deputy Grand Masters afford particulars with regard to the progress of the Craft within the bounds of their several Districts. Their reports show that they have actively discharged the very important duties which have devolved upon them.

The report of the Grand Lecturer fully confirms the position which I have taken with regard to the highly-prosperous situation of our honored and cherished institution. The very large area of country embraced in our Masonic jurisdiction renders it, in my opinion, indispensably necessary that there should be a division of labor in this highly-responsible and laborious department. It is physically impossible for one individual to traverse the vast extent of territory included between the Rio Grande and the Red River, and to do that justice to the task imposed upon him which a good Mason would feel was absolutely incumbent upon him. I would therefore suggest to the Grand Lodge the propriety of electing two Grand Lecturers, with power to each to appoint one deputy, and that, instead of paying to the Grand Lecturer a stated salary, as now is done, an amount, to be determined on, shall be paid him by the Grand Treasurer for each subordinate Lodge by the Grand Lecturer visited,—the certificate of the Secretary of the subordinate Lodge to be the voucher of the Grand Treasurer for the payment. Thrown together from all quarters of the globe, as are the Brethren in our State, it is not a subject of astonishment that there should exist some slight discrepancies in the mode of work. In an institution whose emblems number the plumb and the square there should be the most perfect uniformity. I would suggest that a committee should be appointed at an early period of our present assemblage, whose duty it shall be to report a mode of work for the three Degrees, and that, after the action of this body upon the work reported, the subordinate Lodges should be *required* to adopt the work when exemplified to them by the Grand Lecturers.

The resolutions of the several subordinate Lodges visited by the present Grand Lecturer speak a higher tribute to his great worth and excellence than any thing that could emanate from me.

The report of the Secretary, which is here submitted, speaks for itself. It is but an additional evidence of the zeal and devotion which have ever characterized our honored and cherished Brother. I cannot let this occasion pass without bearing witness to his excellence as an officer and a Mason.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows that the finances of the Grand Lodge are in a most safe and prosperous condition. Indeed, the disbursal of the amount of money which is accumulating in the Treasury of the Grand Lodge is becoming a matter of grave and serious import. The published Proceedings of the former term shows that there were many variant opinions entertained on the subject by Masons of high standing intellectually, as well as of exalted worth. It is a subject to which I have given much reflection, and I, with great humility, submit my views. I do not think that it would be prudent, under present circumstances, for the Grand Lodge to proceed to erect large and expensive buildings for the accommodation of the body at their Annual Communications, nor do I think that it would be either safe or right to lend out the funds to any particular Lodge or Lodges. The proposition for a distribution of the funds, as proposed and advocated at a former session of the body, has no equity in it. Masonic colleges have a tendency to benefit the children of the more prosperous members of our Order, while the orphan and child of poverty and destitution have no entry within their gates. How will you dispose of it, then? I would recommend, in the first place, that the Grand Lodge remit to the subordinate Lodges the whole amount of their dues for the succeeding Masonic year. This will materially assist them in the payment of such debts as at present enthrall them, and will enable them to prepare comfortable rooms for the assemblage of the Craft. I would then propose that the present surplus funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer be constituted an educational fund. When I speak of an educational fund, I mean what I say. I do not recommend that it be applied to the erection of costly edifices, but that it be reserved as a fund for the education of the children of the poor and indigent Master Masons throughout our jurisdiction. I am convinced that there are many orphan-children scattered abroad throughout our land who have a claim

upon our charities, who, under existing circumstances, will grow up in ignorance, and, as a matter of course, be subject to all the attendant ills, who might be converted into bright and shining lights—nay, who might be rescued from the eternal punishment declared to be the lot of the wicked—by the proper application of this fund. I would rather—much rather—know that we had reclaimed one living soul from the horrible bondage of ignorance and of crime, than to witness the rearing of an edifice as grand and superb as the temple of Solomon itself. I hope that the Grand Lodge will improve upon the crude idea which I throw out, and provide for the attainment of a good English education for every indigent orphan and child of destitution, entitled to the care and protection of the Craft, within our jurisdiction.

At the Grand Annual Communication of the year 1850, A.L. 5850, a liberal appropriation was made from the funds of the Grand Lodge to procure a stone, with suitable inscription, for the Washington Monument. I regret very much to inform the Brothers that this resolution has not been complied with. I will not suppose for a moment that this neglect has been occasioned by want of a proper veneration for the memory of the great and good man whom we intended to honor. I hope that the Grand Lodge will take action to cause their previous resolution on this subject to be carried into immediate effect.

During the last year my venerable predecessor granted a Dispensation for the establishment of a Lodge at Panama. At the last session, upon the representation of the Lodge, I deemed it proper to extend the Dispensation for twelve months. Doubtless, the proceedings, dues and returns will come before you during the present session.

The history of this infant Lodge is one of the most interesting character. Being remote from all other Lodges, and at a point where the sick, the distressed and the destitute are most likely to be found, the calls upon their charity have been more numerous than in any other Lodge, perhaps, in the United States. Composed of old and experienced Masons from all parts of the globe, we may confidently expect that the principles of our Order will be carried out,—the hand of charity extended, and the weary pilgrim find rest and refreshment. Among the Brethren composing this Lodge I find our worthy Brother and Past Grand Secretary, R. W. Geo. Fisher, whose well-known zeal for the institution of Masonry may well be considered as a guarantee that the true interest of the Craft will be faithfully guarded at that distant point.

Since the publication of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge in 1848, many important amendments have been adopted, as have also many resolutions intended to be of binding effect upon the subordinate Lodges. These amendments and resolutions are to be found only in the printed Proceedings of the several Communications which have taken action upon them: they are, consequently, frequently overlooked, and many of the new Lodges have never been furnished with them. I would suggest the propriety of the appointment of a committee whose duty it shall be to collate the amendments and resolutions in force, and that an appropriation be made for their publication and distribution, together with the Constitution.

It will doubtless astonish many of the Brethren to learn that there are now, in several of the Eastern and Northwestern States, bodies of negroes who profess to be working as regular Lodges under Charters from the Grand Lodge of England, and from other sources.

The propriety of the action of the bodies who have so far desecrated our time-honored institution as to issue these Charters is not a subject to be discussed. This, as well as every other Grand Lodge within the slave-holding States, should indignantly protest against all procedure of the sort, and demand the immediate annulment of all Charters which have been granted. Through the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York, we learn that there are now one or more such Lodges in New York City, one in Cincinnati, one in St. Louis, one or more in New Jersey, one in Chillicothe, Ohio,

and others in Philadelphia. Could I for a moment permit myself to offer argument on this subject, I could not present the subject in any stronger terms than has been done by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York in their very able report for the years 1850 and 1851, Arts. 1 and 2, pp. 141 and 142 of the printed Proceedings of that Grand Lodge. And it is with deep regret that I perceive that our sister Grand Lodge subsequently resolved that these articles were not to be considered binding on the Grand Lodge or any of its subordinates.

It is with the most sincere pleasure that I turn from a subject so calculated to excite the deepest feelings of my nature, to announce to this Grand Lodge the happy and glorious consummation of the adjustment of the difficulties existing between the Grand Lodge of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge of New York. Although twelve months have elapsed since the consummation of this great event, I cannot forego the pleasure of congratulating the whole Masonic world on the happy adjustment. The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge have been kindly forwarded to us, and could must be the heart which, upon their perusal, does not devoutly thank God for the issue.

The settlement of the difficulties existing between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, followed by the adjustment of the strife in New York, gave room to Masons to hope that the Masonic world was at peace,—that the gates of the temple of Janus were once more opened; but I regret to state that a small cloud of strife has again arisen upon the horizon of our sister-State of Louisiana.

The firm stand taken by M. W. Grand Master Gedge in sustaining the exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana within her limits cannot be too highly praised. I hope that this Grand Lodge will take such action on the matter as the importance of the question at issue demands.

The accompanying circular address from the M. W. Grand Lodge of California appeals in the strongest terms to the sympathies of the Craft throughout the Masonic world. I hope that the earnest solicitation for aid will not be passed by unheeded.

The melancholy duty devolves upon me of announcing to the Grand Lodge the death of three of our Past Grand Officers during the past year,—Past Grand Master Barry Gillespie, Past Grand Senior Warden Josiah J. Crosby, and Past Grand Warden Edward Burleson. While we should bow in humble submission to the will of the Supreme Grand Master, we claim the humble privilege of offering our sympathies at the altar of their memories. This Grand Lodge will take such action in the premises as custom sanctions.

I have granted Dispensations for three Lodges,—viz.: Unity Lodge, Polk county; Newbern Lodge, Shelby county; Pulaski Lodge, Panola county.

I continued, upon what I considered a proper showing, the Dispensation of Nueces Lodge. During the past summer, finding that that most interesting portion of our jurisdiction bordering upon the Rio Grande was greatly retarded in its advance by the difficulty of communication with the District Deputy Grand Master for that District, I appointed Bro. Peter W. Gray, of Houston, District Deputy Grand Master *p. t.* for the District bordering on the Rio Grande. My reason for not appointing a Brother residing within the District was, that I could not learn that there was a member of the Grand Lodge residing therein. I hope that the Grand Lodge will affirm my action.

I conclude, my Brothers, by invoking the blessing of God upon every action which you may, in your wisdom, think proper to take and do; and most fervently pray that during the present Communication the beauty of the Masonic edifice may not be defaced, nor its strength impaired, but that all your deliberations may be characterized by that distinguished virtue conferred by our Creator upon our first Grand Master.

W. B. OCHILTREE.

On motion, referred to the Committee on Reports of Grand Officers.

On motion, duly seconded, the following Committee on Credentials

was appointed, with instructions to report when again called to labor:—

Bros. W. H. Cushney, G. W. Crawford and James W. Henderson.

The Grand Master then announced the following Committees, required by the Constitution,—to wit:

On Work and Returns from Lodges U. D.,—Bros. Joseph C. Harrison, John E. Cravens, George W. Crawford, A. B. Holbrook and S. H. Darden.

On Finance and Accounts,—Bros. Francis L. Barziza, W. H. Cushney, L. F. Price, E. W. Moore and J. B. McMahan.

On Returns from Chartered Lodges,—Bros. Andrew Neill, H. R. Cartmell, W. C. Sparks, Peter C. Ragsdale and H. M. Lawson.

On Petitions,—G. A. Evarts, E. B. Nichols, Wm. C. Edwards, George Hancock and E. Sterling C. Robertson.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. H. D. Woodsworth, Adolphus Sterne, James T. Lytle, W. R. Elliott and J. C. Tannehill.

On Foreign Correspondence,—Bros. A. S. Ruthven, Henderson Yoakum, J. C. Wilson and Herman Yaeger.

On Grand Officers' Reports,—Bros. John H. Herndon, B. E. Tarver and H. R. Runnels.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing in the city be invited to attend the present meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The following report from R. W. R. E. Wynn, District Deputy Grand Master for the Second District, was read and referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:—

LIHN FLATT, NACOGDOCHES COUNTY, TEXAS, Jan. 12, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

DEAR BRETHREN:—As District Deputy Grand Master permit me to report the following:—

During the last year I have visited as many of the subordinate Lodges under my jurisdiction as my situation would allow me, and am happy to state that I found the same progressing, working harmoniously and fraternally.

On the 1st day of August, I granted a Dispensation to Sharon Lodge, in Rusk county, at the village of Sharon, the petition having been satisfactorily recommended. I constituted them and set them to work, and granted them Dispensations for the conferring of the several Degrees in Masonry, for an exemplification of the work and for the good and benefit of the Lodge.

On the 5th day of August, I granted a Dispensation to Canton Lodge, in Smith county, in the town of Canton, the petition having been satisfactorily recommended. I constituted and set them to work, and granted them a Dispensation for the conferring of the several Degrees, for an exemplification of work and for the good and benefit of the Lodge.

On the 18th day of October, I granted a Dispensation to Danville Lodge, in Rusk county, at the town of Danville, the petition having been satisfactorily recommended.

After granting Dispensations for these Lodges,—to wit: Sharon, Canton and Danville,—I declined receiving the fee of twenty-five dollars from the same, instructing the Masters, Wardens and Brethren to carry it up with them to the

Grand Lodge with their representation, and, if they obtained a Charter, the whole amount could be paid at that time: this will, therefore, inform you that the Lodges above named are indebted for their Dispensations.

In December, I granted a Dispensation, without fee, to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of New Salem Lodge, who had been working under a Dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the State,—their Lodge Room having been burned down, together with their Dispensation.

I have from time to time granted Dispensations to several of the Lodges under my jurisdiction, for the conferring of the several Degrees, when the emergency seemed to justify, by the unanimous wish and request of the Lodge. In most of the work I have been present and presided, considering it for the good and benefit of the Craft.

In conclusion, my Brethren, allow me to say that nothing could afford me more happiness than to be with you in the Grand Lodge; but circumstances which I cannot control prevent me from being with you. May the blessing of Heaven rest upon all your deliberations!

Yours truly and fraternally,

R. E. WYNN,
D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

On motion, duly seconded, the papers in reference to the cases of grievances from Holland Lodge, No. 1, and that of James Harrington, were referred to the appropriate committee.

On motion, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait on the M. W. Past Grand Master Willis Stewart, of Kentucky, and invite him to a seat in this Grand Lodge during the present Communication.

Committee consisting of Bros. A. Neill, G. A. Evarts and J. W. Henderson.

There being no other business on the Grand Secretary's table ready for action, the various communications and documents were handed to the appropriate committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment, until 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

GRAND LODGE ROOM, Tuesday morning, 11 o'clock, }
January 20, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852. }

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of M. W. W. B. Ochiltree, Grand Master, and with prayer.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, sixteen were found to be duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the first day's meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report, from the Committee on Credentials, was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Committee on Credentials, beg leave to report that they have examined the Credentials handed them by the Grand Secretary, and find the following Lodges duly represented by the Brethren named,—to wit:

Lockhart, No. 59,	by Bros. T. M. Hardeman and Chas. Haynes.
St. John's, No. 53,	" E. E. Lott and S. Reeves.
Friendship, No. 16,	" J. W. Sims.
Matagorda, No. 7,	" J. C. Wilson.
Murchison, No. 80,	" D. M. Stapp.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	" D. C. Dickson.
Morton, No. 72,	" T. B. Howard and John H. Herndon.
Gillespie, No. 55,	" F. L. Barziza, H. Mitchell and S. W. C. Sparks.
Lothrop, No. 21,	" C. H. Randolph.
Palestine, No. 31,	" J. E. Cravens.
Austin, No. 12,	" E. S. C. Robertson, J. Hancock and P. W. Nowlin.
Woodville, No. 62,	" N. B. Charlton.
Euclid, No. 45,	" G. A. Evarts.
Sam. Houston, No. 32,	" James Truit.
Tannehill, No. 52,	" J. M. Crockett.
Mount Enterprise, No. 60,	" H. M. Lawson.
Washington, No. 18,	" H. R. Cartmell, G. W. Crawford and B. E. Tarver.
Milam, No. 2,	" J. C. Harrison.
Hubert, No. 67,	" W. S. Day, E. D. Little, A. M. Upshaw and J. W. McDade.
Douglass, No. 43,	" W. N. Hardeman.
Cherino, No. 66,	" W. N. Hardeman.
Oasis, No. 79,	" W. H. Johnson.
Carthage, No. 77,	" W. R. Elliott and W. W. McCartney.
Red Land, No. 24,	" W. C. Edwards.
Alamo, No. 44,	" R. S. Neighbors and O. Evans.
Holland, No. 1,	" P. W. Gray, J. W. Henderson and A. S. Ruthven.
Boston, No. 69,	" H. R. Runnels.
Liberty, No. 48,	" P. W. Gray.
Tyler, No. 50,	" W. F. Evans.
Springfield, No. 74,	" D. N. Prendergast.
Lafayette, No. 34,	" L. F. Price.
Harmony, No. 6,	" E. W. Moore.
Caledonia, No. 68,	" T. B. Howard.
Victoria, No. 40,	" A. B. Hollbrook.
Gonzales, No. 80,	" W. H. Stewart.
Clinton, No. 23,	" D. H. Lett.
Rocky Mount, No. 63,	" J. B. Gaut.
Larissa, No. 57,	" P. C. Ragsdale.
Paris, No. 27,	" H. D. Woodsworth.
Lavaca, No. 86,	" J. T. Lytle.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. CUSHNEY,
G. W. CRAWFORD, } Committee.
J. W. HENDERSON, }

The R. W. H. D. Woodsworth, Grand Lecturer, presented his an-

nual report, as follows, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Reports from Grand Officers:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, in Grand Annual Communication assembled.

DEAR BRETHREN:—From the cycle of time, another year has passed to the deep silence and embrace of eternity,—gone with its cares and labors, and the record of its proceedings is now registered with the august Grand Master of us all.

At the close of my labors as Grand Lecturer, it becomes my duty briefly to report to the M. W. Grand Lodge the manner in which my time has been employed in the discharge of the trust reposed with me.

Early in April last I commenced labor, and, with the exception of a few weeks necessarily devoted to my private duties and family, have been constantly employed in visiting the various Lodges in the eastern and middle portions of the State; during which time I have visited, and, to the best of my feeble abilities, presented the work and lectures to, the following Lodges under Charter and Dispensation,—the last-named as I have met with them in my travels to Chartered Lodges, whenever time and previous appointments would permit,—viz.:

Holland, No. 1; Milam, No. 2; Harmony, No. 6; Austin, No. 12; Constantine, No. 13; Friendship, No. 16; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Washington, No. 18; Forest, No. 19; Lothrop, No. 21; Marshall, No. 22; Clinton, No. 23; Red Land, No. 24; Montgomery, No. 25; Olive-Branch, No. 26; Paris, No. 27; Palestine, No. 31; Sam. Houston, No. 32; Jackson, No. 35; Jefferson, No. 38; Leona Union, No. 39; Eagle, No. 41; Van Zandt, No. 42; Douglass, No. 43; Euclid, No. 45; Teutonia, No. 47; Tannehill, No. 52; St. John's, No. 53; Grand Bluff, No. 54; Gillespie, No. 55; Larissa, No. 57; Mt. Enterprise, No. 60; Gilmer, No. 61; Rocky Mount, No. 63; Joppa, No. 65; Cherino, No. 66; Boston, No. 69; Mount Vernon, No. 71; Temple, No. 70; Washita, No. 73; Brazos, No. 75; Carthage, No. 78; Oasis, No. 79; New Salem, U. D.; Andrew Jackson, U. D.; McClarty, U. D.; Tarrant, U. D.; Tusculum, U. D.; Pulaski, U. D.; Newbern, U. D.:—in all, fifty Lodges.

It affords me unmingled pleasure to be able to inform the M. W. Grand Lodge that, so far throughout its wide-spread jurisdiction as I have been able to see or learn, universal harmony prevails, and growing prosperity attends the labors of the Craft. In the rapid march which has attended our beloved Texas in her civil, political, moral, intellectual and physical career, Masonry, too, has held the "even tenor of her way;" her beautiful bark glides safely on amid sunshine and storms, and from her lofty peak the bright "peculiar star," that sparkles *brightest*, though *last* disclosed, upon the broad flag of our glorious Union, sheds its soft and silvery light from the five glittering points of her fellowship, casting its glowing effulgence and warming influence upon thousands, who, while they feel its effects and gaze upon its beauty, are still unable to analyze its properties, or to define or appreciate its combinations. Upon the altars of Masonry in Texas, the pure flame of mystic devotion now burns as steadily, and incense as hallowed arises, as from those of any land beneath the sun.

In the discharge of my official duties, but few questions of an unpleasant or difficult character have presented themselves for solution or settlement, and, where such have arisen, they have, I believe, in nearly every instance, been amicably and harmoniously adjusted. During the past year many matters involving the interests of the Craft have come under my observation, which will require action on the part of the M. W. Grand Lodge. But as these will be, doubtless, more appropriately noticed by the M. W. Grand Master in his annual address, as also in the reports of the various Grand Officers, I deem it unnecessary for me at this time to allude more particularly to them, as the regular order of business will more properly bring them before the Grand Lodge for consideration.

It also affords me great satisfaction to inform the Grand Lodge that, from the very kind manner in which the different Lodges have been pleased to receive the work and lectures, as I have had the honor to present them to the Brethren, great uniformity has been effected in the work of the different Degrees conferred, and a manifest determination evinced on the part of the Craft to become proficient in the work, carefully and zealously to watch over the interests of the Order, and preserve inviolate, and transmit unimpaired, the sacred tenets and ancient landmarks of our time-honored institution.

Application has not unfrequently been made to me to grant Dispensations to confer the second and third Degrees upon Brethren. Where the application has been unanimously made, and the interests of the Craft seemed to require it, I have granted such Dispensations and conferred the Degrees. But, although this has been done, I beg leave to say to the M. W. Grand Lodge that I regard the practice as an infringement upon the original landmarks of Masonry, and the exercise of a power, *though delegated* by the Constitution, of doubtful authority, and, if at all, should be exercised with extreme caution, and only in cases of manifest emergency. The mysteries and jewels of Masonry amply repay for the labor and time expended in their acquisition.

Authority having been granted by the M. W. Grand Lodge to the Grand Lecturer to appoint a Deputy, I had the honor to appoint to that station, at his solicitation, our R. W. Brother, W. D. Goff, of Gonzales, and assigned him, as most convenient to his place of residence, that portion of the jurisdiction west of the Brazos River.

I regret that I am compelled to announce to the Grand Lodge, that, from causes unknown to me at this time, the Right Worshipful Brother has, I am informed, *visited* but few, if any, of the Lodges in that truly interesting portion of our State. This I sincerely regret, and the more because the Brethren there may, perhaps, feel grieved at the apparent neglect shown them. I trust, however, that the reasons above given will be to them satisfactory, and that a Brother's charity will prompt them, one and all, to forgive the injury, if any they have received, and the want of proper regard shown them. Had circumstances and time permitted, nothing could have afforded me greater pleasure than to have visited the Western Lodges and witnessed at home the zeal and ability which have ever characterized their Masonic labors.

I cannot, in justice to my own feelings and the Brethren with whom I have been permitted to labor during the past year, close my report without tendering to them individually and collectively my heartfelt acknowledgments for the many distinguished marks of respect and confidence they have shown, and for the generous liberality bestowed upon me.

The scenes of the past year, the warm grasp of fraternal regard and words of kindly greeting given me by those with whom I shall, doubtless, never again meet and mingle, as I have done, in the labors of the Lodge *below*, are graven upon memory's tablet, and will be among the last to fade from recollection.

How far my feeble services may have been conducive to the welfare of the Fraternity and the interests of our beloved Order, as well as the manner in which the work and lectures have been given to, and received by, the Brethren, the M. W. Grand Lodge can best determine by reference to reports and resolutions accompanying the returns from the various Lodges visited, as presented by them to the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, I may be permitted to return to the officers and Brethren of the M. W. Grand Lodge my sincere acknowledgments for the distinguished token of regard and confidence which I have had the honor to receive at their hands. That wisdom from the great Architect of the Universe may inspire the hearts and direct the labors of the officers and members of the M. W. Grand Lodge in the discharge of the arduous and responsible duties before them,—harmony and unanimity prevail and characterize your deliberations, at the

present and all subsequent Communications,—is the ardent prayer of your friend and Brother,

H. D. WOODSWORTH,
Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The following report from the R. W. F. B. Sexton, District Deputy Grand Master for the Third District, was read and referred to the appropriate committee:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Texas.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER AND BROTHERS:—In accordance with the requirements of your Most Worshipful body, I beg leave, respectfully, to submit the following report of my proceedings as District Deputy Grand Master of the Third Masonic District, during the past year, and to give, so far as the limited opportunities I have had for ascertaining it will permit, a brief statement of the condition of Masonry in my District.

Professional and domestic engagements have prevented me from visiting as many of the Lodges in my District as I had desired. Had not these causes, the very large extent of territory included within the District would have rendered it utterly impracticable for me to have done so.

During the year, however, I have visited Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32; Jackson, No. 35; Cherino, No. 66; Woodville, No. 62; Milam, No. 2, and Red Land, No. 24; all of which seemed to be working in peace and harmony, and, though some of them were encountering local difficulties, endeavoring to “spread the cement of brotherly love and affection, which unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and Brothers.” I desire to make no invidious distinctions in reporting the working capacities and proficiency of any particular Lodges, but as Milam, No. 2, and Cherino, No. 66, are the only Lodges (except Red Land, No. 24, of which I have the honor to be a member) in which I have had the pleasure of seeing work done, I must say that they are worthy of the highest commendation. They not only select good material of which to construct our moral and Masonic edifice, but they are endeavoring so to administer our sacred rites as to impress the recipient of them with their solemnity, their fraternity and their benevolence.

On the 29th September last, under a proxy appointment from M. W. Grand Master W. B. Ochiltree, I opened and set to work Newbern Lodge, U. D., at Newbern, in the county of Shelby, just without the northern line of my District. It affords me much pleasure to state that this Lodge commenced its career under most favorable auspices. Its members are few, but they are “good men and true,” determined to disseminate the pure principles of Free Masonry, and to suffer none who outrage the laws of morality to disgrace its sublime tenets, or contaminate the incense which should burn upon its holy altar both day and night. In the organization of this Lodge, the zeal of the Brethren to receive instruction, together with my own desire to serve them if at all possible, induced me to exercise a power which, upon mature reflection, I think did not appertain to my office: I mean the granting of a Dispensation to confer Degrees out of my District.

The 22d and 29th Articles of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge confer the power of granting Dispensations, for the conferment of Degrees, upon the District Deputy Grand Masters, in general terms, without limiting its exercise to their respective Districts. Yet it would seem to me, that as the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters have the power of granting such Dispensations anywhere within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, the reason of the thing is against its possession by the District Deputy Grand Masters anywhere but in their own Districts.

The only object of appointing a District Deputy is, that he may represent the Grand Master in a particular section, and there he is invested with certain of

the powers and attributes of the Grand Master, but not elsewhere. If your Most Worshipful body should be of the opinion, as I now am, that I have transcended my authority in granting, as I did, a Dispensation for the initiation, passing and raising a candidate in Newbern Lodge, I hope the facts I have stated will excuse my unintentional error, and not suffer it to operate to the prejudice of that Lodge, which I earnestly recommend to your most favorable consideration. I hope, also, that the Grand Lodge, in disposing of this report, will determine, unequivocally, that District Deputy Grand Masters have, or have not, the power alluded to out of their districts.

During the past Masonic year, I have granted only four Dispensations for the conferment of Degrees,—one to Tyler Lodge, No. 50, one to Jackson Lodge, No. 85, one to Milam Lodge, No. 2, and one to Newbern Lodge, U. D. I have sought studiously to refrain from the exercise of this power, having always deemed it dangerous. Perhaps wise policy would dictate that cases of emergency should never exist in Masonry. If Dispensations are granted at all, they should be for the benefit of the Craft, not of the candidate.

I hope I may be permitted to suggest that, if the Grand Lodge should continue to regard the office of District Deputy Grand Master as useful and important, it will immediately take into consideration the very great importance of reorganizing the Districts, making them much smaller, and increasing the number of District Deputies. No one can visit, with any benefit, more than ten or twelve Lodges during the year, and pursue, with proper industry, his ordinary avocations; and Masonry has it written upon the very threshold of its temple,—“These are on no account to be neglected.”

In Red Land Lodge, No. 24, and Milam Lodge, No. 2, it has occurred that an office became vacant and was immediately filled by an election at another than the regular annual period prescribed for the election of officers. This was provided for in the By-laws of each of these Lodges, which had been approved by your Most Worshipful body, or I should have deemed it my duty to have prohibited the proceedings, as violative of the ancient landmarks of the Order. The best Masonic authorities that I have been able to consult hold that but one election can take place during the Masonic year, and that if, after that passes, a vacancy occurs, it must be filled by *pro tem.* appointment. The reasons for this are fully discussed by those Masonic authors who treat of the subject, but are too numerous to be referred to here. I hope you will consider this matter, which may not before have been brought to your notice, and determine as you may think the usages and customs of Free Masonry require.

By an order of the Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, it was made my duty to preside at a second trial of John H. Moffit, to be had before De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, at Jasper. It was out of my power to designate an earlier period for said trial than the 10th November last, when it took place, and said Moffit was duly and legally acquitted of the charges preferred against him. I have directed a transcript of the proceedings to be sent to your Most Worshipful body for inspection.

At the same time, a very happy adjustment of long-existing difficulties and differences was brought about,—fraternal feeling and harmony were restored among those who had long been separated. It was indeed an occasion which may fill a Mason's bosom with generous pride; mutual insults and injuries were retracted and forgiven, the fires of passion and the fierceness of prejudice were put out and subdued before the sacred shrine of that charity that “suffereth long and is kind.” May its results be permanent and its influence pervade the great family of Masons wherever dispersed around the globe!

I take pleasure in informing the Grand Lodge that Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 32, and Jackson, No. 85, have paid up their dues for which they were in arrears at the last Grand Annual Communication, and are regularly at work.

There are one or two Lodges in my District of which I had desired to make a special report, but, as I could not visit them personally, I refrain from doing so.

I requested the R. W. Bro. Grand Lecturer, while on his annual tour, to look well to their condition, and to his report I must ask leave to refer you for information concerning them.

The Lodges in my District which I have had the pleasure to visit are prospering to a reasonable degree. Circumstances requiring the administration of Masonic discipline occasionally occur, and, though the task is unpleasant, Lodges have generally met the responsibility in a firm yet fraternal spirit.

The Grand Lodge must, of course, see the very great importance of sustaining every act of this kind on the part of its subordinates, where the essential features of Masonic law have not been violated. Long before reaching the inner chamber of our sacred edifice are we taught to "walk uprightly before God and man," to square our actions by the square of virtue. How important is it, then, that every demoralizing act, every vicious habit, every connivance at fraud or corruption, should receive the reprobation of the Order, so that our high professions be not openly disavowed or disgraced! The reputation of the Craft,—its present position before the world,—more than all, the sacred and indispensable duties we owe it and each other,—call upon the Grand Lodge to enjoin upon its subordinates, by every possible means, so to enforce the regulations and charges of the Order that every Mason may be kept within the "unerring line" of truth and duty.

In concluding this report, I think it may be safely said that the principal danger to which Masonry is exposed is our excess of popularity. The reckless multitude are thronging at the gates which, in earlier times, were open to none but a well-trying, trusty and *chosen* few, and to them only after the most rigid scrutiny. The profligate, the idle, the hypocrite, the foolish and the corrupt are rushing forward to the porch of our consecrated temple, which, in the days of our forefathers, was pressed by no footsteps but those of the rigid moralist, the profound philosopher or the holy and ministering priesthood. The world is in a rage for secret societies: the arcanum of our Order, which we use only for self-protection and symbolic instruction, is fraught with tremendous importance in the wickerwork creations of human curiosity. While ever the human heart is prone to error, numbers will be dangerous to associations of morality and benevolence. It were better that there should be but *three* Free Masons in the world—and they as wise and worthy as the ancient and venerated patrons of the Order—than that there should be *three times three* millions of such as bring reproach and infamy upon the character of the Craft, who sully the purity of the lambskin which every one is required to wear with honor to himself and pleasure to the Fraternity, who vilify the rectitude of our published teachings, and openly mock the sanctity of the altar at the ministrations of which they participate. Considerations of this sort should impel every faithful Craftsman to watch with vigilance and care the interests of the Order in the admission of candidates, remembering that it is much easier to make than to unmake a Mason, and seeing that none but the good and true, the "diligent, prudent, temperate and discreet," become its members. While this is the case, we will always present an organization of peace and love and harmony, which time can never wear out and prejudice never destroy.

Regretting that I am prevented, by circumstances which I cannot control, from meeting you in Grand Annual Communication, and invoking the blessing and direction of the Supreme Architect of the Universe upon your labors,

I remain, Most Worshipful Master and Brothers,

Fraternally, yours,

F. B. SEXTON,

D. D. G. M. 3d M. D.

SAN AUGUSTINE, December 27, A.D. 1851, A.L. 5851.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns from
Vol. I.—31

Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted, and the Delegates from each Lodge therein named invited to take their seats:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. have examined the work from Andrew Jackson Lodge, and find the same correct, with the following exceptions: We find that that Lodge, at a called Communication in March last, elected a Fellow-Craft to receive the Master's Degree only four days after his passing, and that, too, without a Dispensation from any Masonic authority. This was a violation of Article 29 of our Constitution. We find also that Andrew Jackson Lodge has granted demits to several Brethren, and admitted several others, during the past year. This we regard as decidedly irregular. A Lodge under Dispensation has no right to perform any act, except where the power is expressly granted or necessarily implied in the Dispensation. The returns from said Lodge show eighteen members, when only thirteen are charged for, and there are no raisings charged for, when there should be nine. These corrections will increase the dues from \$11 50, as reported, to \$16 25. The By-laws are correct as amended by us.

We have examined the work, returns and By-laws of Terrell Lodge, U. D., and find them correct.

Also the returns of Wharton Lodge, and find some irregularities in the work,—viz.: petitions presented and acted upon after lying over but one week. Also declaring and holding meetings every two weeks,—the same not being in accordance with the By-laws under which they were working,—and other irregularities in the commencement of the work which were afterwards corrected. Said Lodge having adopted the By-laws of Morton Lodge, the Committee recommend their ratification, and that Charters be issued to the above Lodges,—viz.: Andrew Jackson, Terrell and Wharton.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The following Brethren presented themselves as Delegates from the above-named Lodges,—to wit:

Bro. F. M. Spell for Andrew Jackson Lodge, Bro. J. C. Harrison for Terrell Lodge, and Bro. A. S. Ruthven for Wharton Lodge.

The following resolutions were read, and, being an alteration of the Constitution, were ordered to be passed to a second reading:—

Resolved, That the office of Grand Lecturer of the State be abolished.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Masters to visit all the Lodges within their District at least once in each year, for which they shall receive such compensation from the Lodges which they visit as may be necessary to defray their expenses.

On motion, all documents on the Secretary's table, properly belonging to the Standing Committees, were referred.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Brethren a Committee on By-laws,—to wit:

Bros. D. M. Prendergast, L. F. Price and J. H. Herndon.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor until 7 o'clock P.M.

7 o'clock P.M., Tuesday evening, January 20, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, thirty-nine were found to be duly represented.

There being a constitutional number represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report from the Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted. The resolution alluded to was laid on the table :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Chartered Lodges most respectfully report that, up to the present time, they have examined a considerable number of the many returns submitted to them, and now report the following as being correct, and recommend their being received and adopted,—to wit:

Holland Lodge, No. 1; Harmony, No. 6; Lothrop, No. 21; Red Land, No. 24; Olive-Branch, No. 26; Paris, No. 27; Gonzales, No. 30; Palestine, No. 31; Lavaca, No. 36; Florida, No. 46; Lockhart, No. 59; Gilmer, No. 61; Rocky Mount, No. 63; Oasis, No. 79; Tyler, No. 50, and Euclid, No. 45.

They have also examined and found the work correct in the following :—

Sam. Houston, No. 82; Alamo, No. 44; Gillespie, No. 55; Mt. Enterprise, No. 60, and Murchison, No. 80.

The returns of Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 82, are reported at the old rates, which, being corrected, are reduced one-half by the amendment of the Constitution at last session, p. 60 of the printed Proceedings, to which we desire to call the attention of the Lodges, as well as to the form of returns found on p. 130. Dues as corrected amount to \$34 25.

The returns of Alamo Lodge, No. 44, are also corrected by being reduced one-half; but six affiliations are overlooked, which make the amount \$34 75, in lieu of \$60 50 as returned.

Gillespie Lodge, No. 55, returns are reduced, and are now \$21 00.

The returns of Murchison Lodge, No. 80, are also reduced to \$18 50; they, however, return dues for two Fellow-Crafts who are not members of the Lodge and are not liable for dues.

The returns of Mt. Enterprise Lodge, No. 60, are correct as reported, but they find six members returned as ministers of the gospel and no dues reported for them. This question has more than once come before the Grand Lodge, and the Committee find many returns now in their hands embracing the subject, and respectfully request the action of the Grand Lodge on the subject, for which purpose they offer the following resolution, and recommend the adoption thereof, to settle the question.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

January 20, A.L. 5852.

A. NEILL,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the Representatives of all Chartered Lodges are entitled to a seat and vote in the Grand Lodge.

Satisfactory evidence having been presented to the Grand Lodge, the following Brethren were invited to take their seats as Representatives,—viz. :

Bro. J. W. McDade, for Graham Lodge, No. 20; Bro. Jno. Patrick, for Leona Union Lodge, No. 39; R. W. Z. Williams Eddy, for De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29; Bro. Chas. B. Stewart, for Montgomery Lodge, No. 25.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. have examined the work and returns from Sharon Lodge and find them correct.

We have also examined the work and returns from Danville Lodge, in Rusk county, and find them correct.

Also the work and returns from Freedom Lodge, and find them correct, except that a person who had been elected to receive the first Degree in Alamo Lodge, No. 44, was initiated in this Lodge without a ballot.

Also the work of Canton Lodge, which is correct. The returns of that Lodge show their dues to the Grand Lodge to be \$80, exclusive of Dispensation and Charter fees, instead of \$100, as reported. As Canton Lodge is peculiarly situated, we recommend that one-half the Grand Lodge dues be remitted.

On the minutes of several of the above Lodges, and in others examined by us, we find parliamentary terms used, instead of the beautiful and expressive technical language peculiar to Masonry,—such, for instance, as “the Lodge met pursuant to adjournment,” calling for the “yeas and nays,” &c. &c. These words answer well enough for parliamentary bodies, but we do most solemnly protest against their introduction into Masonic Lodges. We are aware that this is a progressive age,—that nothing short of gun-cotton, balloons and telegraphs will satisfy some; but still we hold to the antiquated doctrine that an institution which has passed unscathed through the severest ordeals for nearly three thousand years is good enough without any of the new-fangled additions of the present day. Let us have Masonry in its unadorned primitive simplicity and purity, and when another King Solomon arises it will be soon enough to remodel our time-honored institution.

We recommend that Charters be issued to each of the above-mentioned Lodges upon the payment of the usual fee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

And the Representatives were invited to take their seats, as follows:—

Bro. Jonathan Lewter, Sharon and Canton Lodges; R. W. Bro. A. Neill and Bro. T. T. Teel, Freedom Lodge; and Bro. D. H. Lett, Danville Lodge.

On motion, duly seconded, R. W. Bro. John Sayles was added to the Committee on Reports from Grand Officers, and also appointed Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the following petitions have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to make the following report:—

The petition of Peter C. Ragsdale and ten other Masons, in and near the town of Jacksonville, Cherokee county, has been duly considered, and your Committee recommend that a Warrant be issued to them to constitute a Lodge U. D., and that E. B. Ragsdale be appointed first Master of said Lodge, D. G.

Templeton Senior Warden, and R. Frazier Junior Warden, and that said Lodge be called Jacksonville Lodge, No. —. The establishment of this Lodge has been fully recommended by Larissa Lodge, which is the nearest regular Lodge to the proposed Lodge.

Your Committee have considered the petition of John Blackwell, J. P. Mallard, John A. McKellar, P. J. Rogers, J. K. Elkins, Wm. J. Bailey, Isham Moseley, D. M. Dickerson and P. P. Helams, praying for a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Texas, authorizing them to establish a Lodge U. D. at Kickapoo, in the county of Anderson and State of Texas, to be called Kickapoo Lodge, No. —, which petition is recommended to be granted by Larissa Lodge, in the county of Cherokee, and by Palestine Lodge, No. 31, the same being the two nearest to the said proposed Lodge. Your Committee therefore recommend that a Dispensation be issued to John Blackwell, Master, D. M. Dickerson, Senior Warden, and P. J. Rogers, Junior Warden, in accordance with the prayer of petitioners.

Your Committee have had the petition of Felix Gorman, Wm. J. Struly, E. A. McCrackin, L. W. Dumas, J. G. Odom, W. A. Hickes, W. B. Haygood and G. W. Bonnman, praying for the establishment of a Lodge at the town of Magnolia, in the county of Anderson and State of Texas, to be called Magnolia Lodge, No. —, which petition is recommended by Palestine Lodge, No. 31. Your Committee therefore recommend that a Warrant or Dispensation be granted to Felix Gorman, Master, E. A. McCrackin, Senior Warden, and J. G. Odom, Junior Warden, of said Lodge, in accordance with the prayer of said petitioners.

Your Committee have also had under consideration the petition of James M. Stanton, Russel Ward, John A. Rogers, Jr., — Flanagan, Benjamin S. Howard, James A. Wolfalk, N. B. Thompson, S. C. Barton, H. M. Jackson and John R. Sandford, praying for a Warrant or Dispensation for the establishment of a Lodge at Texana, in the county of Jackson, State of Texas, to be called Texana Lodge, No. —, which petition is recommended by Lavaea Lodge, No. 36. The Committee therefore recommend that a Warrant be issued, and that James M. Stanton be appointed the first Master, Russel Ward Senior Warden, and John A. Rogers, Jr. Junior Warden, in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

G. A. EVARTS,

Chairman of Committee on Petitions.

The following report of the Grand Secretary was read :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Grand Secretary of your M. W. Grand Lodge, begs leave most respectfully to submit, for your consideration, his annual report; and, in doing so, it seems unnecessary for him to advert to the progress of our Order throughout the State, inasmuch as, from the various reports from the several Grand Officers, the most complete, efficient and valuable information is therein set forth for the deliberation and action of your Most Worshipful body. He cannot, however, allow this opportunity to pass without calling the attention of the Brethren to the unprecedented increase of our members throughout the length and breadth of our land. Where, only five years ago, the Indian tribes were in lordly possession of the soil,—where they enjoyed the wide-extended hunting-ground of their forefathers,—are now to be found the Masonic Lodge and school-house, and connected with them are found the guardian and protector of the widow and the orphan.

This increase, so vast and so unparalleled, cannot, from the evidence brought before your Worshipful body at the present Communication, be attributed to the desire of strength, the increase of number, an undue influence desired by the members of our Fraternity, or for worldly and selfish motives, but evidently arises from a strong wish to be useful to our fellow-men, a desire of knowledge,

and a sincere regard for the welfare of all mankind; and the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that such is the state of affairs in our midst is the promptness which characterizes the various Lodges in submitting their work and returns, the great distance the Representatives travel to attend the Grand Lodge, and, above all, the few cases which have to be submitted to the Committee on Grievances.

And in the advancement and prosperity of our Order, it must be a source of great satisfaction to the true and ardent Mason to find that, though our numbers are increasing, there are those who, fearlessly and unmindful of all personal feeling, come boldly forward and protect our portals from the entrance of the unworthy and profligate.

It is a matter of great regret that the Proceedings of the last Annual Communication were so long delayed in their distribution; but I trust that the circular which I forwarded to the various Lodges (and which is herewith appended) will satisfy the Fraternity that all the exertion was used on my part to have them in the possession of every Lodge as early as possible; and I would suggest for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, that hereafter a number of copies, from twenty to one hundred, be forwarded by the Grand Secretary to some officer in each District by package, all addressed to the respective Lodges, for him to mail at the town where he may reside: thus, to some extent, will be avoided the difficulty which has heretofore existed in the uncertainty of our mail-transportation.

The Domestic Correspondence during the past year has been of a very important character, and is herewith submitted, together with the answers. There have been many questions touching Masonic usage and laws, which are of vast importance to the Craft; and, as my answers to the several Lodges and Brethren on these questions may to some extent govern their action in future, it would be a great satisfaction if your Worshipful body would appoint a committee to examine the same and report thereon.

There have also been received a number of communications from various Lodges, expressing their entire satisfaction with the work and lectures of our R. W. Grand Lecturer, H. D. Woodsworth. These communications are also submitted with the Domestic Correspondence, and will, doubtless, receive the attention of the Committee.

In May last, I received a communication from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, brought by the widow of a worthy Master Mason, who, with her orphan-children, were thrown almost destitute on our shores. After considerable exertion, and through the influence of our Brethren of Lafayette Lodge, at La Grange, a situation was procured for her near that place, where, I trust, she will succeed in establishing a flourishing school. The Grand Secretary, in this case, took the responsibility of defraying her expenses, as will be shown by his annual account.

The resolution requiring the Grand Secretary to procure suitable regalia for your Worshipful body has been complied with, and is now presented, consisting of seventy aprons, seventy sashes and twenty-six collars, with appropriate silver jewels. The former regalia is still in his hands, but with a prospect of making a disposition of it in accordance with the resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

HOUSTON, August 1, 1851.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of ——— Lodge, No. —.

BRETHREN:—I deem it my duty, as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, to explain the reasons why the proceedings of our last Grand Annual Communication have been so long delayed in their publication. It is well known to the Fraternity who were at the meeting last January, at Henderson, that my best endeavors were exerted to have them out at as early a day as possible; but the first obstacle that presented itself was the difficulty in having the archives

transported from that place to Houston; and, after a delay of nearly six weeks, I finally received them, *via* New Orleans. Immediately on the receipt of them, the manuscript was prepared and sent on to the Rev. A. J. McGown, of Huntsville, for publication, (who was elected by the Printing Committee,) and to-day I have received the first numbers of the Proceedings for distribution.

I had hoped that Bro. A. J. McGown would have appended a circular, stating the cause of its delay; but, since this has not been done, I deem it a duty I owe to myself, to make this explanation.

I have every reason to believe that it has not been from any inattention or carelessness on his part that the delay has occurred, but from circumstances over which he had no control. From this, it becomes evident that, for the sake of expedition, correctness and proper management, the Proceedings ought to be published under the immediate control of the Grand Secretary, and not under that of a printing committee.

I trust that the foregoing will be satisfactory to the subordinate Lodges in the State; and that the Proceedings will be read with interest, is the sincere desire of

Your friend and Brother,
A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Texas.

On motion, duly seconded, that portion of the report of the Grand Secretary alluding to domestic correspondence was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. John Sayles, J. W. Henderson and J. T. Lytle; and, on further motion, Bro. B. E. Tarver was added to the same Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year on to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges be, and they are hereby, required to prepay the postage upon all communications sent by them to sister Lodges, the Grand Secretary or the Grand Lodge.

A communication was read from Palestine Lodge, most respectfully inviting the Grand Lodge to hold their next Communication at the town of Palestine, which was, on motion, laid on the table.

The following report of the Grand Treasurer was read and referred to the appropriate Committee:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

I now hand you my account-current with vouchers, showing four thousand six hundred and ten dollars and nineteen cents in my hands. I beg leave to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the amount of money accumulating in your Treasury, and would respectfully suggest that you adopt some plan for investing your surplus fund in the name of your Grand Lodge.

Fraternally,
E. B. NICHOLS, *Grand Treasurer.*

The following resolutions touching constitutional questions were read, and ordered to be laid on the table for a second reading:—

Resolved, That the 23d Article of the Constitution be repealed, and the following adopted in lieu thereof:—

“It shall be the duty of the subordinate Lodges to report to the Grand Secretary immediately the rejection of an applicant, the expulsion, suspension or reinstatement of a Brother. And it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary

to furnish each subordinate Lodge with a quarterly report of all the rejections, suspensions, expulsions or reinstatements of which he may be advised."

Resolved, That from and after the first day of ——— next, an applicant for Masonry to any of the subordinate Lodges of this State shall be balloted for, and, if the ballot be favorable, he shall be entitled to receive the three Degrees of Masonry, without any further balloting.

No other business appearing, the several documents on the Grand Secretary's table were handed to the appropriate committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning, Wednesday, at 11 o'clock.

11 o'clock, Wednesday morning, January 21, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, eighteen were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

The following resolutions came up in order for the second reading, and were, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. S. H. Darden, S. Powers, H. D. Woodsworth, John Sayles and F. L. Barziza :—

Resolved, That the office of Grand Lecturer of the State be abolished.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Master to visit all the Lodges within his District at least once in each year, for which he shall receive such compensation from the Lodge which he visits as may be necessary to defray his expenses.

Resolved, That the 23d Article of the Constitution be repealed, and the following adopted in lieu thereof :—

"It shall be the duty of subordinate Lodges to report to the Grand Secretary, immediately, the rejection of an applicant, the expulsion, suspension or reinstatement of a Brother. And it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish each subordinate Lodge with a quarterly report of all the rejections, suspensions, expulsions or reinstatements of which he may be advised."

Resolved, That from and after the first day of ——— next, an applicant for Masonry to any of the subordinate Lodges of this State shall be balloted for, and, if the ballot be favorable, he shall be entitled to receive the three Degrees in Masonry without any further balloting.

On motion, duly seconded, Bro. W. H. Bourland took his seat as Delegate from Washita Lodge.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, referred to the special Committee on Constitutional Questions :—

Resolved, That hereafter, in Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, no Brother, after his initiation, shall be rejected or delayed upon his application for advance or affiliation, unless for good cause shown or charges preferred at the time such application is made, the sufficiency of which cause or charges the Lodge shall alone determine.

The following report, from the R. W. Andrew Neill, Deputy Grand

Master, was read and referred to the Committee on Reports from Grand Officers, except so much thereof as relates to Hardeman Lodge, U. D., at Webber's Prairie, which portion was referred to the Committee on Grievances:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Deputy Grand Master, most respectfully submits a report of the proceedings had by him, and of his official action during the past Masonic year, and hopes that the same may receive your favorable consideration and approval, together with a few suggestions offered only on those matters which have come before him, considering that all those matters of a general character will be presented in the address of our M. W. Grand Master, and by those officers whose special duty it becomes to report thereon.

In consequence of the vast extent of country embraced within the Sixth Masonic District, and being almost the only officer residing within the same, his authority was probably more frequently invoked, and was at least exercised, in view of these circumstances, oftener than was conceived compatible with the office he held; but the great increase of new Lodges and work done required the exercise of authority, and sometimes of power, which he would gladly have declined, had not the desire which he has always entertained for our beloved institution and Order, and the many distinguished marks of honor conferred on him by the Grand Lodge, compelled him to the performance of duties when called on, however much he might have desired to refrain from action.

Many important questions have been answered; and, in many instances in which action was had on his suggestions, they were requested to be transmitted to your Most Worshipful body for consideration, and, in cases of doubt, for solution.

The cause of Masonry is flourishing in a very unparalleled degree throughout the country, and a new Masonic District is necessary to be formed, to embrace the territory between the Nueces and Rio Grande; and the necessity therefor is so apparent, that he refers to the proceedings of the Lodges under those names, as well as the letter from our R. W. Bro. H. Chamberlain, from Brownsville, and hopes action will be taken thereon.

During the past year he has assisted officially in laying the corner-stones of several edifices which are in process of construction, and which add in a great degree to the vast improvements going on in our favored State, in all the elements which constitute her peculiarly the keystone of the continent. On the 24th day of June, 1851, he assisted Past Grand Master James Webb, acting as Grand Master, with Austin Lodge, No. 12, in laying the corner-stone of the General Land-Office of the State of Texas, at Austin; on the ———, he performed that ceremony with Forest Lodge, No. 19, together with the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, then in session at Huntsville, and laid the corner-stone of Austin College, a most noble edifice, now nearly completed.

On the 10th November, he acted with Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, and laid the corner-stone of Gonzales College, at that place. Much interest was exhibited generally on these occasions, and the ceremonies were performed in due form and according to ancient usages.

Dispensations for new Lodges have been granted by the undersigned on the dates set forth, the same having been specially reported, as by the Constitution, to the Grand Secretary, at the time,—to wit:

To Tusculum Lodge, at Pine Tree, Upshur county;

New Salem Lodge, at New Salem, Rusk county;

Pine Bluff Lodge, at Troy, Freestone county,—all on the 25th January, 1851.

San Gabriel Lodge, at Georgetown, Williamson county, on the 18th May.

Hardeman Lodge, at Webber's Prairie, Travis county, on the 8th August; and

Freedom Lodge, at Fredericksburg, Gillespie county, on the 6th September.

The work and returns from there will show their merit, and by their works it is believed they are willing to be tried. The petitions for all the foregoing Lodges are returned to the Grand Secretary.

There is but one case within the jurisdiction in which action has been had by the undersigned to which reference need be made. Shortly after the issuance of a Dispensation to Hardeman Lodge, some difficulty took place, in relation to the action of the petitioners for the Lodge at Webber's Prairie, between the Lodges at Austin and Bastrop, and censuring the Brethren who acted in obtaining that Dispensation,—which has, in a considerable degree, interrupted the harmony of those Lodges and Brethren. Application was made to the undersigned, by Austin Lodge, to revoke the authority conferred to the new Lodge; but, coming to hand so near the session of your Worshipful body, I considered it better to decline taking that course, and have required the several Lodges and Brethren interested or aggrieved to send up their complaints or defences to be submitted for the consideration of your body. The returns have been made, and it is now recommended that the whole subject be referred to the appropriate committee.

That all your deliberations may be conducted with harmony, your labors closed in peace, your members return to their respective homes and receive the plaudits of "Well done, good and faithful servant," is the sincere prayer of yours, in fraternal bonds,

A. NEILL,

January 19, 1852.

Deputy Grand Master.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom has been referred a number of petitions from subordinate Lodges, praying for Dispensations to permit the Lodges to reballet for applicants for initiation, who have been rejected in the various Lodges, beg leave to state that they have had the subject under consideration, and have come to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge cannot grant the prayer of the petitioners without a change in the Constitution, which provides that one black ball shall exclude the applicant for one year, two black balls for two years, and three or more for four years. This provision may in some instances, and especially where the causes of rejection have been removed, operate hardly in excluding meritorious men from the benefits of Masonry for a time; but, conceiving, as your Committee do, that the good of Masonry in general is not injured by it, they conceive that the Grand Lodge cannot take action on the petitions, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

G. A. EVARTS, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Petitions further reported in favor of removing Terrell Lodge from Linwood to Alto, and inserting the same in the Charter just granted, which was adopted.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That that portion of the By-laws of Mount Enterprise Lodge, No. 60, fixing the time of meeting, be altered so as to read "2 o'clock on the second Saturday" in each month, instead of "7 o'clock."

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee upon Work and Returns of Lodges U. D. ask leave to report, that they have examined the work of New Salem Lodge, and find the work of

the same to be correct. The returns are informal, but in substance correct, except that an error appears on account of excess charged for dues to the Grand Lodge. It does not appear from the minutes that any By-laws have been adopted for the future government of the Lodge; but, from a communication accompanying the same, signed by the officers, we are advised that the By-laws of Clinton Lodge were adopted. We would therefore recommend that a Charter be issued to New Salem Lodge upon the payment of the fee for the same and settlement of dues.

They have also examined the work and returns of Waxahatchie Lodge, U. D., and find the same correct, and recommend that a Charter be issued upon the payment of the fee and dues for the past year.

Your Committee have examined with much satisfaction and pleasure the work and returns of Panama Lodge, which have come before them in a very neat and systematic style,—their correctness denoting that the officers and members of that Lodge are conversant with the principles and customs of our Order; and, while the correctness of the work reflects credit upon the officers of the Lodge, and proves their capacity to govern the same, the promptness with which they have met the many demands upon them, the liberality with which they bestow charity upon the worthy in distress, and their efforts to advance the Order by teaching the true principles of Masonry, are sufficient to excite the admiration of their Brethren and enlist the feelings of the Grand Lodge in their behalf. It is truly gratifying to witness such zeal and devotion, and the bright star of Masonry there shining as a “beacon-light” to direct the wayfaring and perhaps distressed Brother to those who are ready to receive him with open arms.

In consideration of the location and peculiar circumstances surrounding the Lodge, and the liberality that has characterized the acts of the members, which have had and must continue to have many demands for pecuniary aid, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That a Charter be issued to Panama Lodge, and all dues for the past Masonic year and fee for Charter be remitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON, *Chairman*.

The following communication from New Salem Lodge was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals:—

NEW SALEM, RUSK COUNTY, TEXAS.

We, the undersigned, Master and Wardens of New Salem Lodge, U. D., would beg leave to represent some few facts to the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, in as brief a manner as possible.

We would state, first, that we consider our Lodge in a healthy and prosperous condition, having had as much work on hand at her regular Communications as she was able to do; and we would state that there is a brotherly and fraternal feeling existing among the whole Fraternity without exception, so far as we know. There is yet an abundance of good material to operate on in the jurisdiction of the Lodge, that intend petitioning if we obtain a Charter, which fact, and for the good of the Craft that live here and in reach, induces us to ask the Grand Lodge to consider our petition that is before them, and, if our work justifies, to grant us a Charter, to empower us to meet and work as a legally-constituted body. In reference to our work, we would state that we were all young members, and some of our work may be a little informal; but so far as we had light we attempted to follow it, and, if error has been committed, it was of the head and not of the heart, for it seems to be the unanimous feeling of the Lodge to preserve and observe the ancient landmarks of our beloved institution.

Further, we would state that the members had proceeded, at considerable expense to themselves, to erect on the store-room of Bro. O'Hair's a Lodge

Room to hold their meetings in, for which the Lodge had not entirely paid back by her work by some one hundred and fifty dollars; that about the 1st of December last the store and Lodge Room, with jewels and furniture and Dispensation, were consumed by fire, and there was considerable work still on hand. We accordingly requested Bro. R. E. Wynn, District Deputy Grand Master, to grant us a duplicate Dispensation to enable us to work until time to make up our returns, which we obtained by the 20th of December, and proceeded to work, and Bro. Wynn notified us that he would meet us on the 24th of December. We called off and met on that night, and proceeded still to work,—partly under Dispensation, as shown by our minutes. We would not have asked the number of Dispensations we did, had not the exigency of the circumstances called for it, which was seen by the District Deputy Grand Master, who was thus induced to grant them.

We would state, further, that since our room was burned we have proceeded again to erect another room, and will have it ready in a few weeks for work, which, when completed, will not suffer by comparison with any Lodge Room we have been in in the State; and, if consistent with the previous course of the Grand Lodge, we would respectfully ask that our Grand Lodge dues be remitted to enable us to proceed.

During the year, three ministers of the gospel have been initiated, passed and raised, and Dispensations obtained for two of them. The Lodge charges ministers nothing for the Degrees, and we ask also that the Grand Lodge would favor us in like manner. Also, when the Grand Lecturer, Bro. Woodsworth, was with us, he granted two Dispensations for an exemplification of the work, for which we understood him to say there would be no charge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

And we wish the Grand Lodge to consider our circumstances and act as may seem best to them.

If the Grand Lodge grants us a Charter to work, we are willing to abide and be governed by the By-laws of Clinton Lodge, which have been inspected and approved by the Grand Lodge.

Yours, respectfully and fraternally,

Y. D. HARRINGTON, *Worshipful Master.*

T. W. QUADE, *Senior Warden.*

W. J. BARRY, *Junior Warden.*

P.S.—We have appointed Bro. James M. Barton, of Clinton Lodge, our proxy, and wish him to act for us.

Respectfully,

Y. D. H., *W. M.*

The following report from the Committee on Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee on Work and Returns beg leave to report, further, that they have examined the work and returns of the following Lodges and found the same correct, and recommend their reception,—to wit:

Morton Lodge, No. 72; Bastrop, No. 58; Milam, No. 2; Clinton, No. 23: work correct, returns stand corrected at \$47 25.

Austin Lodge, No. 12, and Matagorda, No. 7, are both correct.

St. John's Lodge, No. 53: work is found correct, one Dispensation omitted, which adds \$2 to the returns, making in all \$40 50.

Carthage Lodge, No. 77: work found correct, returns corrected so as to stand \$29 25.

Tannehill Lodge, No. 52: work also correct, returns corrected and charge for three Dispensations added, making \$29 50.

Orphans' Friend Lodge, No. 17: work and returns correct.

The work of Cameron Lodge, No. 76; Caledonia, No. 68; Leona Union, No. 89; Liberty, No. 48; Woodville, No. 62, is found correct.

The returns of each are corrected, and stand reduced as follows:—

Caledonia Lodge, No. 68, at \$34.

Leona Union Lodge, No. 89, at \$17 75.

Liberty Lodge, No. 48, at \$19 50.

Woodville Lodge, No. 62, at \$16.

In the examination of the foregoing, the Committee have found the work generally correct, and the returns need but few corrections,—in most instances of figures or addition. Where that alone is required, the Committee have had little hesitancy in doing so where no Representative was present; but, if in attendance with the Grand Lodge, they have had it done by them, and then report as correct.

Some Lodges return the list of officers for the past year. This is irregular. The officers who take their stations by election, or otherwise, on the 27th December, are the officers to be reported, and the Worshipful Master of the past year as a Past Master, if in a Chartered Lodge. They respectfully recommend that the Lodges hereafter pursue this course, and attend to the form of returns as printed by the Grand Secretary.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,

January 21, 1852.

Chm'n. Committee on Work and Returns.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Lodges U. D. was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. have examined the work and returns of Unity Lodge and find them correct, except that they have only charged for eleven members instead of thirteen. This correction will increase the dues of said Lodge to \$9 25.

Also the work of Pine Bluff Lodge, which is correct. The returns from that Lodge charge for nine members, when there are sixteen. This correction increases the dues of Pine Bluff to \$12.

We have also examined the work and returns of Fairfield Lodge, which we find correct.

Also the work and returns of Tusculum Lodge, which we find correct.

Also the work of San Gabriel Lodge, which we find correct, except that they have admitted an Entered Apprentice and conferred the other Degrees upon him, when it does not appear, from the proceedings of said Lodge, that the consent of the Lodge where he had taken the first Degree had been obtained. The dues of said Lodge amount to \$23.

We recommend that Charters be issued to each of the above Lodges upon the payment of the usual fee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON, *Chairman.*

On motion, the Representatives from the above-named Lodges were permitted to take their seats, as follows:—

For Unity Lodge, Bro. Z. Williams Eddy; Pine Bluff, Bro. J. E. Cravens; Fairfield, Bro. G. A. Evarts; Tusculum, Bro. J. B. Gaut; San Gabriel, Bros. James Armstrong, J. T. Cox and Samuel Mather.

On motion, Bro. G. M. Bryan was permitted to take his seat as Representative of St. John's Lodge, No. 5.

The following resolution was read first time and referred to the special Committee, consisting of Bros. Darden, Powers, Woodsworth, Sayles and Barziza:—

Resolved, That so much of the 38th Article of the Constitution as reads "reference shall be had to Cross's Masonic Chart" be stricken out, and, in place thereof, read "the new Masonic Trestle-Board, published by Bro. Moore, of Boston, Massachusetts."

The following communication from Rio Grande Lodge was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, a member of Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, and Past Master of the same, by the request of said Lodge, begs to call the attention of this M. W. Grand Lodge to the fact that, while said Rio Grande Lodge was working under a Dispensation which designated it as No. 56, another Lodge under the jurisdiction of this M. W. Grand Lodge was designated by the same No. 56, and the said Rio Grande Lodge was afterwards designated as No. 81.

The undersigned is instructed by Rio Grande Lodge to use his endeavors to procure the M. W. Grand Lodge to reinvest said Lodge with its original number.

Fraternally submitted,

STEPHEN POWERS.

January 21, A.L. 5852.

The following amendment to the Constitution was read the first time and passed to a second reading :—

Resolved, That Article 46 of the Constitution be amended in the last clause so as to read as follows :—

"The — District shall embrace all the territory between the Colorado and Nueces Rivers;" and add the following clause,—to wit: "The — District shall embrace all the territory beyond the Nueces River."

The following report from the Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges have examined and found the following correct, and recommend their reception,—to wit:

Cherino Lodge, No. 66; Springfield, No. 74; Warren, No. 56; Victoria, No. 40; Concord, No. 77; Friendship, No. 16; Eagle, No. 41; Joppa, No. 65, and Washington, No. 18. The work is found correct, and returns are corrected and reduced to \$29 25, two members being charged twice.

All of which is respectfully reported.

A. NEILL, *Chairman*.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 4 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday afternoon, 4 o'clock, January 21, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was again called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

The roll of the Lodges being called, there were found thirty-four Chartered Lodges represented.

The following communication from Joppa Lodge was read and referred to the Committee on Petitions :—

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Joppa Lodge would respectfully show that one Wingate Woodley presented his petition to become a member of said Lodge; that he was elected and did take the first Degree in Masonry. Afterwards Grand Bluff Lodge claimed the said Woodley as being within her jurisdiction. The jurisdiction is a matter of doubt. Grand Bluff Lodge is under the impression that she has not the power of waiving her rights as to jurisdiction.

Your memorialist would ask what course is to be pursued in the premises.

By order of Joppa Lodge.

GEO. D. McJUMSEY,
Secretary of Joppa Lodge.

The following report from R. W. E. H. Tarrant, District Deputy Grand Master, was read and referred to the appropriate committee:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

It becomes my duty, as District Deputy Grand Master for the Fourth District, to report to this Grand Annual Communication the situation of Free Masonry, and what I have done in said District. I am pleased to say that the Fraternity have done much, in that portion of my District which I have visited, to diffuse the moral principles of our Order.

Owing to my private business, it has been impossible for me to visit but few of the Lodges within my District; but, in such as I have visited, the Fraternity is doing much to diffuse education and a moral influence in the community where Lodges exist.

I have granted a Dispensation for a new Lodge at the town of Corsicana, in Navarro county, and, owing to the great distance which that portion of the county was from a Lodge, and that there are but few Masons there, I was forced to grant a number of Dispensations for the conferring of the several Degrees. The fees for such I left with the Secretary; and, owing to the sickness of its Master, the returns of said Lodge have not been returned to the Grand Lodge: I therefore recommend that their Dispensation be continued for another year.

I granted a Dispensation for a new Lodge at the town of Waxahatchie; also seven Dispensations for the conferring of the several Degrees. This was done because I was impressed with the belief that it would be of benefit to that Lodge to grant the Dispensations. I granted Dispensations to confer the several Degrees at the solicitation of Springfield and Tannehill Lodges.

I may be permitted here to suggest that it would be advisable to restrict the privilege of granting Dispensations for the conferring of the several Degrees: but little good results from such a practice.

I am yours, fraternally,

E. H. TARRANT,
D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

The following resolution was read and referred to the Committee on Petitions:—

Be it Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Texas, That Joppa Lodge, No. 65, Eagle, No. 54, and Palestine, No. 31, have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues to said Grand Lodge.

A resolution was read, and a committee appointed to report on the expediency of altering the 48th Article of the Constitution, regulating Districts.

Committee consisting of Bros. Bourland, Cravens, Eddy, Barziza, Cushney and Darden.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That a committee of twelve experienced Masons be appointed by the

M. W. Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to inspect and report to the Grand Lodge the work of the Grand Lecturer.

The following Brethren were appointed said Committee,—to wit :

Bros. Greer, Harrison, Cartmell, Hulme, Neill, Darden, Lytle, Powers, Sayles, Ruthven, Gray and Price.

The following resolution was read first time and passed to a second reading :—

Resolved, That Article 23 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be, and is hereby, repealed.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. was read and adopted as amended :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. have examined the returns from Tarrant Lodge, and find them correct. That Lodge has failed to send up a copy of its proceedings, but, with the explanations made by the R. W. Grand Lecturer and other well-informed Brethren, we have no hesitancy in recommending that a Charter be issued to said Lodge upon payment of the usual fee.

We have also examined the work and returns of Indianola Lodge, and find them correct, and recommend a Charter upon payment of the usual fee.

We have also examined the returns from Bosque Lodge, and find the dues of said Lodge to amount to \$6 50, instead of \$18 as reported. There are no proceedings from said Lodge before your Committee. We recommend a Charter to said Lodge.

Also the returns of Ioni Lodge, which are correct. This Lodge has likewise failed to send up work. We recommend a Charter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON, *Chairman*.

The Representatives were then permitted to take their seats, as follows :—

For Indianola Lodge, Bro. A. Neill; Tarrant, Bro. E. Hopkins; Bosque, Bro. R. E. Hulme; and Ioni, Bro. J. E. Cravens.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the Grand Steward be required to procure one hundred linen aprons, and one hundred blue sashes, for the use of the Grand Lodge.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P. M.

Wednesday evening, 7 o'clock, January 21, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master, and with prayer by Past Grand Chaplain A. J. McGown.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, seventy-three were found to be duly represented.

There being a constitutional number represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That the resolution adopted on the 16th of January, A.D. 1847, A.L. 5847, in relation to Representatives to the Grand Lodge, be, and is hereby, repealed.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had arrived for the election of Grand Officers for the Grand Lodge of Texas for the ensuing year.

Nominations were then received, and the election resulted as follows :—

M. W. John Sayles, Brenham,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill, Seguin,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ E. H. Tarrant, Chambers's Creek,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ J. C. Harrison, Nacogdoches,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols, Houston,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven, Houston,	Grand Secretary.
“ H. D. Woodsworth, Paris,	Grand Lecturer.

On motion, duly seconded, the installation was ordered to take place on Friday, at 11 o'clock A.M., and the following Committee of Arrangements were appointed :—

Bros. F. L. Barziza, Thos. P. Cartmell, James W. Henderson, E. S. C. Robertson, J. B. Gaut, John Hancock and P. W. Nowlin.

On motion, the following Brethren were appointed a Committee to procure an orator for the day,—to wit :

F. L. Barziza, Z. Wms. Eddy and E. W. Moore.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 11 o'clock on Thursday morning.

Thursday morning, 11 o'clock, January 22, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On the roll of the Lodges being called, twenty-seven were found to be duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee to whom was assigned the duty of procuring an orator for the day presented the following report, which was adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the selection of a suitable person as orator of the day for the Grand Lodge respectfully submit the following report :—

We are pleased to inform the Grand Lodge that the duties of Grand Orator

VOL. I.—32

will be performed by our distinguished Brother, E. Fontaine, of Travis county, whose known ability needs no eulogy from us.

Yours, fraternally,

FRANCIS L. BARZIZA,
Z. WMS. EDDY,
E. W. MOORE, } Committee.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions have had the petition of George W. Barnett, and six other Masons, in Collin county, praying for a Charter to constitute St. John's Lodge, No. 51, under consideration, and have to say that that Lodge was chartered some two or three years ago, and appears to be in existence at this time, though it is not represented at this Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge, nor does it appear in any way that the Lodge has surrendered its Charter to the Grand Lodge. In view of these facts, your Committee recommend that said Lodge be visited by the District Deputy Grand Master, and, if he shall find that said Lodge has forfeited its Charter, he may take possession of the Charter and jewels, &c. of said Lodge; and, if he shall find it to be for the advancement of the Order, your Committee recommend that said Grand Officer shall grant a Dispensation to the petitioners, and set them to work under Dispensation.

The Committee have had the application of Indianola Lodge to the Grand Lodge, to borrow money to aid them in the erection of a Lodge building, or to take stock in a joint-stock company formed for the purpose of building a Lodge Room for said Lodge, under consideration, and have to say that they deem it inexpedient for the Grand Lodge to grant the prayer of said Indianola Lodge, but would respectfully recommend that they have twelve months to pay their dues, or until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

On the application of Washita Lodge to change the place of holding the sessions of said Lodge, from Preston, to the town of Sherman, in said county of Grayson, your Committee would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That Washita Lodge, No. 73, is authorized and permitted to hold its meetings at the town of Sherman, by the consent of the majority of said Lodge.

On the memorial of Joppa Lodge on the subject of jurisdiction, your Committee can only express an opinion that Grand Bluff Lodge has the right to consent that Joppa Lodge may confer the Degrees upon the applicant Woodley, though said Woodley may reside within the jurisdiction of the Grand Bluff Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. A. EVARTS,
Chairman of Committee.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on By-laws ask leave to report that we have examined the following By-laws and amendments to By-laws, and have found some of them correct, and others requiring amendment, and we recommend their approval with the respective amendments thereto,—viz. :

By-laws of Caledonia Lodge, No. 68: we recommend without amendment.

By-laws of Harmony Lodge, No. 6: without amendment.

By-laws of Waxahatchie Lodge, U. D. : with the following amendments,—viz.:

In Section 1 of Article 2, strike out "and St. John the Baptist;" change "anniversaries" to "anniversary," and "those days" to "that day."

In Section 2 of Article 4, strike out "the petition is withdrawn, or;"

In Section 3, Article 4, strike out the words "if the report be favorable, the Lodge may proceed to ballot, unless the petition be withdrawn by the vouchers."

In Section 1, Article 5, strike out "\$2" and insert "\$3."

In Section 6, Article 9, strike out all the latter part of the section after the words "unless the same," and insert "be done at that meeting by the unanimous consent of the Lodge."

By-laws of Euclid Lodge, No. 45: accept the proposed amendments by the said Lodge.

By-laws of Douglass, No. 43: accept the amendment proposed by the Lodge.

By-laws of Lafayette, No. 34: accept the proposed amendments by said Lodge.

Revised By-laws of St. John's, No. 53: strike out all the Article regulating balloting, and approve the residue.

By-laws of Fairfield, No. —, U. D. : approved without amendment.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. M. PRENDERGAST,
L. F. PRICE,
J. H. HERNDON, } Committee.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee to whom were referred the Grievances and Appeals taken to the Grand Lodge at the present session beg leave, respectfully, to report thereon as follows,—to wit:

In the case presented by Harmony Lodge, No. 6, upon the charge preferred against A. K. Peiser, I am instructed by the Committee to report that they deem the action of Harmony Lodge therein correct, and therefore recommend the decision of said Lodge be in all things affirmed.

In the case presented by the memorial of the Brethren of Red Land Lodge, No. 24, the Committee are of opinion that the question therein presented is not such a one as requires action on the part of the Grand Lodge, it being the peculiar and exclusive privilege of subordinate Lodges to judge of the fitness and merits of materials for the great Masonic temple. The Committee therefore recommend that the memorial be returned to the Brethren of Red Land Lodge.

In the case presented by Florida Lodge, No. 46, your Committee beg leave to recommend that the same be referred to the Committee on Petitions, as they consider the subject presented by the memorial from said Lodge not properly pertaining to the duties assigned to your Committee.

In the case presented by the memorial of St. John's Lodge, No. 51, at McKinney, in Collin county,—which, in consequence of having no efficient presiding officer, has ceased to work until its Charter has become forfeited, and now prays to be permitted to resume labor, retaining still its number upon the Grand Lodge Register,—I am instructed by the Committee to recommend that the members of said Lodge be required to hold an election for officers under the direction of the District Deputy Grand Master of their District, or some other competent Grand Officer, who shall hold their offices until the next regular period for electing Officers under the Constitution shall arrive, and that it be the duty of such Grand Officer to install the officers elect, and set the Lodge properly to work, upon payment of all dues which may have accrued from said Lodge to the Grand Lodge during the time it has ceased to work.

In the case presented in the memorial from Mt. Enterprise Lodge, No. 60, in

relation to the change of place proposed for holding the meetings of Sharon Lodge, U. D., a sister Lodge of the same county, your Committee are of opinion, from the facts in the case so far as they have been able to learn them, that it would be inexpedient for Sharon Lodge to change the place at present prescribed for its meetings. They therefore recommend that the Brethren of said Lodge be required by their Charter, should one be issued to them, to continue still to hold their meetings at the place designated in their present Dispensation, inasmuch as a change, while it might mar the peace of sister Lodges in the same county, could or perhaps would not in the least degree add to the prosperity of Sharon Lodge or the convenience of its members generally.

In the case presented by Carthage Lodge, No. 78, I am instructed by the Committee to say that the record sent up in the case does not, in their opinion, present sufficient data to enable them to decide whether or not the Lodge erred in its action. We therefore recommend that the case be referred back to said Lodge, for such further action, if any in the premises, as it may deem proper to take, inasmuch as such a course will not in the least affect the remedy of the party who may be aggrieved by such action, upon a proper showing to the Grand Lodge.

In the cases presented from Friendship Lodge, No. 16, and New Salem Lodge, U. D., the Committee take great pleasure in recommending that the relief prayed for be granted by the Grand Lodge, believing that in cases where Lodges have sustained serious losses from unforeseen casualties it is but an act of sheer justice and the exercise of true Masonic charity to extend the hand of relief; while, on the other hand, your Committee, although they sympathize with the Brethren of Liberty Lodge, No. 48, and commend their zeal in preparing for the comfort and welfare of their Lodge, still do not feel authorized to recommend to the Grand Lodge to grant the relief prayed for in the memorial sent up from said Liberty Lodge, inasmuch as the pecuniary embarrassment which said Lodge may at this time be under is the result of its voluntary action, and not of any unforeseen accident or misfortune.

In the case presented by Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Washington, No. 18, your Committee are clearly of the opinion that a Lodge which inflicts a penalty upon any one of its members has the power to restore the party to all the rights and privileges of Masonry of which that penalty has deprived the party upon whom it has been inflicted, whenever it may think proper so to do, fully concurring in the report made by the special committee of Holland Lodge to whom the case was referred, and therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge that the whole matter be sent back to Holland Lodge, No. 1, for such subsequent action as it may deem proper to take in the premises.

Upon the memorial presented by Bro. Hiram Chamberlain, of Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, and the subject-matter thereof,—to wit: the side-degrees, as they are termed in Masonry,—your Committee beg leave to refer said memorial to the Grand Lodge, in committee of the whole, when the opinions of your Committee thereon can, if necessary, be given in common with the other members of the Grand Lodge.

In the case of appeal from the action of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, relative to the petition of William Ryan for initiation, your Committee are clearly of opinion that Lafayette Lodge erred in not granting the committee further time to report, unless fully satisfied of neglect on the part of said committee; in which case said committee should have been discharged, whereupon another should have been appointed upon said petition, who could only report thereon, and the regular time allowed for their report. Your Committee know of no rule or authority in Masonic jurisprudence allowing a committee of the character in question to report forthwith: had the report upon which the Lodge acted been timely made, the ballot subsequently taken should certainly stand. Your Committee beg leave to report that they regard the action of Lafayette Lodge in the premises as irregular and contrary to the long and well established Masonic

usage, and therefore not at all affecting the relative position of the petitioner or any parties concerned.

In the case presented by Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, in regard to the number of said Lodge, your Committee are of opinion that Lodges are only properly registered by a particular number when chartered,—that whether designated by number or not in a Dispensation is wholly immaterial and not at all affecting the rights or privileges of the Lodges. Seeing, therefore, no cause for action on the part of the Grand Lodge in the premises, or means by which the numbers of the Lodge referred to could now be changed, your Committee recommend that none be made.

So far your Committee are prepared to report at this time the business before them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. D. WOODSWORTH,
Chairman of Committee.

On motion, Bro. J. C. Tannehill was added to the Committee on Exemphification of Work.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

Thursday evening, 7 o'clock, January 22, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The Craft were called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, sixty-four were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The following report from the Committee to procure a suitable stone for the National Monument was read, the Committee discharged, and the report referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee to whom, by resolution, was confided the charge of procuring and forwarding to the Monumental Committee at Washington City a suitable block of native marble or stone for the Washington Monument, now being erected in that city, beg leave to report that, after many inquiries and efforts, they have found it impracticable to procure in Texas such a block either of marble or of stone, of sufficient durability, as is contemplated in your resolution or as would be suited to the building for which it is designed.

That there is both granite and marble of good quality in Texas there can exist no doubt; but, as material of this character has not yet been employed for building-purposes in the State, the localities in which they are to be found have not been ascertained; and, as the sum authorized by the resolution would not justify extensive explorations for this purpose beyond the settlements, your Committee for that reason have not been able to perform the duty assigned them.

In the various inquiries made by one member of your Committee on this subject, and by His Excellency the Governor, acting under a similar resolution of the Legislature, it was ascertained that fine granite could be obtained on the road leading from San Antonio to El Paso, and probably about midway between

those points. Application was therefore made to Major-General Brook, the commanding officer of this Military Department, who kindly promised to have brought in by a Government train any block or blocks that might be prepared, but stated that a train returning from El Paso could not be delayed on the route until they were prepared. As no one could be found who would remain in so exposed a region to prepare them for a return-train for the compensation authorized to be paid by the resolutions of the Grand Lodge and of the Legislature, your Committee were unable to avail themselves of the information thus acquired.

Your Committee, believing that such a block of stone or marble as would be accepted and used in the erection of the Washington Monument cannot at the present time be procured in the State of Texas and forwarded to its place of destination for any thing like the sum appropriated by the resolution, and perceiving no benefit that can result from further action under that resolution, ask to be discharged.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. GREER, }
JAMES WEBB, } Committee.

The following report of R. W. Wm. S. Day was read and referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master for the Fifth Masonic District, most respectfully begs leave to submit this, his annual report:—

I would take occasion to state that circumstances over which I had no control have prevented me from visiting but few of the Lodges in my District; but those few are in a prosperous condition, and, from the most reliable information, all are enjoying peace and harmony. It is truly gratifying to be made sensible that our time-honored Order is still increasing in numbers and respectability, and its beneficent blessings widely diffused not only throughout our own free and happy land, but to the oppressed over the globe. May its pure and spotless robes of innocence and charity never be soiled by vice and selfishness!

I granted Dispensations to a number of Brethren at Wharton, in the county of Wharton, for a new Lodge to be called Wharton; and I am informed that they are progressing in their labors in strict accordance with all the rules and regulations of the Craft. I have granted no other Dispensation for a new Lodge. On several occasions I have granted Dispensations to confer Degrees, in cases of emergency, but have universally been guided by the unanimous action of the respective Lodges asking them. I trust the institution has been benefited by my action.

Much as I regard our institution, my private relations in life and pecuniary matters are such that I cannot give that attention to the Lodges in my District that I would fain be happy to do; and I respectfully ask that some worthy Brother, whose time will permit, be appointed my successor.

In conclusion, permit me to be allowed to state that from principle I will never fail to use every exertion in my power to sustain an institution whose tenets are founded in virtue and goodness, and which, if we continue to act up to our faith, will perpetuate the blessings of our Order.

With the kindest emotions of brotherly regard, I have the honor to subscribe myself.

Yours, fraternally,

W. S. DAY,
D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.

The following report from the Committee on Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges U. D. have examined those of Goliad Lodge, and find the work good and returns correct, except in the amount of dues to Grand Lodge: these we have corrected.

Also the work of Newbern Lodge, which is corrected. The dues of that Lodge are not correctly reported. As corrected, they amount to \$12 25.

We recommend that Charters be issued to each of the above-named Lodges upon the payment of the usual fees.

Respectfully submitted, J. C. HARRISON.

On motion, the following Delegates were requested to take their seats:—

Bro. Hilliard, Goliad Lodge; E. M. Daggett, Newbern Lodge.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on By-laws beg leave to report, further, that they have examined the By-laws of the following Lodges, and recommend their approval with the alterations suggested,—to wit:

Bosque Lodge, U. D.: strike out "Section 3, Article 2," and insert "the officers shall be elected by ballot at the last regular Communication preceding the festival of St. John the Evangelist, and installed as soon thereafter as practicable, at which time no other business shall be transacted."

Section 4, Article 8: strike out "at both elections in his last return," and insert "and" after the word return.

Section 1, Article 4: strike out "come properly recommended" and insert "be recommended by two Master Masons, members of the Lodge."

Strike out "Section 2, Article 4," and strike out "yearly," at the end of Section 3, Article 7.

Union Lodge, U. D.: in second line, Article 6, strike out "known" and insert "required;" fourth line, same article, strike out "their" and insert "its."

Strike out "the" in second line, Article 7, and insert "a;" strike out "the" before the word "amount" in tenth line, and insert "any."

Article 5: after the word "himself" insert "and recommended by two Master Masons, members of the Lodge."

Article 9: strike out "if the report be favorable" and insert "at which time."

Strike out "it" in last line of Article 19; and strike out "on" in seventh line, Article 20, and insert "of."

Unity Lodge, U. D., Article 5: strike out "preferred" and insert "referred."

Second line, Article 12: strike out "with" and insert "by;" and third line, same Article, strike out "on" and insert "at."

Sharon Lodge, U. D.: Article 3, Section 2, after "standing" insert "committee."

Article 6, Section 1: after "Lodge" in fifth line, insert "and be recommended by two Master Masons, members of the Lodge."

Section 2, Article 7: strike out "a majority of" and insert after "are" in the last line "unanimously;" after "or" in first line, Section 1, Article 8, insert "raising."

Pine Bluff Lodge, U. D.: strike out "Master of Ceremonies" whenever it occurs in Article 3.

San Gabriel Lodge, U. D.: after "the" in twenty-seventh line, Section 1, Article 11, insert "conduct of."

Trinity Lodge, No. 14: after the word "which" in fifth line, Article 5, insert "*shall be recommended by two Master Masons, members of the Lodge;*" strike out of same line "petition shall be preferred" and insert "referred;" strike out of same Article "if the report shall be favorable, and not otherwise."

Article 6: strike out "if the report be favorable, and not otherwise."

Woodville Lodge, No. 62: Article 4, strike out "succeeding" and insert "preceding."

Article 5: strike out "to provide at all meetings."

Section 2, Article 7: strike out "if the report should be favorable, and not otherwise," and insert "when;" Section 8, same Article, strike out "and if the report be favorable" and insert "at which time."

Section 1, Article 9: strike out "one" and insert "three."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. M. PRENDERGAST,

Chairman of Committee.

The following report from the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on the Reports of Grand Officers, to whom was referred the report of the Grand Secretary, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully ask leave to submit the following report and accompanying resolutions:—

Your Committee exonerate the Grand Secretary from all culpability or censure in the delay which occurred in the distribution of the Proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication. We concur with him most fully in the propriety of having the publication of the Proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication placed under the immediate control of the Grand Secretary, that the Lodges may be furnished with them at an early period.

We deem it unnecessary for this Grand Lodge to take any action in regard to the mode of distributing the Proceedings, as that power and authority is already invested in the Grand Secretary.

Your Committee recommend the acceptance of the report, and the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, appointed and authorized to contract for and superintend the publication of one thousand copies of the Proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas for the year 1852, for distribution.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expenses of the publication of the Proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication as provided in the first resolution, and that the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for said sum, or so much as may be necessary therefor.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the R. W. Grand Secretary, for the very able and efficient manner in which he has ever discharged the duties of his office as Grand Secretary.

J. H. HURNDON, *Chairman.*

The following report from the same Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Lecturer of the State, having had the same under consideration, respectfully ask leave to report

that they deem it unadvisable so to change the Constitution as to prohibit Dispensations to Lodges for conferring the second and third Degrees in Masonry, as emergencies do sometimes arise demanding the exercise of such a power. We concur with the Grand Lecturer in the opinion that the authority should be exercised with extreme caution, and only in cases of manifest emergency, and hope that in the hands of intelligent Brethren, having the welfare of our ancient and respected Order at heart, it will be so exercised.

Your Committee, in conclusion, beg leave to express their gratification and pleasure at the highly prosperous and harmonious condition of the various Lodges throughout the State, as reported by our R. W. Grand Lecturer, and to express their high appreciation of his eminent services in the cause of Masonry, resulting from his great zeal and ability, during the past year. We recommend that the report of the Grand Lecturer be received.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. HERNDON,
Chairman.

The following resolution, introduced by Bro. P. W. Gray, was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That a subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may reinstate a suspended or expelled member, when no appeal has been taken to the Grand Lodge, by a vote of two-thirds in cases of suspension, and by a unanimous vote in cases of expulsion: *Provided*, That notice of the application for such reinstatement has been given for at least two regular meetings of the Lodge before action thereon.

Resolved, That where a suspension or expulsion has been affirmed by the Grand Lodge, then the action of the subordinate Lodge in reinstating a member shall not be final until it is affirmed by the Grand Lodge; and, in any case of reinstatement, any member of a subordinate Lodge may appeal to the Grand Lodge, and in such case a copy of the fact and record on the trial, and also on the reinstatement, shall be certified to the Grand Lodge by the Secretary of the subordinate Lodge.

On motion, duly seconded, the selection of a place to hold the next Grand Annual Communication was balloted for, and Nacogdoches duly elected: therefore, it was

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication be holden at the town of Nacogdoches, on the third Monday in January next.

The following resolution was read a second time, and referred to the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution :—

Resolved, That Article 23 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be, and is hereby, repealed.

There being no further business, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock Friday morning.

Friday morning, 10 o'clock, January 23, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, seventy-one were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The resolution providing for the repeal of the 46th Article of the Constitution, in relation to Masonic Districts, was taken up on its third reading; and,

On motion, the word "six" in the 3d Article and the word "six" in the 12th Article of the Constitution were included in the amendment, and, on the roll of Lodges being called, the said amendments were unanimously adopted, the section repealed and the word "six" in both sections stricken out.

The following report from the Committee of Arrangements was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee of Arrangements beg leave to report that the Capitol has been prepared for the ceremony of installation, and that at 3 o'clock P.M. a Masonic dinner will be given by Austin Lodge, No. 12, at Simpson's building, on Pecan Street.

F. L. BARZIZA,	} Committee.
E. S. C. ROBERTSON,	
P. W. NOWLIN,	
THOS. P. CARTMELL,	
E. HENDREE,	

The following report from the Committee appointed to revise the Masonic Districts of Texas was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

First District,—Galveston, Brazoria, Wharton, Matagorda, Fort Bend, Harris, Liberty and Panama.

Second District,—Jefferson, Polk, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Sabine, San Augustine, Angelina and Orange.

Third District,—Nacogdoches, Shelby, Cherokee, Smith, Rusk, Panola, Harrison and Upshur.

Fourth District,—Houston, Anderson, Henderson, Kaufman, Van Zandt, Dallas, Wood and Trinity.

Fifth District,—Cass, Bowie, Titus, Red River, Lamar, Hopkins, Hunt, Fannin, Grayson, Collin, Denton and Cook.

Sixth District,—All the territory between the Trinity and Brazos, except such as is included in the First District.

Seventh District,—All the territory between the Colorado and Brazos Rivers, not included in the First District.

Eighth District,—All the territory between the Colorado and Nueces Rivers.

Ninth District,—All the territory west of the Nueces River.

The Grand Marshal then announced the following appointments made by the M. W. Grand Master:—

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- 1st District, James W. Henderson, Houston, Harris county.
- 2d " F. B. Sexton, San Augustine.
- 3d " H. M. Lawson, Henderson, Rusk county.
- 4th " John E. Cravens, Palestine, Anderson county.
- 5th " W. H. Johnson, Mt. Pleasant, Titus county.

6th District, F. L. Barziza, Wheelock, Robertson county.

7th " George Hancock, Austin, Travis county.

8th " James T. Lytle, Port Lavaca.

9th " H. Chamberlain, Brownsville.

Grand Chaplains,—Rev. J. C. Woolman, San Augustine, Rev. E. Fontaine, Austin.

Grand Marshals,—A. Sterne, Nacogdoches, J. M. Crockett, Dallas county.

Grand Standard-Bearer,—R. S. Neighbors, San Antonio.

Grand Orator,—B. E. Tarver, Washington.

Grand Sword-Bearer,—W. Larkins, Bastrop.

Senior Grand Deacon,—Z. Wms. Eddy.

Grand Pursuivant,—James W. McDade, Chappell Hill.

Grand Tyler,—John B. McMahan, Lockhart.

Appointments by the R. W. Senior Grand Warden :—
Junior Grand Deacon,—G. W. Crawford, Washington.

Appointments by the R. W. Junior Grand Warden :—
Grand Stewards,—T. P. Cartmell, Austin, H. H. White, Douglass.

After which the Craft were called to refreshment, and repaired in Grand procession to the House of Representatives, where an able and eloquent address was delivered by Bro. E. Fontaine.

M. W. W. B. Ochiltree then proceeded to install the Grand Officers elect of the Grand Lodge of Texas, in due and ample form, according to ancient usages.

The Craft then repaired to a spacious apartment, and partook of a sumptuous repast prepared for the Grand Lodge by the Brethren of Austin Lodge, No. 12.

The procession then reformed, returned to the Lodge Room and resumed its labors.

OFFICERS PRESIDING.

M. W. John Sayles,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill,	Deputy Grand Master.
" E. H. Tarrant,	Senior Grand Warden.
" J. C. Harrison,	Junior Grand Warden.
" E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" H. D. Woodsworth,	Grand Lecturer.
" Z. Wms. Eddy,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" G. W. Crawford,	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. John B. McMahan,	Grand Tyler.

The following resolutions were severally read and adopted,—to wit:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the members of the House of Representatives, for the courtesy extended in allowing the Grand Lodge the use of the Hall of the House of Representatives for the installation of the officers for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the B. W. Grand Orator, Bro. Fontaine, for the able and eloquent address delivered before the Grand Lodge, and that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Brother and request a copy of the same for publication with the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Past Grand Master W. B. Ochiltree, and the other Past Grand Officers, for the faithful, able and impartial discharge of their respective duties during the past Masonic year.

No business being in readiness on the Grand Secretary's table, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, January 24, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was again called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On the roll of Lodges being called, twenty-two were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Texas, That, in conferring the Degrees of Free Masonry in subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, no distinction shall be made in amount of fees on account of profession or occupation of the applicant, and no reduction in amount of dues from subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge, on said account, shall be made.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District be instructed forthwith to proceed to Tyler Lodge, No. 50, and to inquire into the facts connected with the initiation of Charles A. Sterne,—when initiated a minor under the age of twenty-one years,—and if, in his opinion, the Master and Wardens of said Lodge knew the fact, or failed to use due diligence to ascertain the facts, that he shall arrest the Charter and jewels of said Lodge, and return them to this Grand Lodge at its next session, with his annual report.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In the case presented by the petition from Cameron Lodge, No. 76, the Committee instruct me to report that they consider the principle involved therein to have been already settled by this Grand Lodge, in the case presented by Holland Lodge, No. 1, and Washington Lodge, No. 18, and deem no further expression necessary from your Committee in relation thereto.

In the case of appeal presented by W. S. Keagley, from the action of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, your Committee are of opinion that, from all the facts in the case, as presented to them in connection with the transaction, although a more deliberate action on the part of De Witt Clinton Lodge might well have been pursued in the premises, yet they see no sufficient grounds for disturbing

the action of said Lodge, and therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge that the same be affirmed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. D. WOODSWORTH,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on By-laws ask leave to make further report:—

The By-laws of Tarrant Lodge, U. D., we recommend the approval of without amendment.

By-laws of Canton Lodge, U. D., we recommend without amendment.

By-laws of Tusculum Lodge, U. D., amended as follows,—viz.

In 2d line of 1st Section, 3d Article, strike out “semi,” and insert in its stead “held;” in 3d line change “meetings” to “meeting,” and “anniversaries” to “anniversary;” in 4th line strike out the words “St. John the Baptist,” and in 6th line change “anniversaries” to “anniversary.”

In Section 6, Article 4, strike out the words “allowing any Brother the right of appealing to the Lodge from such decision.”

In the last line of Section 5, Article 6, strike out “or” and insert “and,” and after the word “expulsion” add “must be by unanimous vote.”

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. HERNDON,
For Committee.

The following reports from the Committee on Chartered Lodges were read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee on Returns and Work of Chartered Lodges beg leave, most respectfully, to report that they have examined the following returns,—to wit:

Larissa Lodge, No. 57, and find them made out without regard to method or order, in many particulars. First, no account is rendered, and the Committee have now to make one to answer the purpose, and find the same to be \$32 75 for members, dues and Degrees, affiliations and the like: there is no date to petition, nor the conferring Degrees, so that they have no means of ascertaining whether the work is correct or not.

The returns of Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 37, are very informal, and the Lodge has sent up a percentage amount on the receipts of the year. This is not the mode by which the Grand Lodge is sustained or creates a fund: it is by work done and dues on membership. The amount ascertained by the Committee is \$9 50.

The work of Trinity Lodge, No. 13, is correct, but the returns have to be corrected in many respects. For instance, dues are paid for all who are members at the close of the year,—not by proportion for the months. No charge is made for members who have demitted during the year, and in no instance where the member has died; but affiliations have to be noted and charged, as well as the dues for membership of the affiliated Brother. The returns have been corrected in accordance with this rule, and amount to \$17 00.

The work of Hubert Lodge, No. 67, is approved; but the returns are sent up far exceeding any demand ever made by the Grand Lodge. Dues of members are only fifty cents, each Degree twenty-five cents, affiliation twenty-five cents, and for each Dispensation two dollars. The Committee cannot now say who were the original members for whom \$21 00 is charged. The whole account must be remodelled by this rule by the Secretary of the Lodge.

The work of Forest Lodge, No. 19, is approved, but the returns show two

free members. The Committee know of no rule in Masonry to sustain such returns. No distinction can exist among Masons, and if one pays dues another must. The Grand Lodge may remit, but this may be for causes satisfactory to it. Any resolution relating to ministers of the gospel will not apply in the present case. The dues will be, corrected, \$44 75.

The work of Grand Bluff Lodge, No. 54, is correct, but the returns are all incorrect: Dispensations are to be noted in the returns, to prove the work has been regular, but the charge therefor is a tax to the Grand Lodge, and not for the officer who grants it. As corrected, they stand \$18 50 instead of \$30 00.

From Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, three sheets of paper have come up, marked A, B and C; but if they are returns they are irregular in every respect, and are not signed by any person. There is no form observed, and no account therein of dues. The Committee do not conceive that they can make an account for the Lodge. Let the Secretary observe the form so often referred to, and the Worshipful Master approve the same before they leave the Lodge.

Returns of Brazos Lodge, No. 75: the work is not reported, nor the names of members, nor the various Degrees conferred with dates. The dues amount, by calculation of the number reported, to \$18 00.

Returns of Boston Lodge, No. 69, show the work correct, but no account nor addition, to show whether the amount of \$17 75, which they have sent up, be correct or not.

Returns of Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, are not in a form to be understood. New officers ought always to be reported; no charge should be made for members who have died during the year. The dues, corrected as well as understood, are \$26 50.

Douglass Lodge, No. 43: the work is correct. The returns have omitted Dispensations, which have been added, making \$37 00. If dues are remitted to ministers of the gospel, still, Dispensations are in no case remitted. It is hoped the Secretary will hereafter add up his returns, and not throw that labor on the Committee.

The work of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, is correct. The returns are reduced to \$18 25, as no charge is made for members who have demitted.

The Committee, now about to close their labors, beg leave to call attention to a few suggestions thrown out in the course of the report as to the duties of the Secretary, and hope that they will adopt the plan of always recording their reports in their own books, and then the corrections, when made, can easily be understood. The Committee recommend that the returns of the following Lodges be sent back to the several Lodges for correction, in accordance with the suggestions in this report,—to wit: Larissa, No. 57, Hubert, No. 67, Lafayette, No. 34, Brazos, No. 75, Boston, No. 69,—and the said Lodges make the corrections, and certify the returns to the Grand Secretary within six months.

The Committee also refer with pride and satisfaction to the neatness which characterizes many of the returns submitted to them, and particularly to those of Holland, No. 1, and Alamo, No. 44.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by your Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges.

A. NEILL,
Chairman.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

The undersigned of the Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges have carefully examined the returns which came to the Grand Secretary by mail from St. John's Lodge, No. 5, at Columbia, and find the work correct, and the returns reduced and corrected to \$25 00.

Also those from Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, and find the work and returns fully correct in every particular. And the undersigned cannot allow the opportunity to pass of expressing their high gratification at the returns of the last-

named Lodge, for the clear, concise and correct manner in which they have been made out, and move the unanimous commendation of the Grand Lodge in session, hoping it will be cordially conceded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,	} Committee.
PETER C. RAGSDALE,	
WM. C. SPARKS,	
H. M. LAWSON,	
H. R. CARTMELL,	

The following reports from the Finance Committee were read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the account and report of the R. W. Bro. Grand Treasurer, respectfully submit the following report :—

Your Committee have carefully examined the account of the Grand Treasurer, and find that the charges in said account against himself are correct, and the disbursements such as were authorized by the Grand Lodge. The account of the Grand Treasurer shows that at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication there was in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the sum of \$4610 10.

Your Committee have had under consideration the future disposition of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and, after due consideration, recommend that so much of the funds of the Grand Lodge as will not be required to meet the current and contingent expenses of this Grand Lodge be invested in the five per cent. United States bonds issued to Texas. We are apprized of the fact that this investment will reduce the interest on our funds, but, at the same time, such an investment is far preferable to individual security.

We are pleased to express our highest approbation of the services of R. W. Bro. Grand Treasurer for the past year. The correct manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Treasurer will ever command the respect and fraternal regard of the Fraternity.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be, and he is hereby, required to invest so much of the funds of the Grand Lodge in his hands, as will not be required to meet the annual and contingent expenses of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, in the five per cent. United States bonds issued in favor of the State of Texas, and retain the same for the use of the Grand Lodge, and that he report the amount invested, and the interest accruing thereon, to the next Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That we return our sincere thanks to Bro. E. B. Nichols for the able manner in which he has performed the duties of his office as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

FRANCIS L. BAEZZA,
Chairman.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Standing Committee on Finance and Accounts, to whom was referred the account of the Grand Secretary, would most respectfully report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. A. S. Ruthven, and find that the same shows, at the opening of this Grand Annual Communication, a balance standing against him of \$3550 49, for which he has proper receipts from the Grand Treasurer, and vouchers for such sums of money as have been disbursed by him.

Your Committee have examined the disbursement-expenses on the debit side of the Grand Secretary's account, and find them duly authorized by the Grand Lodge, except one item in said account of \$57 75. This amount was expended

by the Grand Secretary in defraying the expenses of the widow of a late Brother Master Mason and her two children from Houston to La Grange.

We cannot permit an instance of charity like the present to pass unnoticed. This is the widow of a worthy Brother Master Mason, who was destitute of the means of subsistence. Our Grand Secretary, prompted by those noble and charitable feelings which mark his character in all his transactions with men and Masons, extended to her such assistance as her embarrassed condition needed. This small amount expended by our Grand Secretary has enabled that lady to secure an honorable situation, and she is now enabled to support herself and family. We cheerfully approve of that item in his account, and recommend that it be allowed to him by the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have examined the credit side of said account, and find most of the items charged by the Grand Secretary against himself as having been paid by subordinate Lodges, to correspond with the amounts due, according to the returns of the several Lodges: some amounts do not correspond; in some instances they are larger and in others less than the amounts returned. We have conferred with the Grand Secretary upon this matter, and have ascertained that the discrepancies result from the fact that the returns from subordinate Lodges computing the amounts of the annual contributions due from them to the Grand Lodge are incorrect. The subordinate Lodges in many instances have paid only the original amounts due from them according to their returns, and not the amount due as reported by the Committee on Work and Returns of Chartered Lodges, and the remainder stands charged against them on the books of the Secretary. Some of the subordinate Lodges have paid up their arrearages, and when compared with the returns of the last Grand Annual Communication show a much larger receipt by the Grand Secretary than they are charged with. Your Committee are satisfied that the Grand Secretary has charged himself with all the money that has come into his hands.

Your Committee are informed by the Grand Secretary that his books have never been inspected under the authority of the Grand Lodge since he has been in office, and that he much desires such an inspection. Your Committee believe that such a measure is absolutely indispensable to advance the interests of the Lodge, and therefore, as well as in compliance with the wishes of the Bro. Grand Secretary, would recommend the adoption of the first resolution.

Your Committee have had under consideration the petition of the Grand Lodge of California, and feel it our duty to say that our Brethren in California have embarked in a noble and charitable enterprise, and regret much to learn of their pecuniary embarrassments, occasioned by the numerous charities which they are compelled to bestow upon worthy Brethren, whom accident, misguided judgment and misfortune have made the special objects of their charity; and, as we profess and practise charity, as an institution, to all mankind, in whatever clime fortune or accident has cast their destiny, we respectfully recommend the adoption of the second and third resolutions.

Your Committee cannot close this report without expressing their highest approbation of the services of the R. W. Bro. Grand Secretary for the past year. His devotion to the cause of Masonry and his untiring industry in advancing its benevolent objects will long command the respect and fraternal regard of his Brethren.

Your Committee recommend the payment of the contingent expenses of the Grand Lodge, and that the salary of its officers remain as fixed by former action of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine the books of the Grand Secretary, together with the returns of the several Lodges, and report the situation of the same at the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That this Lodge appropriate \$260 to the Grand Lodge of California to assist them in extricating said Lodge from the embarrassments which have been necessarily entailed upon our Brethren in California by their generous and

charitable donations upon those whom misfortune has thrown upon the charities of that institution.

Resolved, That one hundred and fifty dollars be appropriated to Union Lodge, at Panama, to aid our Brothers in extending their charities to those of our Order who may from necessity seek assistance at their hands.

Resolved, That the salaries of the officers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing Masonic year be paid out of any money in the hands of the Grand Secretary or Treasurer, and the salaries of the Grand Officers be the same as heretofore prescribed.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge return its sincere thanks to our worthy Bro. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary, for the able manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office for the past Masonic year.

FRANCIS L. BARZIZA,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions have had the petition of Corsicana Lodge, praying for a Charter to issue to it, under consideration. It appears, from the petition of said Lodge, that, owing to sudden sickness of the Secretary of the Lodge, it has failed to send up its work and returns, but has sent up the sum of thirty dollars, the supposed amount of its dues to the Grand Lodge, and has also forwarded the sum of twenty-five dollars for its Charter. Your Committee, in view of all the premises, and under the precedent of the Grand Lodge in the case of Ioni Lodge, would respectfully recommend a Charter to issue.

Respectfully submitted.

G. A. EVARTS,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That one thousand copies of the address of Bro. Fontaine delivered before the Masonic Fraternity on the 22d February be printed in pamphlet form, to be distributed to the various Lodges in the State.

The M. W. Grand Master, in consequence of the absence of some of the members of the Committee on By-laws, added to that Committee Bros. J. C. Harrison and G. W. Crawford.

No further business being in readiness, the several documents on the Grand Secretary's table were handed to the appropriate committees, and the Craft called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

7 o'clock, Saturday evening, January 24, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

The Craft were called from refreshment to labor by order of the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, there were found thirty-three duly represented.

171

The M. W. Grand Master declared a constitutional number of Lodges represented and the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

VOL. I.—33

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions have had the various applications of several Lodges to extend the time of the payment of their Lodge dues to the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas under consideration, and submit the following report :—

Your Committee recommend that Joppa Lodge, No. 65, Eagle Lodge, No. 54, Palestine Lodge, No. 81, Liberty Lodge, No. 48, and Fairfield Lodge, have until the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge to pay their several dues to the Grand Lodge

G. A. EVARTS,
Chairman of Committee.

The following report from the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Grand Officers' Reports, to whom was referred the reports of the Deputy Grand Master and District Deputy Grand Masters, have had the several reports under consideration, and ask leave to report and recommend the acceptance of the several reports, and the adoption of the accompanying resolutions relative to the matters therein contained.

Several matters and suggestions contained in the Deputy Grand Master's report being already under the consideration of other appropriate committees, it is not deemed necessary to notice them here.

Resolved, That the action of R. W. District Deputy Grand Master F. B. Sexton, in granting a Dispensation to Newbern Lodge, without his District, be confirmed.

Resolved, That District Deputy Grand Masters have not the right to grant Dispensations without their respective Districts.

J. H. HEARDON,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Domestic Correspondence was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Domestic Correspondence of your M. W. Grand Lodge for the past Masonic year would respectfully report that they have examined, with as much care and diligence as the limited time allowed them would permit, the extensive and important correspondence which has been submitted for their inspection.

Your Committee take great pleasure in adding their testimony to that already before you, to the well-known skill and ability and the untiring industry of our R. W. Brother the Grand Secretary of your Grand Lodge. During the past year the amount of his correspondence has been exceedingly onerous and important. Called upon by the Brethren and officers of Lodges in every part of the State for advice, instruction and Masonic light, he has on all occasions promptly, ably and cheerfully afforded the necessary assistance and information they required.

Many grave, important and often delicate questions have been submitted to him by the Craft, and nearly all the opinions he has given your Committee most heartily concur in and fully endorse. Upon a few questions, however, your Committee feel constrained to differ with the opinions advanced, and to the subject would most respectfully call the attention of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

The first question which presents itself is one upon which there has been a diversity of opinion.

Can a candidate for Masonry, after he has been regularly balloted for by a Lodge, be prevented from taking his Degree upon information of his unworthiness being offered to the Lodge, at a subsequent meeting, by a Brother who was not present when the ballot was taken?

Your Committee are of opinion that it can be done; for although the ballot confers upon the candidate the highest claims he can have upon the Lodge to receive the benefits of Masonry, and although he is declared duly elected to receive his Degrees, yet we are at a loss to conceive how he can be vouched for when the Degree is conferred, when the Lodge was satisfied, from lawful information, that he was totally unworthy to be received within the body of a just and legally-constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

Suppose that the Lodge was perfectly convinced that he was not only unworthy to be made a Mason, but that he had been publicly convicted of some horrible and infamous crime, for which there was no palliation, either before or after he had been balloted for? Could the Brethren stand quietly by and see a murderer, a robber, or perjured knave, enter their sacred circle, and be satisfied with the reason that a ballot taken when they were ignorant of his true character had conferred upon the candidate advantages so signal that it was out of their power to withhold from him the privileges and benefits of Masonry?

Your Committee cannot regard the ballot in any higher light than that it is the gravest and most satisfactory evidence and expression of the will of the Lodge. Should sufficient cause appear, that will can be changed before the candidate is invested with the privileges of Masonry, as surely as that the Lodge has the power to expel him from those privileges after he has received them. Your Committee are of opinion that a vote of the Lodge would be sufficient to prevent the candidate from receiving the Degree, if the Brethren should believe that conferring it would be prejudicial or fatal to the welfare of our beloved institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted, and your Committee instruct me to ask for further time to report.

JAMES T. LITTLE.

The following report from the special Committee on the Grand Chaplain's Address was read and adopted :—

AUSTIN, January 24, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee to whom was referred the resolution respecting the oration delivered on yesterday, by Bro. E. Fontaine, beg leave to report that they have performed the duty required of them.

We have been promptly furnished by Bro. Fontaine with a copy of his eloquent address, which we have placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary.

E. W. MOORE,
W. H. CUSHNEY, } Committee.
JOHN HANCOCK, }

The following reports from the Committee on By-laws were read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your Committee on By-laws beg leave to report, further, that they have examined the By-laws of Hardeman Lodge, U. D., Goliad Lodge, U. D., and Newbern Lodge, U. D., and recommend their approval without amendment.

They have also examined the By-laws of Freedom Lodge, U. D., and recommend their approval with the following alteration :—

In Article 2, strike out "Baptist" and insert "Evangelist."
 All of which is respectfully submitted. D. M. PRENDERGAST,
Chairman of Committee.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Committee appointed to examine the By-laws of Danville Lodge have had them under consideration, and beg leave to report that they recommend their ratification, with the following amendments,—viz.:

In Section 1, of Rules of Order, strike out all after the words "points of order."

In Section 13, strike out "adjourn" and insert "call off or close."

Under the head of Balloting, Section 1, strike out "unless by the second regular meeting thereafter the member opposed shall voluntarily withdraw his objection in open Lodge," and add to the end of the section the following:—"and no reconsideration of the vote shall be had except at the same meeting."

J. C. HARRISON.

The following resolution was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That the Dispensation heretofore granted to Hardeman Lodge be withdrawn, and that the R. W. Deputy Grand Master be requested to examine into the matters of controversy between the Brethren at the contesting points, and, after due examination of all the facts, that he grant a Dispensation for the establishment of a Lodge at that point which he shall deem best entitled to receive the same.

Resolved, That the fees heretofore paid by Hardeman Lodge be returned and the dues be remitted.

Resolved, That, upon the issuing of the Dispensation by the Deputy Grand Master, the funds, jewels, &c. be handed over by him to the Lodge to whom he shall think proper to issue the Dispensation, and that the Dispensation-fee be paid by the Lodge receiving the same.

The following resolution was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That J. B. Caples may be restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry if unanimously elected by Holland Lodge, No. 1.

The following report from the Committee on the Constitution was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The special Committee to whom were referred various resolutions proposing amendments to the Constitution ask leave to report.

They have had under consideration the resolution proposing to amend the 23d Article of the Constitution, and, believing that the proposed amendment would curtail much expense, relieve the secretaries of subordinate Lodges of much trouble, and be better calculated to carry out the design of the Grand Lodge than the original Article, would recommend the proposed amendment.

S. H. DARDEN, S. POWERS, H. D. WOODSWORTH, JOHN SAYLES,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
--	---	-------------------

The following amendment to the Constitution was ordered to be read the third time, and was regularly adopted as a part of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, by unanimous consent, after a call of the Lodges:—

That the 23d Article of the Constitution be repealed, and the following adopted in lieu thereof:—

"It shall be the duty of the subordinate Lodges to report to the Grand Secretary, immediately, the rejection of an applicant, the expulsion, suspension or reinstatement of a Brother; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to furnish each subordinate Lodge with a quarterly report of all the rejections, suspensions, expulsions or reinstatements of which he may be advised."

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary shall be allowed the sum of one hundred dollars, as a compensation for the additional labor imposed upon him by the 23d Article of the Constitution as amended.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That it is deemed improper by the Grand Lodge of Texas for subordinate Lodges to act upon the petition for affiliation of a Master Mason at any other than a regular meeting.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Alamo Lodge, No. 44, for the donations made for the use of Union Lodge, at Panama, and the Grand Lodge of California, and that the various Lodges of the State be called upon to extend their charities to said Lodges.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to carry out these resolutions and pay over the donations referred to.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Ioni Lodge be allowed to remove its place of meeting to any place in the southern part of Anderson or the northern part of Houston county that they may select, so that the same is not removed to a place within ten miles of any Lodge heretofore established.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That Bro. Wm. T. Gamble, late Worshipful Master of Hardeman Lodge, the Dispensation of which has been revoked, is authorized to appropriate any moneys in the Treasury of said Lodge to the payment of any debts owing by said Lodge.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the ballot shall not be taken on the petition of a candidate for any of the Degrees conferred in Master's Lodges at any other time but the day of the stated meeting, and no ballot shall be taken to confer Degrees at any called off stated meeting: *Provided*, That this resolution shall not be construed to prevent the Degrees being conferred under a Dispensation.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Austin Lodge, No. 12, for the courtesies and hospitalities extended to the members of the Grand Lodge during its present Grand Communication.

The following report on the M. W. Grand Master's Address was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the M. W. Grand Master have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that, from all

the facts brought to their knowledge at this Grand Annual Communication, they fully concur with the views of the M. W. Grand Master as to the prosperous condition of the Craft subject to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. This result so desirable, they think, has been produced by various causes,—the peculiar character of the people, the unprecedented embarrassments with which the country, for a few years past, has had to contend, and its present most satisfactory and flourishing condition, but most of all by the efficient manner in which the high functionaries of the Lodge have administered their various and important duties, an exemplification of which is contained in the report of the M. W. Grand Master under consideration.

Most subjects treated of in said report have been referred to their respective and appropriate committees. It therefore remains with this Committee to notice only such other matters referred to in said report as are not otherwise referred, and it is thought should be acted on by the Grand Lodge, which they will do by offering the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure a block of stone, with suitable inscription, to be presented to the Washington National Monument by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That said committee procure said block within the limits of this State.

Resolved, That five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be required, be appropriated to carry into effect the foregoing resolutions.

And in relation to subordinate Lodges they recommend that it be

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare one general code of By-laws for the government of all and each one of the subordinate Lodges subject to this Grand Lodge, leaving such blanks in said By-laws as may be filled up so as to suit and be adapted to, each subordinate Lodge, and report the same to the next Grand Annual Communication.

And in relation to Lodges of negroes they recommend that it be

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge does not recognise as legal or Masonic any body of negroes working under Charters in the United States, without respect to the body granting such Charters, and they regard all such negro Lodges as clandestine, illegal and un-Masonic, and they moreover regard as highly censurable the course of any Grand Lodge in the United States which shall recognise such bodies of negroes as Masonic Lodges.

J. H. HERNDON,

Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Lecturer be required to consult with the M. W. Grand Master upon the work and lectures of the three first Degrees, and adopt such a system as he may direct.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Bro. Grand Secretary be authorized to procure for this Grand Lodge three Past Grand Master's jewels, and three jewels for District Deputy Grand Masters, and that a sufficient appropriation be made for the same.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Committee to procure a suitable stone for the Washington National Monument:—

Bros. R. S. Neighbors, E. W. Moore and E. W. Taylor.

Committee on the Grand Secretary's Books,—Bros. Andrew Neill, N. B. Yard and J. H. Herndon.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence,—Bros. P. W. Gray, Geo. M. Patrick and A. S. Ruthven.

Grand Lodge of Texas in account-current with E. W. Taylor, Superintendent of the Educational Fund.

CR.

Jan. 1, 1851.	By amount in my hand, as per ac't.....	\$344 24
"	" int. at 8 per cent. to Jan. 1, '52.....	27 54
Feb. 1, 1851.	By am't rec'd from E. B. Nichols, Grand Treasurer for 1850.....	250 55
	By interest to Jan. 1, 1852.....	18 37
	In my hands.....	\$640 70

E. W. TAYLOR,

Supt Ed. Fund of Grand Lodge of Texas.

Houston, January 15, 1852.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in due and ample form, in peace and harmony, and with prayer.

JOHN SAYLES,
Grand Master.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

ADDRESS OF R. W. EDWARD FONTAINE, GRAND CHAPLAIN,

Delivered at the Installation of the Grand Officers.

BRETHREN AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:—My acceptance of the invitation of the Grand Lodge to address you on this occasion imposes upon me the pleasing duty of explaining to you the principles of the Masonic system of philanthropy,—an historical outline of the origin and progress of our Ancient Order, and an exposition of its present uses to society.

My object will be to remove whatever prejudices may be entertained by strangers to our Fraternity, and to remind my Brethren of their duties as Masons.

In tracing the progress of our institution from its beginning to the present time, to make my remarks more intelligible, I shall use MASONRY and SCIENCE as synonymous terms. Although the word *masonry* is derived from the French *maison*, "a house," or *maçonnerie*, "stone or brick walling," which is its proper signification, some centuries ago it denoted a knowledge of all the liberal arts and sciences, which were taught almost exclusively in our Lodges.

To ascertain the origin of Masonry, it is necessary to seek it in that of true religion. It has been conceded, by some of the writers of our Fraternity, that Masonry does not claim a divine origin. But with these writers I cannot agree, if they use, as I have done, science and Masonry as synonymous terms; for, after a very careful examination, I have come to the conclusion, which I do not think can be successfully controverted, that science and true religion are alike the offspring of Infinite wisdom and mercy, and that both were revealed to mankind for their happiness. The Bible, which is borne in all our processions, and which lies perpetually open upon the altar of Masonry, is believed by all true Masons to contain the revelation of the will of Jehovah, and the code of laws which he has devised for the government of men. It is not a revelation of the arts and sciences; yet it reveals enough to convince us that He who proclaimed the Ten Commandments from amidst the darkness, the lightnings and thunders of Horeb, also, in different ages, disclosed to us the principles of that science which is necessary for our temporal welfare. Religion and science

are both indispensably needful for our felicity; and to God we are indebted for the gift of both. None who carefully read and believe the Bible can doubt that he inspired man with a knowledge of the principles of natural history, music, chemistry, mineralogy, geometry, astronomy, architecture, and every other branch of useful science,—mental acquirements which have been improved by exercise, and which have enabled us to enjoy the material blessings with which he has filled the visible world.

Now, to find the origin of Masonry, let us look into the beginning of the "book of books." This informs us that the Great Architect "laid the foundations of the earth." The Divine Geometrician "stretched the line upon it and measured it." He "laid the corner-stone thereof." The Celestial Astronomer and Naturalist robed it in light and verdure, and sent forth the parents of all animated beings, with man their lord, to live and move upon its surface. And the morning stars sang together; and all the sons of the God of music, with golden harps and seraph tongues, hymned their joys over the new-born world!

Then the All-wise Zoologist, a ray of whose wisdom in after-ages illumined the minds of Cuvier and Audubon, brought all these living things to Adam, to receive their names from him; and "whatsoever he called every living creature, that was the name thereof." We learn from the ancient Hebrew, which is generally supposed to be the parent of all languages, that these names were descriptive of the different qualities, uses and dispositions of these various animals. This proves that Adam possessed an acquaintance with the principles of natural history. He could not have learned this from books, nor oral tradition; for there was no human knowledge prior to the existence of "the first man," and he had not lived long enough to learn much from observation and experience; therefore he could only have derived his science from the inspiration of the God who made him. This is sufficient to prove that the first knowledge which man had of natural history—one of the great departments of science—was a divine revelation. If another proof is required from the Holy Scriptures, they tell us that when Solomon prayed for wisdom, God enabled him to speak of trees, "from the cedar-tree that is in Lebanon, even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall." He spake also "of beasts, and of fowls, and of creeping things, and of fishes;" "and there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth." His knowledge of this department of useful science surpassed that of Linnæus, Tournefort and Buffon; and it was revealed to him by God.

In the lifetime of Adam, two of his descendants, Jubal and Tubal-Cain, received the knowledge of music and metallurgy. "Jubal was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ;" and Tubal-Cain "was an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron." To make such an instrument as a harp or an organ, to play well on either, and to teach others, supposes great mechanical skill,—an acquaintance with numbers, the qualities of different woods and metals, and other things which Jubal could only have learned from his Creator. To work in brass and iron, Tubal-Cain must have understood much of geology, mineralogy and chemistry. He had, to aid him, the experience of no predecessor. A knowledge of these departments of science must have been imparted by God alone.

The Lord taught Noah the proper materials and dimensions for the construction of the ark. To build such a vessel, any one acquainted with naval architecture must decide that an extensive knowledge of numbers and geometrical proportion, size, weight and measure was necessary; and we learn that God was his instructor. He gave the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its sacred vessels and ornaments, to Moses; and for their construction, he told the children of Israel, "See, the Lord hath called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and he hath filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship; to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in the

cutting of stones to set them, and carving of wood, to make any manner of cunning work. And he hath put in his heart, that he may teach both he and Aholiab the son of Ahisimach, of the tribe of Dan. Them hath he filled with wisdom of heart to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman; and of the embroiderer, in blue and in purple, in scarlet and in fine linen; and of the weaver, even of them that do any work, and those that devise cunning work."

In these passages of Scripture we are told distinctly that the science of architecture—with whatever is in any way connected with it, as drawing and painting, the mineralogy necessary for the mason, the chemistry for the dyer, and both for the lapidary and the metallist—is revealed by the Holy Ghost. Here, then, we have the proof that all the liberal arts and sciences, or *Masonry*, claim a divine origin. Science and religion are revelations. Both were associated in the salvation of Noah. His *faith* carried him into the ark which his *Masonry* built. They were united in the tabernacle of the wilderness; they were also combined in the holy Temple, like the power with the form of holiness: their source was in the mind of Infinite wisdom, and from that celestial origin they proceeded, and hand in hand they have journeyed together, through all ages, to bless the world. True science is still the handmaid of true religion: they are inseparably joined to enlighten and elevate our benighted and fallen race. Both are at war with ignorance and vice; and they will be crowned together when truth shall reign over the illumined and liberated earth.

The parallel between the progress of *Masonry* and our religion is remarkable. The mysteries of true religion were once in the exclusive possession of the worshippers in the Jewish Temple, while the secrets of science were only in the keeping of its builders.

The East is the cradle of the human race: it is also the birthplace of true religion, whose radiations have shone in all directions from the Levant to the ends of the earth. From the same consecrated spot where the law and gospel of God were given, science had its sacred orient, and began its march over every land and sea.

Religion, pure in its origin, in its journey from Shinar and Palestine, through various realms and successive ages, in some places, in past centuries, was corrupted and almost extinguished. While its light shone in cloudless purity on Zion's hill, in Egypt and Assyria its lustre was dim; and in regions more remote, scarcely a feeble and refracted ray gleamed upon the deep and wide-spread pagan gloom.

At the same time science was enthroned upon the architectural perfection of the glorious Temple. Its works, though magnificent in Thebes, Babylon and Nineveh, were not worthy to be compared with the *Masonry* of the Holy City.

Where the light of religion was obscure, that of science was dim. Where that of religion was extinguished, that of science was dark.

Both were resplendent with all the fulness of divine perfection when first revealed. But some of the doctrines of true religion have been perverted, others have faded from the human mind. Doctrines which the apostles understood are mysteries to us; and the most useful *reformations* which have blessed the church have not been *formations*, but *recurrences to first principles*,—*returns to the beginning*. The labors of the most learned divines reveal to us no *new truths* in theology; they only bring the *old* to light. In science we find a parallel to this. The ancients understood many arts now unknown. The Tyrian purple, the cementing of Cyclopean stones into almost mountain masses, the cutting, moving and rearing of obelisks which all the power of the empire of Napoleon could not move, the hardening of copper to an edge which shaved the most callous steel, and many other secrets revealed to the artists of old, are enigmas to the philosophers of modern times. All the discoveries of this scientific age convince us that we are mere apprentices in comparison with the ancient Oriental masters, and give us hope that a few more improvements in electricity and steam will

enable us to erect monuments which will rival Cleopatra's Needle and the Pyramid of Cheops.

The whole world was settled by colonies of emigrants from the neighborhood of the Levant. From Mesopotamia, the patriarchs of nations were dispersed over the Eastern hemisphere. The Phœnicians, whose principal cities were Tyre and Sidon, were the earliest navigators, and settled colonies in Africa and Europe. They held commercial intercourse with all the countries known in the infancy of the Roman Republic. Among the Egyptians, Phœnicians, Greeks and Romans, the mysteries of religion and the secrets of science were carefully concealed from the ignorant multitude. This was necessary in those dark ages, as the murders of Socrates, Pythagoras and the prophets prove, when ignorance and vice, ever hostile to truth and holiness, doomed to destruction the sage or seer who dared to lift the torch of science or religion upon the benighted world.

It is impossible to trace, step by step, the progress of Masonry through ages of which history gives us no account,—dark chasms in the annals of time, in whose oblivion empires, with all their events, are buried. But wherever a fragment of their existence has been preserved, it bears upon its face the proof that Masonry is coeval with it. The enterprising Layard has recently disinterred some of the palaces of Nineveh, which were venerable ruins when Herodotus, "the father of history," wrote. We know that Masons erected these. Only architectural skill could have hewn from the quarry, and have given form, beauty and grandeur of proportion to these temples and regal abodes. We find the ancient monuments of masonic art scattered over other countries; and from their structure we infer that they were erected by the same instrumentality which history informs us reared the more recent, yet ancient, works of succeeding ages.

The Biblical account of the building of the Temple of Jerusalem gives us probably the best idea of the organization of the societies of these ancient architects. In the time of Numa, who was King of Rome seven hundred years before the Christian era, the *collegia fabrorum et artificum* existed in that city. These were Lodges of Masons. In Athens, the same kind of institutions flourished. They enjoyed many immunities, and the right to make their own laws and to form treaties with other colleges. They erected all the public edifices of Greece and Rome; and some of them always accompanied the march of their armies, to construct their camp-fortifications and engines of war. They held their meetings with closed doors, and revealed their mysteries to none. Plutarch, Strabo, Pliny and Aulus Gellius leave us no doubt that this was the case with these associations in Egypt, Italy and Greece; and, since we find traces of these institutions in ages more distant, and specimens of architecture of the same kind with that taught by these colleges, we infer that they existed and operated in pre-historic time, as they did in the days of the Roman monarchy, commonwealth and empire, and in the Middle Ages in Western Europe. As Phœnician and Carthaginian commerce extended to Spain, Gaul and Britain, the Lodges of Masonry were dispersed through these countries. They were established wherever the Roman eagles rested; and, by their taste and industry, temples and villas were reared in the distant provinces of the empire, which rivalled in splendor those of "the mistress of the world." Masonry was firmly settled in every part of England before the reign of Alfred the Great, who was one of the Fraternity. His grandson, Prince Edwin, assembled the Representatives of all the Lodges of Masons in the realm at York, in the year 926,—who, from the various ancient Constitutions of the Order, framed one which was approved and granted by King Athelstan, his brother. From the place where it was ratified, this Charter is called "The Constitution of Ancient York Masons;" and by it, with but little alteration, all true Masons are still governed. They, and their predecessors and successors, erected the ancient cathedrals of York and Canterbury, Westminster Abbey, and all the other venerable monuments of art which are the ornament and boast of Old England. In the darkest ages of Europe, our Fraternity were

sufficiently enlightened to build such amazing edifices as the Convents of Batalha in Portugal and Montecassiro in Italy, and the Cathedrals of Strasbourg, Cologne and Miessen in Germany. Sir Christopher Wren, in 1710, was the last Grand Master of the Ancient Fraternity of Operative Masons in England; and St. Paul's Cathedral in London was the last great work of these benefactors of mankind.

Having briefly glanced at the progress of Masonry from the beginning to the year 1710, I will explain the great change which was made in its character soon after, when all the members of it became what are now termed "Free and Accepted Masons."

At that time, through the instrumentality of the art of printing, and the extension of letters, the science, which had previously been confined to her Lodges, had become diffused through all civilized lands, making secret associations for its preservation and useful direction no longer necessary. The Reformation of the sixteenth century had triumphed in Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden and Great Britain; and freedom of speech and opinion had been established in England with the accession of Queen Anne to the throne. For more than half a century previously, streams of knowledge had been incessantly poured upon the ignorant millions of Europe by the enlightened minds and industrious printing-presses of France, Germany and England. Numerous colleges in those countries had gradually taken the places of the ancient Lodges, monasteries and abbeys, and were radiating their light; and men were able, by these means, to acquire an acquaintance with the mechanical arts and polite literature which, in earlier times, only Masons could give them. In the days of the Saxon kings, and during the succeeding dynasty of the Normans, nobles, princes, and even monarchs, were initiated in Masonic Lodges to receive that instruction in belles-lettres which they could acquire nowhere else. In consideration of their wealth and rank, they were not required to toil with the operatives, but were regarded as honorary members, or what were termed *Free Masons*. This word originally designated all the members of the ancient Lodges whose circumstances made it unnecessary for them to toil when not engaged in the secret services of the institution. But in the year 1717, it was applied to the whole Fraternity, when its operative character ceased, and it was continued as a moral institution. In that year, the only four Lodges remaining in England, wisely estimating the moral use which the Order might be to society after its mechanical aid was no longer necessary, determined to retain its Constitution and symbols, and to perpetuate it as a charitable association. Their example was followed in other countries. This required no great change to be made in any of the rites and ceremonies of initiation and the mode of administering relief. The government, and whatever of a symbolical and moral character, separated from actual manual labor, belonged to the institution,—all that is essential to it,—was left, as it is now, and as it has been for ages unknown.

It now includes only Free and Accepted Masons, who are governed by the ancient Charters, and who observe the primitive usages of their predecessors.

It is now strictly a moral institution: its morality is that of the Bible; and the Christian can find nothing in its faith contrary to the gospel. It is a matter of surprise to the antiquary to discover that the creed and ethics of an institution which has existed so long, and which has passed through so many and such mighty revolutions of nations, are yet so pure and so little changed. I have no doubt that the masons employed by King Solomon generally professed the Jewish faith; and I think it probable that those of Tyre, who labored with them, acquired a knowledge of the true religion from them. When they separated from their Jewish brethren, it is reasonable to suppose that they propagated their religious principles in the various Phœnician Lodges; and by these enterprising colonizers of nations they were spread throughout the whole Fraternity in every part of the commercial world.

All Masonic Lodges held their meetings with closed doors, which gave their members the opportunity of discussing all matters of opinion freely, and without the fear of civil or ecclesiastical persecution. Among men whose minds were so enlightened and whose morals were so pure, it is reasonable to suppose that the purest faith would find the most favor. Hence we learn that the faith of the secret societies of the East was much purer than that of the pagan multitudes among whom they were established. It was opposed to polytheism, and asserted the existence of one true and living God. In Western Europe, it was free from Mariolatry and saint-worship. For ages, all the thunders of the Vatican were levelled against it; but it firmly defied the power of the Pope, and stood free and unscathed, while mighty empires succumbed to his sceptre. No Papist is permitted by his church to be a Mason now; and despots have a great aversion to an Order which their iron heels have never been strong enough to crush. This fact should give us favor with all Protestant freemen, and the lovers of liberty everywhere. Masonry ever has been, and ever will be, free, and the friend of freedom.

When it first assumed a Christian aspect it is impossible to ascertain with certainty. As near the age of Constantine the Great as our records inform us, the beginning of the fourth century, our Lodges were dedicated to the Holy St. John. In Britain, the pious Alfred was one of the Fraternity in the ninth century; and it is generally supposed that Masons were Christians in that kingdom as early as the time of St. Albans, in the year 300. We are certain that now all the leading doctrines of the gospel are taught, and that its morals are inculcated in the most impressive manner, by our significant rites and ceremonies. Yet there is every reason to suppose that these rites, signs and symbols are older than Christianity itself. They are so regarded by Jewish Masons. They adopt them without scruple as prophetic in their character. Many of them refer to the death and suffering and the vicarious character of the Messiah. They use them as referring to a Christ who they believe is yet to appear, while Christians regard them as pointing to Him who has already come. Thus, both Jews and Christians in our Lodges wear the lambskin as the emblem of the innocence and imputed righteousness of the Messiah; and both profess their faith in the power of "the Lion of the tribe of Judah," who is alone able to raise us from the dead. The Savior told Nicodemus that the doctrine of regeneration which he taught was not new; and he rebuked him for his ignorance:—"Art thou a master in Israel and knowest not these things?" Job had said, before Moses was born, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the last day upon the earth." The Christian Mason believes that this Redeemer has already been incarnated among men, and that he has redeemed him with his blood. The Jewish Mason believes that he is yet to come; and that he will be cut off for our transgressions, according to the prophecies of David, Daniel and Isaiah. The faith of both is the same. That of the *Jew* acts prospectively; that of the *Christian* is retrospective in its operation. Both believe that this Messiah, whether already incarnated or yet to be made flesh, is the living and eternal God; and this faith unites them both as Brethren.

This will conclude what I wish to say in regard to the history of our Order, and leads me to make a brief exposition of its present uses to society.

The first of these has been already anticipated. The fact that Jews and Christians meet as Brethren in our Lodges proves that Masonry can effect by its charity what has been attempted by the most powerful governments in vain. Even in our enlightened age Christendom is so much divided into hostile political parties and antagonistical ecclesiastical sects, that the liberties of different governments are sometimes endangered by their strife; and such is their rancor against each other, that at present it seems impossible for any one of them to form a union with another to carry into effect any extensive plan for the promotion of human happiness. But the signs and symbols of Masonry constitute

a universal language, through which civilized men of different nations and tongues may recognise each other, form friendships and give and receive favors. The Masonic Lodge is a rendezvous for the liberal-minded and charitable of all ranks and professions. Here they can meet in brotherly love, and, casting off the trammels of sectarian and party spirit, co-operate in the performance of the work of philanthropy,—the God-like duty of man to man. They are bound together by a mystic tie too strong to be severed by the conflicts of opposite opinions and the discordant jars of unfriendly society. She is thus contributing her substantial aid in removing the obstacles to a final union of the flock of Christ in one fold. But the fact that our Lodges are composed of members belonging to all the learned professions and honest occupations of life, entertaining every diversity of religious and political opinion, should banish from your minds any apprehension that there can ever be a combination of all for the accomplishment of any injury to church or state. In the year 1798, General Washington, finding that some of his fellow-citizens feared that Free Masonry in the United States was infected by the nefarious and dangerous doctrines of the *illuminati* of France, promptly relieved their minds by a letter, assuring them that he was confident “none of the Lodges in the United States were contaminated with their principles.” In another he says, “Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the society, and to be considered by them a deserving Brother.” (Sparks’s Writings of Washington, vol. xi. p. 315, vol. xii. p. 190.) Masonry can exert no other influence than that which this paragon of sages and heroes believed it must,—the promotion of “private virtue,” and its necessary result, “public prosperity.”

It is true that all Masons in name are not so in heart; and their professions and practices are sometimes at woeful variance. I have heard our venerable institution charged, as it was in the days of Washington, with infidelity and immorality, because some vicious men who profess to be Masons assail the truth of the Bible, blaspheme the name of God, violate the laws of the land, and outrage the character of the society in which they live, by drunkenness and debauchery. Bad men, by cunning and hypocrisy, can enter all gates but that of heaven. They crawl like serpents into the church. They even approach, like Judas, the table of the Lord. But no reasonable man reproaches Christianity because hypocrites profess it; and the character of Christ was not sullied because Judas was an apostle. The lambskin may sometimes invest a prowling wolf in the Lodge, as the ermine enrobed a Jeffreys on the bench of justice. The evil will mingle among the good; and even the devil will be permitted to appear among the sons of God, until His omniscience shall supplant human ignorance in the government of earth, and until His power shall displace its corruption with the purity of heaven.

But every true Mason, whether Jew or Gentile, knows that I speak the truth; and this audience will believe me when I say that no infidel, blasphemer, drunkard, debauchee nor traitor-knave can be a Mason! Unless he deceives himself and the Lodge to which he belongs, he cannot wear the honorable name.

I find this among the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of 5847:—“Whereas, the intemperate use of ardent spirits, profane swearing and gambling are derogatory to the principles of Free Masonry: Therefore,

“*Be it Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge urge upon the Lodges subordinate to its jurisdiction, the necessity of a more rigid enforcement of our ancient and established usages for the suppression of these baneful vices.”

Passed Jan. 14, A.L. 5847.

We all know that these things are contrary to our principles, and that the enforcement of our principles is in conformity with our ancient usages. I pity the unfortunate beings, whoever they were, against whom this resolution was directed. Were they Masons? Or did they glide into any of our Lodges in dis-

guise? Did they profess their faith and trust in the awful God before many witnesses, and then blaspheme his name? Did they pass through the impressive initiatory rite of Entered Apprentice, and were they taught in that the inefficacy of the light of nature and the natural powers of man to raise the unpolished ashlar from the quarry? In the Fellow-Craft's Degree, were they instructed that mere morality without devotion to God and faith in the Redeemer would prove equally ineffectual to raise the dead soul to the life of regeneration? In the third step of their Masonic life, were they assured—by a ceremony which must be indelibly impressed upon the memory, the heart, the conduct of every true Mason—that only faith in the Messiah, “the Omnipotent Lion of the tribe of Judah,” can raise our spiritually dead souls to life, light and glory eternal? And did they deny this holy faith? After this ceremony, were they taught that, after being brought by the power of God to the light, it was their duty to walk as children of the light? Was this holy book presented to them? and were they told that it was their *trestle-board*, their book of patterns, by which they were to use the compass, the rule, the square, the plumb, and especially the gavel, which is the emblem of prayer and watchfulness? and that by this book, with these implements, with the emblem of our Redeemer's innocence, ever investing them, they should regulate their work and walk over life's checkered pavement, correcting their redundancies and deficiencies, and aiding their Brethren in their toil? And have they forgotten all this, broken their compass and rule, trampled their trestle-board under their feet, plunged into excess, perjury and shame, brought a reproach upon the name and called forth this resolution of the representatives of our Order?

Brethren and fellow-citizens, remember this: If that man blasphemes the name of the Eternal God, defrauds his fellow-man, or makes himself a besotted fool or demon on the street or in his den of darkness, and says that he is *a Mason, he lies*; he is an apostate or a knave!

Another use of Masonry to society is, it affords an ample field for the exercise of the benevolence of many who do not feel prepared to take upon themselves the obligations of the church, but who are willing to contribute their aid in the Christian work of helping the needy and visiting the widows and fatherless children who have no earthly protection except that which charity can afford. Many, in our Lodges, are usefully engaged in this unostentatious but necessary employment. The conduct of St. John the Evangelist towards the mother of Christ is the model of Masonic charity. When the Savior was dying upon the cross, he committed his mother to the care of that disciple. It is said that he took her to his own house; but the kind offices he performed for her are registered only in heaven. They were doubtless many, and all that she needed in her widowed condition; for the Savior knew that she would find St. John a faithful friend. Among Masons, a Brother may give as liberally as he pleases to the poor; but his name, with the amount of his donation, is not blazoned in the public newspapers, that others may be tempted by vanity “to be seen of men” in the same way. Alms are given in secret, with no expectation of remuneration, except from Him who has commanded us to do so, and who has promised to reward us openly. Objections are made to the institution, on account of the secrecy of its proceedings; but those who make them forget that it is a charitable organization; and in discharging our duty in this work we imitate, while we obey, Him who proclaims his mercy only by his works. His balmy winds and cooling streams revive our fainting strength; His nourishing grain and delicious fruit cover our fields and gardens; and His cattle upon a thousand hills are our food. Unnumbered blessings, daily and nightly, descend upon us: but the source of boundless benevolence is hid in the secret pavilion of thick darkness and eternal clouds; and the hand which bestows every good and perfect gift is seen by none.

Although the faith of Masonry has been preserved pure from the absurdities of paganism and the perversions of Christianity, she does not claim to be a

church. The office and character of St. John the Baptist, the other servant of God in whose name our Lodges are dedicated, ever remind us of the subordinate position she occupies to the church. John the Baptist said, "I am not the Christ." He only professed to be the friend of the Bridegroom. Masonry says, "I am not the Church;" but she professes to be the friend of the Bride. John the Baptist said, "I baptize you with water. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." "Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world!" Masonry says, "I save no man's soul. The Lion of the tribe of Judah alone can give light and immortal life. Put your trust in God!" John the Baptist prepared the way for the dominion of Christ in the hearts of mankind; and the influence of such doctrines and the practice of such virtues as are inculcated by Masonry must have the effect of inclining many of our Fraternity to the reception of the truth of the gospel, and obedience to its sublime and holy requirements.

Although ours is no proselyting institution, it gives me great pleasure to see its growth and prosperity in our State. In 1837 there were only three Lodges of Masons in it: now there are more than a hundred. All are doing some good, and the whole are engaged in the glorious work of lessening the amount of human misery and increasing the blessings of mankind. In the last year, we have suffered the loss of three distinguished members of our Grand Lodge,—the Past Senior Grand Warden, the Past Grand Master, and the Past Junior Grand Warden. Bros. Gillespie and Crosby were better known to the Fraternity and to this community than to myself. The deep and heartfelt expressions of regret on the part of the friends they have left to mourn their loss are a proof that they possessed virtues which bind the hearts of men to men, which deserve our remembrance, and which we unwillingly consign to the tomb. I have long known Bro. Burleson; and, if I am faithful, I confidently expect, as I earnestly desire, to renew my acquaintance and to continue my fraternal relations with him in another and a happier sphere, lighted by that temple which shines above the starry sky, towards which the evergreen cassia lifts its blooming boughs and directs our glorious hopes. His heroic virtues shone brightest when the clouds which gathered over our country lowered darkest. He was a man who adorned all his associations,—with his family, his Fraternity, his church, and his State,—a true Mason in the Lodge, an incorruptible legislator in the Senate, a faithful Christian in the church, a dauntless hero on the battlefield: his *lambskin*, his *toga*, his *cross* and his sword were worn unsullied through life; and he has left a name to his country without a stain. We loved him, and lament his loss. Let us imitate his purity, that we may share his glory.

In conclusion, permit me to commend to your favorable regard our venerable institution, which is too little known, and too little prized. Next to the church of God, I regard it as the greatest benefactor of mankind. To learn the extent of the benefits it has conferred upon our race, you must look into the ages which have passed away. Empires have been overthrown, fertile realms have been turned to barren wastes, and great cities have been transformed into shapeless ruins, by the folly and rage of man; but Masonry has never been engaged in any of the bloody revolutions and guilty wars which have caused this desolation. Her benevolent task has been to enlighten and to bless, to civilize barbarism, and to build up and preserve what ignorance, ambition, avarice and revenge have combined to destroy. Wherever a holy congregation of the redeemed have worshipped, she has erected the building consecrated by the presence of the Lord. Her skill constructed the noble edifices which have saved all the works of the ancient philosophers, historians and poets which have survived the ravages of time. The monuments of her glory are mouldering on Zion's hill. They cover all the memorable mountains, hills and vales of Asia Minor, Italy and Greece. The traveller gazes with awe and wonder upon them as they throw their mighty shadows across the cheerless desert and the waves of the Nile. Her stately pillars are buried in the dust, or rise like sepulchral

columns above the ruins of those classic lands whose splendor has departed, and whose renown only lives in the Muse's lay. The knowledge of the useful arts and sciences nurtured in her secret Lodges is now diffused throughout the world; and the abundant fruit of her centuries of toil is now seen in all the beautiful and magnificent works which adorn our cities, and in the innumerable comforts and conveniences of civilized life which bless our abodes. Though venerable with age, and crowned with the honors of forty centuries, her end is not yet come. There is yet work for her to do, and she will not expire until that is done. Her aid will still be given to the cause of Truth, until Truth is enthroned. When the voice from the Eternal Throne shall proclaim, "It is done! The kingdoms of the world are become the kingdoms of the Lord and of his Christ," then Masonry, and all other institutions, will fade in the millennial glory of the church whose pavement will be the spacious earth and whose dome will be the encircling sky. The Lord God Omnipotent will reign alone. "All kings shall fall down before him, and all nations shall serve him." There will then be but one government,—the theocracy to which the universe will submit. Until then, let us as Masons cheerfully perform our charitable tasks,—

"The widow's tears, the orphan's cry,
All wants our ready hands supply,
As far as power is given;
The sick relieve, the captive free:
These are thy works, sweet Charity,
Reveal'd to us from heaven."

Beloved Brethren, and my respected audience, I now commend you to the grace of God. May his Holy Spirit, for the Redeemer's sake, fill you with His love and guide you with His wisdom through life, and, in eternity, unite us all in the heavenly temple, where the souls of the righteous enjoy everlasting rest in the light of his glory. "So mote it be!"

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas met at the Masonic Hall of Milam Lodge, No. 2, in the City of Nacogdoches, on the 17th day of January, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853, being the Sixteenth Grand Annual Communication.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. John Sayles,	Grand Master.
R. W. Andrew Neill,	Deputy Grand Master.
" J. C. Harrison,	Senior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" H. Yoakum,	Junior Grand Warden <i>p. t.</i>
" J. H. Rogers,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" John Forbes,	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
" F. B. Sexton,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master 2d Dist.
" John E. Cravens,	Dist. Dep. Grand Master 4th Dist.
" A. H. Shanks,	Grand Chaplain <i>p. t.</i>
" Jas. F. Taylor,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" W. P. Brittain,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" H. H. White,	Grand Steward.
" Wm. Voigt,	Grand Steward <i>p. t.</i>
W. John B. McMahan,	Grand Tyler.

ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

Bros. Andrew Neill and Charles S. Taylor.

On a call of the Lodges having been made by the Grand Secretary, forty-five were found duly represented.

There being a constitutional number of Lodges represented, the M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Texas was then opened in due and ample form by the M. W. Grand Master, and with prayer by the Grand Chaplain *p. t.*, Rev. Bro. A. H. Shanks.

The M. W. Grand Master then delivered the following, his annual address, which was, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. J. M. Hall, J. F. Taylor, J. M. Clough, H. Yoakum and F. B. Sexton :—

ADDRESS.

OFFICERS AND BRETHREN OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE :—

I congratulate you upon the auspicious circumstances under which you have assembled. During the past year, we have enjoyed the inestimable blessings of civil and religious liberty; our State has been free from pestilence and from famine; abundant crops have crowned the labors of the husbandman, and plenty fills the land; while in the varied avenues of trade and commerce the enterprise of our citizens has been richly rewarded. These varied blessings, strewed along our path by the hand of a beneficent Providence, call for our grateful and unfeigned thanks to Him who is our Grand Master, and whom it is our high privilege and our duty to reverence and adore. But, while in the retrospect of the past we find so many causes for gratulation, we still have cause to mourn. The Angel of Death is ever hovering near us, and his pitiless summons, whenever given, must be obeyed. The names of two Brethren who were present at our last Annual Communication have been stricken from our roll, and they have gone to swell the great company of the dead.

“Many days
Have pass'd since they were laid in their last slumber;
And, in the hurry of life's crowded ways,
Small space has been for memory to cumber.
But now the past comes back again, and death
Asketh its mournful tribute of the living,
And memories that were garner'd at the heart
The treasures kept from busier hours are giving.”

But few months have passed since weeping friends deposited in the grave the remains of our Past Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Adolphus Sterne, and of our Past Grand Warden, Bro. William H. Cushney. It was my mournful privilege to unite with Austin Lodge in paying to the memory of the latter the solemn and beautiful honors prescribed by our Craft. The large concourse of Masons and citizens at his funeral was evidence of the high regard in which he was held. His Masonic character was without stain or reproach. As a man, as a Mason and as a Christian, he stood pre-eminent. The highest eulogy that can be pronounced is, that he was universally esteemed and universally beloved.

The returns from the subordinate Lodges show the Craft throughout our jurisdiction to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. In December, 1837, the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas was organized by the Delegates of three subordinate Lodges, holding Charters from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Of those Lodges two are now in existence,—Holland, No. 1, and Milam, No. 2, within whose hall this Communication is now held. Their Delegates are

now sitting in council with the Representatives of ninety-two Lodges, while in our jurisdiction three thousand Masons are engaged in the noble works of Charity. Nothing has ever occurred to mar the harmony of this Grand Lodge. Its members and subordinates have ever kept the "good of Masonry" in view, and have labored with reference to that single object. The number of the Lodges on our register, or of their members, is not the only evidence of the prosperity of our institution. Though thousands have knocked at our portals for admittance, they have been rigidly guarded against the incoming of the unworthy. It is true that there are in our midst, notwithstanding the ordeal through which they had to pass, some whose characters are unworthy of the name they bear. We regret their presence; for their conduct we have no apology to offer; but, fortunately, their power to do harm is slight, while connected with an institution whose tendencies to good are so mighty, and associated with so many upright, virtuous men.

There exist in the work and lectures of the several Degrees, as given in various Lodges, many discrepancies. This was to be expected, from the fact that many of our members were made Masons in other jurisdictions; the mode of work with which they were familiar is practised by them here; consequently, every error which has corrupted the work of any Grand Lodge in the United States finds here an advocate. Every Mason will naturally pronounce the work with which he is familiar as *the work*, and, believing all other forms of work "innovations," will strenuously advocate its adoption. These discrepancies are of a slight and minor character; but it is important that *perfect uniformity* should be preserved. Small and (in themselves) unimportant departures may lead to gross errors and fundamental innovations.

In my opinion, the desired object cannot be attained by the present system of lecturing. It is not within the power of any one man to visit upwards of ninety Lodges, scattered over a broad territory and inconvenient of access. I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor, that the number of Grand Lecturers be increased, and that they be entitled to pay proportionately to the amount of labor performed by them.

The compensation allowed the Lecturers should be such as would be a full remuneration for their services. It is not to be hoped—it ought not to be required—that any man should devote all his time and his talents in the service of the Fraternity at a personal sacrifice. I can see no good reason why the office should not be a profitable one, so that Brethren of sufficient talents and acquirements could be induced to devote their whole time and energies to the performance of its duties. This Grand Lodge has been fortunate in the selection of its Lecturers; they have been able and well-informed men; but the fact that they have not continued in the office is evidence that they have been poorly paid.

Bro. John C. Gordy, of Louisiana, having visited this State for the purpose of instructing the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, I requested him to visit and lecture such Lodges as he conveniently could, while engaged in the discharge of his other duties. His work is in every particular the same as that sanctioned by this Grand Lodge, and his method of imparting instruction peculiarly happy. The Lodges he found it convenient to visit were greatly benefited by his labors. (See papers D and E, Appendix.)

At the last Annual Communication a resolution was adopted requiring the appointment of a committee whose duty it was to prepare a general code of By-laws for the government of subordinate Lodges. This committee was not appointed at the Communication, but I subsequently requested several well-informed Brethren to act on that committee. I regret that they have been unable to present a report at the present Communication. I consider the object of that resolution important, and recommend that you take such action as will insure the preparation of a code of By-laws at an early day.

At the Grand Annual Communication of the year A.D. 1850, A.L. 5850, an

appropriation was made by the Grand Lodge for the purpose of procuring a stone, with a suitable inscription, for the Washington Monument. Resolutions embracing the same object were adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, but, I am informed, have not been carried out,—in consequence, I presume, of the inadequacy of the appropriation. A stone for the Washington Monument has been procured by the State authorities at an expense of two thousand dollars, and an equal amount will be required in order to carry out the resolutions of this Grand Lodge.

Every Brother venerates the name of him who was one of the best of men and the best of Masons, and will cheerfully contribute, to the utmost of his ability, towards the erection of that splendid monument of a nation's gratitude and love. I would submit to your consideration the propriety of presenting to the Building Committee of the Washington Monument the sum of five hundred dollars, that being the amount originally appropriated. In my opinion, the object of the resolution previously adopted would be better attained by this course than by the presentation of a single block of marble procured at a great expense.

During the past year, I have received numerous letters containing inquiries concerning Masonic usages and laws, which in all cases I have answered as fully as I was able. These, and similar questions, are constantly occurring in Lodges, and, means of information not always being in their possession, erroneous decisions are sometimes made. To obviate, in a measure, the difficulties that often occur in this respect, each Lodge should be required to have the Masonic text-books sanctioned by this Grand Lodge and some one of the Masonic periodicals published in the United States. These Masonic publications are edited with distinguished ability; they contain information upon subjects connected with Masonic history and jurisprudence that cannot easily be found elsewhere, and the opinions of eminent Brethren upon such questions of usage as most frequently arise. It is important also that each Lodge, so far as its means will permit, should procure a well-selected Masonic library, for the use of its members. The better we understand the history and design of our institution, the more highly shall we appreciate it, and the more zealous will be our endeavors to preserve its purity and integrity.

The subject of education has received the attention of the subordinate Lodges throughout the State. Under their patronage, institutions of learning have grown up, large and commodious buildings erected and competent teachers secured. These schools are, in every respect, an honor to the State. This Grand Lodge now possesses ample means to encourage this noble charity. I earnestly recommend the adoption of some practical and efficient system which will enable us to bring the means of education within the reach of every Mason's child within our jurisdiction. This, in my opinion, can be better done by giving judicious aid to the subordinate Lodges in educating the children of Masons within the jurisdiction of each, than by the establishment of a single institute, upon which all our means are centred.

Some time during the last summer, a murder was committed in the town of Washington, upon the body of a member of Washington Lodge, No. 18. By resolution of the Lodge, the Worshipful Master, in his official character, offered a reward for the apprehension of the murderer; at the same time a reward was offered by the citizens. At a subsequent meeting of the Lodge the resolution was repealed, and the publication of the reward ordered to be discontinued. Publications of that character are, in my opinion, un-Masonic, and should, for the future, be prohibited. The circumstances under which the resolutions were adopted by Washington Lodge—one of its members at the moment lying before them a stiffened corpse, and another being at the point of death—were such as to excite the most intense feeling. The promptness with which the Lodge retraced its steps as soon as it was convinced that an error had been committed is deserving of commendation. The correspondence upon that subject with

Washington Lodge is herewith submitted; and it is hoped that you will take such action in the premises as the circumstances demand. (See papers A, B and C, Appendix.)

I suggest to you the propriety of changing the time of holding your Annual Communications from January until June. The present is generally an inclement season of the year; travelling is unpleasant, nay, sometimes almost impossible. Many of the Delegates travel several hundred miles: their convenience and comfort would be greatly promoted by the proposed change.

JOHN SAYLES,
Grand Master.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be, and they are hereby, invited to take seats in the Grand Lodge during its present session.

Bro. J. C. Harrison offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted, and J. C. Harrison, W. M. Taylor and L. O. Durst appointed said Committee :—

Resolved, That a Committee on Credentials be appointed, to consist of three.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following Committees required by the Constitution,—to wit :

On Work and Returns of Lodges U. D.,—Bros. W. M. Taylor, James M. Hall, William A. Dallas, W. C. Henry, A. G. Mitchell.

On Finance and Accounts,—Bros. James F. Taylor, James A. Baker, Wm. Stedman, Andrew Neill, John E. Cravens.

On Returns from Chartered Lodges,—Bros. F. B. Sexton, D. H. Lett, G. L. Williams, J. H. Rogers, A. G. Price.

On Petitions,—Bros. J. C. Harrison, H. Yoakum, W. B. Ochiltree, J. G. Searcy, T. J. Dorsett.

On Grievances and Appeals,—Bros. H. Yoakum, J. C. Harrison, J. M. Clough, George E. Hunter, J. M. Hall.

On Grand Officers' Reports,—Bros. W. B. Ochiltree, R. E. Wynn, W. M. Taylor, W. P. Brittain, L. V. Greer.

On By-laws,—Bros. Andrew Neill, J. M. Clough, James A. Baker, John F. Williams, J. B. Mallard.

On Constitutional Amendments,—Bros. J. H. Rogers, F. B. Sexton, Charles S. Taylor, A. H. Shanks, R. Hotchkiss.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That in consequence of the absence of the Committee appointed by the Grand Master to prepare a code of By-laws for subordinate Lodges, to be submitted to this Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Master do now appoint a committee for that purpose, with instructions to report as early as practicable during the session.

Committee consisting of Bros. A. Neill, F. B. Sexton, Wm. M. Taylor, J. C. Harrison and H. Yoakum. On further motion, the M. W. Grand Master was added to the Committee.

The following resolution was then read for the first time, and laid on the table :—

Resolved, That wherever the words "Grand Lecturer" occur in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, the same be stricken out.

Bro. H. Yoakum presented the memorial of Bro. H. R. Cartmell, and the resolutions of Washington Lodge, No. 18, praying relief, which were read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Petitions.

The following report of R. W. District Deputy Grand Master F. B. Sexton, of the Second District, was read and referred to the appropriate committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of Texas.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHERS :—It again becomes my duty to submit to your Most Worshipful body a statement of the condition of Masonry in the Second Masonic District, and an account of my conduct as District Deputy Grand Master of that jurisdiction.

I regret to say that my time during the past Masonic year has been so much taken up by indispensable private engagements as to prevent me almost entirely from discharging my official duties. I have visited but very few Lodges in my District, and hence can give but a very meagre report of their condition and prospects.

Red Land Lodge, No. 24, Jackson, No. 35, De Witt Clinton, No. 29, and Trinity, No. 14, are the only Lodges within my jurisdiction which circumstances have permitted me to visit. These I found generally in a good condition, working in peace and harmony, and extending the borders of the Masonic fold as fast and as far as was consistent with prudence and justice. Some out-door complaints were made by some members of Jackson Lodge, No. 35; but nothing came before me in such a shape as I thought required or authorized me to notice it officially. I feel it my duty, however, to state to the Grand Lodge that I was informed, during the month of July or August last, that this Lodge had initiated, passed and raised a person who had previously been rejected by Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, without obtaining the consent of the latter Lodge. Had I received this information before the conferment of the Degrees, or during the progress of the work, I should have deemed it my duty to have arrested the proceedings of the Lodge; for, although the applicant did not petition until after the expiration of the time for which he had been rejected by Gonzales Lodge, yet I consider that, by Article 44 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, a Lodge is *forever* prohibited from conferring the Degrees on a person who has been once rejected from another Lodge, without first obtaining the consent of that Lodge, "if in existence." But, as I had no knowledge of the occurrence until after the Degrees were conferred and the violation of the Constitution had taken place, deeming that I had no power to suspend a Lodge (except in certain specified cases, of which this was not one) or arrest its Charter, I took no action whatever in the premises, and now submit the facts for the consideration of the Grand Lodge. In this connection, it is proper for me also to state that I have lately been advised that Jackson Lodge endeavored to open a correspondence with Gonzales Lodge in order to obtain its consent to the initiation, passing and raising of the candidate alluded to, by Jackson Lodge, but could obtain no answer to its letters from Gonzales Lodge.

I am happy to be able to say, also, in reference to Jackson Lodge, No. 35, that although for a time it may have flagged from the vigorous and rigid performance of duty inculcated by our ancient charges, yet, from personal knowledge, I am satisfied there has recently been a renovation in its Masonic zeal. Its members seem determined that none but the "just and true" shall assemble around the altar of brotherly love and confidence, and are endeavoring to have no contention but that noble one of "who can best work or best agree."

A resolution was passed by the Grand Lodge, at its last Grand Annual Com-

munication, requiring me to visit Tyler Lodge, No. 50, and inquire into the regularity of the initiation of Charles A. Sterne. I supposed that the R. W. Bro. Grand Secretary would furnish me with a copy of the resolution, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, immediately after the close of the last Annual Communication, which would have informed me of the object it was designed to accomplish, and would have been, also, sufficient authority for me to have proceeded in the discharge of the duties required by its provisions. This, however, he did not do, and I had no definite knowledge of what I was required to do, and nothing which I could have produced, had my authority been demanded by Tyler Lodge, until the published Proceedings of the Grand Lodge appeared, in June last. Since that time, domestic engagements and afflictions have rendered it utterly out of my power to comply with the requirements of the resolution referred to. I exceedingly regret that the investigation provided for by the Grand Lodge has not been had; and your Most Worshipful body may be assured that none but circumstances beyond my control have prevented me from attending to it. I hope that the matter will not be dropped in its present position, but that it will be made the duty of some Grand Officer, during the present year, to carry out the object had in view by the resolution, and to inquire into the general character and conduct of Tyler Lodge; for a sense of duty constrains me to state that it is not "under the tongue of good report." The ban of public opprobrium is upon it. If the acts of the Lodges and the conduct of its members are reprehensible, justice to Masonry requires that it should be ascertained, and the legitimate punishment adjudged against them. If there is nothing wrong in either, justice to that Lodge requires that it should be known, so that the facts may vindicate it from reproach.

On the 2d day of November last, I granted a Dispensation to several Brethren to open and hold a Lodge at Mount Hope, Polk county, having first made every practicable inquiry into the moral character and Masonic skill of the applicants. I presume that the Dispensation, with the proceedings of the Lodge to this time, are or will be before your Most Worshipful body at its present Grand Annual Communication. From all I could hear, I think that the administration of the ritual and government of a Lodge may be safely intrusted to the Brethren at Mount Hope.

During the past Masonic year, I have granted Dispensations on two occasions to Red Land Lodge, No. 24, for the conferment of the three Degrees. They were applied for that work might be exemplified, and I granted them under the conviction that the Craft would be thereby benefited,—which is the only principle on which I can justify the usage of granting Dispensations, which has obtained to too great an extent among the Order. The most ancient regulations of Masonry, (to which we now have access,) written or traditional, in its operative or speculative departments, recognise nothing like the advancing a candidate until he has worked his regular time. The dispensing power was reluctantly introduced into the Order, at a comparatively late period, and was confined alone to the Grand Master, who could only exercise it on important occasions, and with no reference to personal accommodation or secular favor, but only when the whole Fraternity might be benefited or instructed in the exemplification of work. The practice of allowing Deputies, and District Deputies, to dispense with one of the fundamental, most important and ancient requirements of the Craft, will be found to be of very modern origin. The first argument, then, against its continuance, is its want of antiquity, which I understand to be an essential element in the validity of any general Masonic regulation. Experience has proven, and is daily proving, that its tendency is dangerous and injurious. No District Deputy who does his duty impartially, fearlessly and with discretion will grant *every application* which is made to him; and hence he is frequently unjustly blamed, and his motives misconstrued. The objects and purposes of the power are not generally understood by the Brethren; and, when informed that a District Deputy Grand Master has the power to permit the ad-

vancement of a candidate out of the regular time, they think it should be done whenever they desire it for convenience or favor; and, if refused, the officer is perhaps charged with dislike to the candidate for whose benefit it is asked, or to the Lodge by which the application is made. The most prudent officer, too, may sometimes act without sufficient inquiry, and the most judicious may sometimes be mistaken. A candidate, too, who is initiated, passed and raised in one night will be most likely to confuse the teachings of the different Degrees, and will hardly understand either clearly; and this by all means ought to be prevented: for Masonry, to be interesting, must be understood; and, moreover, it is not to be expected that a Mason can perform his duty until he knows it. Another, and perhaps the greatest, evil attending the conferment of Degrees by Dispensation, is that it precludes that "previous notice and due inquiry into character" so much enjoined by the ancient charges. When a Dispensation is granted, every Brother does not, and cannot, have notice of the procedure; and a candidate *known to be unworthy* to one or two Brethren, but *unexceptionable* so far as the knowledge of those present may extend, may be admitted. This is, most certainly, contrary to the teachings of Masonry, for it strikes at "the harmony" which is its "chief strength and support." For these and many other reasons which might be collected, I would most respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge that the dispensing power be restricted to the Grand Master, under the limitations with which it was at first confided to him; or that, if Deputies are allowed to exercise it, it shall only extend to the second and third Degrees.

The contemplation of the present condition of Masonry in Texas must fill the heart of every genuine Brother with generous pride. But a few years since, only three Lodges met to organize your present Most Worshipful body, and Masons were but few in number, and looked upon with suspicion, and somewhat of contempt. Now, nearly one hundred working Lodges are under your jurisdiction, and the most respectable and trustworthy men of our country are handling our working-tools. We should then be careful to remember "that in prosperity there is danger." Hence I cannot close this report without asking permission to again call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the constantly-increasing disposition existing in our Fraternity to augment the number of Lodges and Masons, without sufficient examination of the material which is to compose them. If in doing so I should trespass upon ground that would seem more appropriately to belong to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as I may have already done, my only apology is the importance of the subject, together with the fact that for two years past we have had no report from that Committee. There is hardly a cross-road in an important county in the State where there is not a Masonic Lodge. This is desirable, and would reflect great credit on the benevolent purposes and ameliorating tendencies of our Order, if "none but the worthy" were supporting them. But when the leading, and sometimes the *official*, members of a Lodge are loudest in bacchanalian revellings or street-brawls, or are the most numerous patrons of our criminal dockets, the public odium and contempt justly arising from such facts, which meet every high-toned and faithful Brother when he speaks of our "*most ancient and honorable Order*," cannot but mantle his cheek with the blush of shame. A great portion of this disposition is traceable to an improper understanding or a misconstruction of Masonic charity. Charity, like every other virtuous and ennobling sentiment, if not limited, works injury rather than good. When an applicant of doubtful character and conduct knocks for admission at our gates, we are frequently told that if he is guilty of no positive corruption,—if he is not an *absolute criminal*,—out of charity to the frailties of human nature, we should overlook small delinquencies, and receive him, in the hope that we may reform his inclinations and habits. This course is commendable, if it could always be pursued to a *prudent* extent; but it is often made to cover habits too strongly settled in perversity to be turned into the paths of brotherly love, relief and truth, and sometimes a want of capacity to understand and appreciate our most

important allegorical teachings. I cannot think it sufficient to recommend a man for the privileges of Masonry that he has a mere negative character,—that “nothing has been said against him.” I think he should have done some positive good,—that he should have established a character, and *by his acts too*, for scrupulous integrity, propriety, morality, benevolence and respectable intelligence. A good man, or a Mason, cannot be a mere cipher in the great problem of human life, but must do something towards diminishing the sum of human sorrow and restoring himself and his fellow-man to that high state of intellectual and moral excellence with which God first endowed us.

It is much to be regretted, too, that, with this almost illimitable increase of Lodges and Masons, there is not a corresponding increase of Masonic skill and intelligence. It is too frequently the case that the officers of a Lodge do not understand our ceremonies sufficiently to convince a Brother from another jurisdiction that they are regular Masons; and, if able to confer the Degrees at all, it is in such a manner that the candidate, if an intelligent man, is more likely to be disgusted with than benefited or instructed by them. Our ritual, when carefully studied and fully understood,—when all the allegorical truths which are veiled in our symbolical instructions are perceived and explained, and when seriously, impressively and intelligibly administered,—is one which, in all that is good and generous and ennobling, has not been surpassed in the history of human composition. But when hurried over, ignorantly and confusedly, like an unwilling school-boy with his neglected lesson, it is unmeaning and inane, and oftentimes not far from ridiculous. It affords me much pleasure, however, to bear witness that this deplorable ignorance of Masonic ritual, usage and law does not prevail, so far as my knowledge extends, in a majority of the Lodges in my District, nor of those in the State. On the contrary, there are many whose superior proficiency in and understanding of these particulars reflect great credit on themselves and Masonry, and with whom it is a pleasure to work in the erection of our Masonic and moral edifice. But these are not so numerous as they should be, and the dangerous and destructive tendency of the Masonic ignorance which is prevailing among us, and mainly among newly-chartered Lodges, has alone influenced me to bring the subject to the notice of the Grand Lodge. It certainly is one of great importance, and calls loudly upon your Most Worshipful body for some remedial action. I have heard it discussed and deprecated, during the year past, by many zealous, worthy and experienced Brethren. The system of Grand Lecturing, so far, though it has done much good, has not remedied the evil. I do not feel myself competent to propose a remedy, but I have heard one suggested by a very intelligent Brother, which seems to me, if properly enforced, to comprise enough at least to prevent the administration of our rites and laws from falling into *unskilful* or *unworthy* hands. It is this: To make a constitutional provision declaring that “no new Lodge shall be constituted, unless the Lodge nearest to the place where the new Lodge is prayed to be constituted shall vouch for the moral character and Masonic standing of the applicants for the new Lodge, and shall further vouch that the Brethren nominated for Master and Wardens of the new Lodge are fully competent to confer properly, in due and ancient form, the three Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow-Craft and Master Mason.” This I understand to be a constitutional regulation in a sister-jurisdiction.

Of the disposition to which I have just alluded, however, it may be said, “it leans to virtue’s side;” and, notwithstanding its unfavorable influence, I may be permitted to congratulate the Grand Lodge on the unexampled prosperity of Masonry in our State. If some of the vicious and unfaithful have hypocritically worked themselves into our mystic and sacred circle, we have the gratification to know that we have a majority of good men and true, whose probity and moral worth have been tested by the touchstone of experience,—whose intelligence and usefulness are admitted by the most censorious. This should encourage us to redoubled energy and unity in preserving and perpetuating the glorious and

liberalizing tenets of our Order unimpaired and uncontaminated as they came from our ancient Grand Masters. It should encourage us to perform the labors required of us on earth with diligence and fidelity,—to improve commensurately with the circumstances of our day and generation the talent committed to our care, in doing which we may justly expect to receive the “wages to which we are entitled,” and confidently hope that the Grand Master of Heaven and Earth will call us from labor to refreshment in the regions of immortal life and unfading glory.

I remain, Most Worshipful Sir and Brothers,

Yours, fraternally,

F. B. SEXTON,

January 18, 1853, A.L. 5853.

D. D. G. M. 2d M. D.

On motion, duly seconded, the various reports and returns on the Grand Secretary's table were severally referred to the appropriate committees.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

10 o'clock, Tuesday morning, January 18, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, there were found forty-eight duly represented.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The Committee on Credentials presented the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Credentials beg leave to report the following Brethren as the Representatives from the Lodges named,—viz.:

Milam, No. 2,	John Balch, D. Rusk and A. H. Crain.
Lothrop, No. 21,	W. M. Taylor.
Orphans' Friend, No. 17,	John Sayles.
Graham, No. 20,	John Sayles.
Milam, No. 11,	W. A. Dallas.
Leona Union, No. 39,	P. C. Price and L. O. Durst.
Euclid, No. 45,	J. F. Williams, W. C. Henry, A. H. Shanks.
Larissa, No. 57,	J. C. Kincannon and T. J. Dorsett.
Cherino, No. 66,	Rolley Spinks.
Washington, No. 18,	J. G. Searcy.
Sam. Houston, No. 32,	E. Sanford.
Olive-Branch, No. 26,	George E. Hunter.
Newbern, No. 95,	Samuel Sanford.
Red Land, No. 24,	F. B. Sexton, A. G. Price and L. V. Greer.
Bastrop, No. 58,	W. A. Dallas.
Lockhart, No. 59,	J. B. McMahan.
Freedom, No. 100,	A. Neill.
Murchison, No. 80,	A. G. Mitchell.
Lafayette, No. 34,	J. G. Searcy.
Gonzales, No. 30,	A. Neill.

Clinton, No. 23,
 Caledonia, No. 68,
 Forest, No. 19,
 Palestine, No. 31,
 New Salem, No. 87,
 St. John's, No. 53,
 Bosque, No. 92,
 Marshall, No. 22,
 Danville, No. 101,
 Sharon, No. 95,
 Jefferson, No. 38,
 Douglass, No. 43,
 Mt. Enterprise, No. 60,
 Eagle, No. 41,
 Springfield, No. 74,
 Friendship, No. 16,
 Canton, No. 98,
 Terrell, No. 83,
 Jackson, No. 35,
 Grand Bluff, No. 54,
 Tusculum, No. 86,
 Andrew Jackson, No. 88,
 Harmony, No. 6,
 Teutonia, No. 47,

William Stedman.
 W. B. Ochiltree.
 James A. Baker.
 A. E. McClure, J. E. Cravens, J. B. Mallard.
 William Johnson.
 R. Hotchkiss.
 J. A. Nowlin.
 J. F. Taylor, J. M. Clough, W. H. Bristow.
 D. H. Lett.
 G. R. Lowrie.
 J. H. Rogers.
 H. H. White, J. W. Baxter, W. P. Selman.
 William Hays.
 James M. Ramsey.
 J. T. Love.
 J. P. Gibson.
 J. W. Engledow.
 H. B. Stephens and S. M. McGaughey.
 E. P. Gains.
 A. L. Vawter.
 D. F. Barcroft.
 J. H. Rogers.
 W. B. Ochiltree.
 John Forbes.

They would also report the following original members of the Grand Lodge present:—A. Neill and Charles S. Taylor.

PAST GRAND MASTER.

W. B. Ochiltree.

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

W. M. Taylor.

PAST MASTERS ENTITLED TO SEATS.

H. Yoakum, J. M. Hall, G. R. Lowrie, J. H. Rogers, David Collins, H. H. White, D. H. Lett, W. P. Brittain, B. Blake, A. E. McClure, Wm. Stedman, R. E. Wynn, James McDonald.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges made the following report, which was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Committee on the Returns of Chartered Lodges, beg leave to report that they have examined and found the returns from the following Lodges correct,—to wit:

Olive-Branch, No. 36; Danville, No. 101; Freedom, No. 100; Lockhart, No. 59; Gonzales, No. 30; St. John's, No. 53; Marshall, No. 22; Milam, No. 2; Red Land, No. 24; Joppa, No. 65; Corsicana, No. 104; Jefferson, No. 88; Clinton, No. 23; Ioni, No. 93; Terrell, No. 83; Eagle, No. 41; Bastrop, No. 51.

The returns of Corsicana Lodge are made out with most extraordinary neatness and accuracy, and reflect great credit on so young a Lodge, and its Secretary. The returns of St. John's, No. 5, Matagorda, No. 7, and Pine Bluff, No. 85, are corrected,—the work being correct, but the returns not carried out correctly. St. John's is \$17 50; Matagorda, No. 7, \$18; and Pine Bluff, No. 85,

\$17. The returns of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, and of Bastrop, No. 58, do not show opposite the name of each member the amount due from him.

The Committee have examined and corrected the returns from the following Lodges, which were incorrect in many particulars,—to wit:

Leona Union, No. 39; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Canton, No. 98; Sharon, No. 95; Cherino, No. 66; Graham, No. 20; Sam. Houston, No. 32; Friendship, No. 16; Murchison, No. 80.

The returns of Friendship Lodge, No. 16, are hardly correct in any particular. The names of suspended and demitted members are included among contributing members; no dues are charged on members raised during the year; several members are twice reported, and the calculations of the amounts due the Grand Lodge are incorrect. We hope this Lodge will be furnished a proper form for making out returns, and will endeavor in future to improve, so that the Committee will not have to make out the returns for them.

Some of the Lodges do not observe a distinction in setting forth the Masters, Fellow-Crafts and Entered Apprentices, and of suspended and demitted members, which, if done, would greatly lighten the labors of the Committee, as well as conform to the form of returns prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee respectfully submit this report, and ask further time to consider of returns remaining in their hands.

F. B. SEXTON,
Chairman.

The Deputy Grand Master, Andrew Neill, submitted the following report, which, with documents accompanying, was referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Deputy Grand Master, in submitting a report of the matters which have received his attention during the past Masonic year for your consideration, cannot refrain from the gratification it has afforded him, of meeting your Worshipful body in the hall of old Milam Lodge, No. 2, in this ancient and time-honored place; yet that pleasure is dampened in a very considerable degree by the demise of a colleague with whom it has been his good fortune to meet in years long past, when Masonry was in her infancy in this land, and in the organization of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, as original members,—a Brother endeared to him by many ties; and the vote upon meeting here at this time was as much an honor to him as was the most exalted station in your body. To our last Past Deputy Grand Master, Adolphus Sterne, Masonry owes much; and the hope is entertained that he has been called, with our Past Grand Senior Warden, W. H. Cushney, to join in the refreshments provided in the Celestial Lodge above, where presides our Supreme Grand Master. May we imitate their virtues and revere their memories!

In the performance of the duties of the undersigned the past year, some questions of much importance have presented themselves, and he has been requested to submit for your decision the following, from those that have arisen, from Victoria Lodge, No. 40: Whether, in a Lodge having members qualified, a Worshipful Master can be elected without having served as a Warden; and, if such an election takes place, whether he is entitled, as a matter of right, to the honorary degree of Past Master. In the case referred to, a young and ardent member of the Lodge was elected, and no doubt is well qualified, so far as zeal, worth and capacity are concerned; but he has never served in any capacity previous to his election, and the convention of Past Masters called upon to qualify him by conferring that Degree declined to do so, whereby the last Master could not install his successor. Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, desires to know who are members of a Lodge, or whether any others than those who constituted the same under the Charter, and those who were raised and affiliated therein, can be

members; and whether the formal installation of a Brother, on the organization of the Lodge, into an office, constitutes him a member afterwards, without any other action.

During the past year, he has granted Dispensations for the following new Lodges,—to wit: For San Jacinto Lodge, at Danville, Montgomery county, on the 31st January, 1852, and for Prairie Lea Lodge, at Prairie Lea, Caldwell county, on the 20th day of June, 1852. In consequence of Guadalupe Lodge, working under a Dispensation granted by District Deputy Grand Master Lytle, having met with an accident whereby she lost by fire the said Dispensation, with a portion of her jewels and regalia, and at the request of said Lodge, a special permit was granted on the 6th December to the Lodge to continue work until the close of the year. By resolution of the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, the undersigned was empowered to meet the Brethren at Webber's Prairie and settle the existing difficulties relative to the constituting of the new Lodge in that vicinity. It was not until the 7th of June that he was enabled to attend to the duty assigned him, at which time, after due notice to all Brethren in the jurisdiction, he attended, and after hearing the relative merits of all parties he submitted certain articles, which being signed by nineteen Master Masons of the proper jurisdiction, and the vote taken according to the articles, the Dispensation previously granted to Hardeman Lodge at Webber's Prairie was revoked, and a new one granted for Colorado Lodge, at Webbersville, in Travis county; and the jewels, records and furniture were transferred accordingly to the new Lodge, with injunctions, however, to the new Lodge to refund all the expenses incident thereto to the proper parties, and become liable for the Dispensation-fee. The articles referred to are appended hereto for inspection, as a part of this report.

The duty devolving upon the undersigned was a very delicate one, but it is believed that the respective parties were satisfied that the same was performed in a proper spirit, and with due deference to the feelings and motives of all concerned. Favorable reports have been had from the new Lodges, and their work will satisfy the Grand Lodge upon that subject. There is a subject to which the attention of the Grand Lodge is called, and which presented itself upon a petition being sent to the undersigned for a Dispensation for a new Lodge at Belmont, in Gonzales county, duly recommended by Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, but in which that Lodge, in its action upon the recommendation of the petitioners for a new Lodge, threw all the responsibility of discretion upon the Grand Officer to whom the petition was to be presented, as to the qualifications of the Brethren petitioning, and also as to the competency and character of the Brethren, and the ability to provide a proper hall for work. Upon learning the true action of Gonzales Lodge, the undersigned declined to act, and called upon Gonzales Lodge to reconsider their recommendation, which was done; but the said Lodge, now in possession of the facts, passed the recommendation again, while objections were urged by several Brethren against the recommendation. In consequence of this it was thought most proper to refer the whole subject to the Grand Lodge, in order that action may be taken thereon. It is respectfully suggested that in the formation of a new Lodge a unanimous vote should be required, as names of Masons may be upon the petition who might not be able to affiliate in a Lodge, but by granting the new Lodge petition they are thereby made members of a Lodge without unanimous vote, while to affiliate, the rule would be otherwise. As to the hall in which the new Lodge proposes to meet, it is suggested that not only should the Lodge recommending, but the Grand Officer, be fully satisfied that the place of meeting is a proper one.

The petition is submitted, with this report, to the consideration of the Grand Lodge, in order that some rule may be adopted for future government in similar cases.

On the 10th November last, the undersigned, acting as Grand Master, performed the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of a church in San Antonio, for

the Methodist Episcopalians South, with the assistance of Alamo Lodge, No. 44, Guadalupe Lodge, U. D., and Burleson Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

The undersigned sincerely hopes and trusts that what he has done may be approved by your Worshipful body, as the spirit in which he has acted has at all times been his guide, and that the same might conduce to the honor of an Order to which he has devoted many years of labor, with ardent attachment.

Most respectfully submitted.

January 18, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

A. NEILL,

Deputy Grand Master.

Several resolutions adopted by Clinton Lodge, No. 23, relative to instruction in the three symbolic Degrees, were read, and, on motion, were referred to the Committee appointed on the Grand Master's Report.

A petition for a new Lodge at Green's Bluff was read and referred to the appropriate committee, with instructions to report on the expediency of granting a Charter.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Past Junior Grand Warden Henry C. Cartmell, of Washington, with accompanying documents, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that the case of Bro. Cartmell is a peculiar one. He is one of the oldest and most worthy Masons in our State,—a Mason indeed, in whom there is no guile. He is now in distress, with a helpless family on his hands, and asks of us the loan of five hundred dollars, to be paid in five annual instalments, and offers as security four of the best men our State affords. Charity is the great foundation-stone of our Order, and we believe that it is the duty of the Grand Lodge, as well as subordinate Lodges, to assist the worthy when under the hand of affliction. Bro. Cartmell's entire property—the accumulation of years of toil—was destroyed by fire some two months since, and the loan he now asks of us, together with the assistance of his Brethren, will enable him to start again in life under favorable auspices. Under all the circumstances, the Committee are of opinion that the prayer of the memorialists should be granted, and would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Texas be authorized to lend Bro. Henry R. Cartmell the sum of five hundred dollars, on the terms proposed in his memorial, receiving the securities he offers for its repayment.

J. C. HARRISON,

Chairman.

On motion, duly seconded, Bros. W. B. Ochiltree, F. B. Sexton and Wm. M. Taylor were added to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals; and, on further motion, Bro. A. G. Price was added to the Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to select an orator to officiate during the present session of the Grand Lodge, consisting of Bros. J. C. Harrison, John E. Cravens and William A. Dallas.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, January 18, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

A roll of the Lodges having been called, there were found forty-eight duly represented.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed, on Wednesday evening, at 3 o'clock p.m., to elect the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Texas, for the ensuing twelve months.

OCHILTREE.

The following resolution was read the first time and ordered to be laid on the table :—

Be it Resolved, That Article IV. of the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows :—

“ARTICLE IV. The Grand Lodge shall meet annually on the fifteenth day of June, unless that day falls on Sunday, when it shall meet on the succeeding day, at the Seat of Government of the State, or at such other place as may be selected by the Grand Lodge; and on the third day of the Communication shall proceed to elect by ballot a Grand Master, a Senior and Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer; and the Grand Master shall appoint the District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Chaplains, Grand Marshal, Grand Standard-Bearer, Grand Orator, Grand Sword-Bearer, Senior Grand Deacon, Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler; the Senior Grand Warden shall appoint the Junior Grand Deacon; and the Junior Grand Warden shall appoint the Grand Stewards; and all the officers shall be installed as soon thereafter as convenient.”

Be it Resolved, That Article XXII. be amended so as to read as follows :—

“ARTICLE XXII. Each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall make out its annual returns to its last regular Communication in May, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary by the fifteenth day of June; and said returns shall show the names of their officers and members, and the names of their Brethren who have been initiated, passed, raised, affiliated, demitted, suspended, expelled, reinstated or deceased; also of the candidates rejected, in order that the same may be duly noticed in the Grand Lodge.”

Be it Resolved, That Article XXXIX. be amended so as to insert the word “January” in place of the word “July,” wherever it occurs in said Article.

A memorial from Bosque Lodge, No. 92, was read and referred to the Committee on Petitions.

The following report of R. W. District Deputy Grand Master John E. Cravens, for the Fourth Masonic District, was read and referred to the Committee on the Grand Officers’ Reports :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In accordance with the requirements of your Most Worshipful body, I beg leave to submit a report of my proceedings as District Deputy Grand Master for the Fourth Masonic District during the past Masonic year.

During the year that has just passed, in my official capacity I have visited all the Lodges under my jurisdiction, with a single exception, (Ioni Lodge,) which I was prevented from visiting by circumstances beyond my control.

It is with feelings of unfeigned pleasure that I announce to the M. W. Grand

Lodge that the utmost harmony exists among the Craft in my Masonic District, and that the principles of the Order are observed in the intercourse between Brethren to an extent truly gratifying.

But few questions of difficulty have been presented for my decision; and, when these have occurred, such disposition has been made of them as met with the general approbation of well-informed Brethren, assisted by such Masonic information as was within my reach.

As before intimated, the Lodges which compose the Fourth District are in a healthy condition, and are enlarging the boundaries of Masonic obligation by admitting within its portals many who are "duly qualified" and are under the tongue of good report. It may be that some who are unworthy of the honor conferred by our Order have been admitted among us; but generally the Lodges, warned by experience, have acted with circumspection truly praiseworthy.

During last summer I granted, to several Brethren duly recommended by a neighboring Lodge, a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at Kaufman, county of Kaufman, to be known as Bloomfield Lodge; also a Dispensation to a competent number of Brethren, recommended in a like manner, to open a new Lodge at Quitman, in Wood county. The proceedings of each of these new Lodges are, or will be, I presume, before you, and I sincerely hope and doubt not that it will be seen that the confidence manifested by granting this privilege has not been misplaced. In a few instances I have been induced to grant Dispensations for conferring Degrees. Applications of this character have been too frequent, but have only been complied with where it seemed for the benefit of the Craft.

At the last Grand Annual Communication of your Most Worshipful body, a Dispensation was granted by M. W. Grand Master John Sayles to a number of Brethren, to open a Lodge at Magnolia, Anderson county. I was applied to for the purpose of setting them to work under this authority. Previous to doing so, I learned, from a source entitled to great respect, that Joshua G. Odom, one of the petitioners, had been expelled by Tompkinsville Lodge, in the State of Alabama. Deeming it a hardship that the unworthiness of one of the petitioners should prevent the enjoyment of the franchise by the other Brethren, who labored under no disability, I set the Lodge to work, having first informed Mr. Odom of the position he occupied, and requested him to desist from any participation in the action of the Order until the cloud upon his Masonic standing was removed. A subsequent correspondence had by the Lodge at Magnolia with Tompkinsville Lodge, as well as the Grand Lodge of Alabama, proved that the information acted upon by me was but too true, and that an unworthy man had imposed himself upon the Fraternity. Whether I acted correctly in this matter or not is for you to determine, as also what course you will pursue to give information of the true Masonic standing of Mr. Odom.

The subject of education has been already alluded to by our M. W. Grand Master; and allow me to say that I sincerely hope that his recommendations will receive the favorable consideration of this Grand Lodge, and that that or some other method of encouraging the efforts of the subordinate Lodges in this noble enterprise will be adopted.

The only Lodge in my District that has embarked its means in the cause of education is Palestine Lodge, No. 81. This Lodge has, at considerable expense, erected large, commodious buildings for a Masonic Institute, suitable for a male and female department, and has supplied each one with teachers well qualified for their stations, both by moral and literary attainments. The third session of this institution will open on the 15th of February proximo, with prospects of success and future usefulness that are truly gratifying to every philanthropist, and especially so to those who have been engaged in laying the foundation and rearing the superstructure. Although Palestine Lodge is the only one in my District which has engaged actively in this noble work, yet from my observation I am convinced that the Fraternity are alive to the importance of the work,

and only want the means to carry out the general wish of the Fraternity,—that of “improving the moral and social condition of mankind.”

Permit me, in conclusion, to beg the indulgence of the M. W. Grand Lodge for the length of this communication; and allow me to express the hope that, when we are done with labor upon earth, we may meet at refreshment in the Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Grand Architect presides.

JOHN E. CRAVENS,
D. D. G. M. 4th M. D.

The report of the R. W. District Deputy Grand Master for the Third Masonic District was read and referred, with documents, to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports.

A petition from Gilmer Lodge, No. 61, with letter of D. F. Barcroft, was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

A memorial from Tyler Lodge, No. 50, was read, and, on motion, laid on the table.

On motion, Bro. J. H. Rogers was added to the Committee on Grievances.

The following report from the Committee on Credentials was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Credentials would further report that they find Ioni Lodge represented by William T. Miller; Rocky Mount, No. 63, by R. E. Wynn; Woodville, No. 62, by M. M. Willey and J. B. Johnson. Forest Lodge, No. 19, is further represented by John McCreary.

PAST MASTERS.

D. F. Barcroft, W. A. Dallas, J. S. Noble.

Respectfully submitted. J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The resolution touching the office of Grand Lecturer was taken up and read a second time.

The following resolution was read and referred to the Committee on Finance :—

Resolved, That the dues of all Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge be remitted for the year 1853, A. L. 5853. SEXTON.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions have had under consideration the application of a number of Brethren residing at and in the vicinity of Gay Hill, Washington county, to open and hold a Lodge at Gay Hill, to be known as Baylor Lodge, No. —, with John Sayles as first Master, John Alexander Senior Warden, and G. W. Gentry Junior Warden. The high respectability of the names appended to the said petition, accompanied by the fact that it comes recommended by Graham Lodge, No. 20, and Milam Lodge, No. 11, at Independence, induces us, without hesitation, to report the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the application for a Dispensation to open and hold a Lodge at Gay Hill, to be called Baylor Lodge, No. —, be granted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

Nothing further appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

7 o'clock, P.M., Tuesday, January 18, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before, with the exception of R. W. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary, who had arrived and taken his station; also R. W. J. C. Woolam, Grand Chaplain.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, there were found forty-six duly represented.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That, in consideration of the pecuniary embarrassments under which New Salem Lodge, No. 87, labors, the dues of said Lodge to the Grand Lodge for the past year be remitted.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

REPORT.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal from Euclid Lodge, No. 45, have examined the proceedings sent up, and beg leave to report that they unanimously disapprove of the conduct of said Lodge in the investigation of the affray between two of its members, and the manner in which they disposed of it.

Every good Mason will feel himself under solemn obligations not to offer personal violence to another, nor to provoke him to commit such an act. But, the act being done, the whole Fraternity must feel it and suffer by it. An attempt on the part of a Lodge having jurisdiction of such a case to smother investigation and arrest punishment is an outrage upon Masonic usages and propriety not to be tolerated.

The Committee therefore offer the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the proceedings in Euclid Lodge on the personal difficulty between Bros. Sellers and Ozment be set aside and held for naught.

That said Lodge be instructed to charge and try the said Sellers and Ozment according to their several offences, and in Masonic form.

January 8, 1852.

H. YOAKUM,
Chairman.

The following report of the Committee on Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges, beg leave further to report that they have examined the returns of the following Lodges, and find them correct,—to wit:

Milam Lodge, No. 11; Washington, No. 18; Douglass, No. 43; Grand Bluff, No. 54; Caledonia, No. 68.

We have examined and corrected the returns from the following Lodges,—to wit:

Lothrop Lodge, No. 21; Larissa, No. 57; Euclid, No. 45; Tusculum, No. 86;
VOL. I.—85

Newbern, No. 97; Tyler, No. 50; New Salem, No. 87; Woodville, No. 62; Tarrant, No. 91; Palestine, No. 31; Springfield, No. 74.

The returns of the three last-mentioned Lodges are exceedingly erroneous, and are very badly executed as to penmanship and calculation. We hope that subordinate Lodges will pay more attention to the discharge of this duty by their Secretaries. Men of business-habits should be elected to that office, and properly dealt with if they neglect their duty. In the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge, it can be attended with little difficulty to prepare returns correctly.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON, *Chairman*,
D. H. LETT,
G. L. WILLIAMS,
J. H. ROGERS,
A. G. PRICE.

The following report from R. W. E. W. Taylor, Superintendent of the Education Fund, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

In presenting my annual report as Superintendent of the Education Fund of your Grand Lodge, it perhaps would not be amiss in me to call your attention to the subject of education as connected with our institution.

Masonry is as broad as the world itself; and in all climes, and among all nations, Masons are found engaged in all the benevolent enterprises of the age; and there is no duty more pleasing, nor one in which the welfare of our Order is more interested, than in training the youthful mind to deeds of virtue and benevolence. The organization of primary schools, for the purpose of gathering in the children of Masons and teaching them the rudiments of knowledge, is becoming universal among our Brethren, both upon the other side of the water—in England, Germany, Sweden, &c.—as well as in almost every State of our own loved country; and, in many instances, through the liberality of Grand Lodges and the united efforts of determined hearts, proud institutions of learning have been reared, endowed and put in successful operation, where the orphan children of worthy Masonic Brethren, as well as those of indigent parents, can acquire, upon principles of equality, those liberal arts and sciences which will fit them for all the important stations of life, and make them the harbingers of love and mercy to thousands of others, who are constantly presenting themselves for our charities.

And whilst most of the Grand Lodges of our land have acted in this matter, none perhaps has more nobly distinguished herself than the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, where not only has a Masonic collegiate institution been founded and is in successful operation, but the Grand Lodge of that State, in 1845, adopted a resolution requesting each and every subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction to appoint a committee to seek out all the orphan Masonic children, also those of indigent parentage, in their jurisdiction, and have them sent to school at the expense of the different Lodges.

The Grand Lodge of Florida has also passed similar resolutions, whilst the Grand Lodges in Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Mississippi and other States have been, and are, organizing schools, and gathering the sons and daughters of Masons into these asylums of learning, where they are instructed in all the elements of knowledge and in the principles of virtue and morality.

And, Brethren, shall we stand quietly by, whilst our fellows in all parts of this broad land are up and at work in this great enterprise, and permit hundreds of poor and orphan children, whom we have promised to befriend and protect, grow up in ignorance around us? are we doing our duty to deceased

Brethren, who have gone to that bourne from which no traveller returns? are we doing our duty to ourselves, and are we doing our duty to God, the Great Architect of the Universe, in neglecting this matter?

True it is, that zealous Brethren in various parts of our State have made noble exertions to organize and sustain Masonic schools; but, without the joint aid and patronage of your Grand Lodge, feeble indeed will be their efforts.

It seems to me, my Brethren, the time has arrived for us to act in this matter. The warm friends of education must be up and doing: the genius of our institution requires it, the rising generation demands it, and we, as *Masons*, cannot turn our backs to their calls. If others have succeeded in this great and laudable undertaking, so can we.

Where upon the face of this round world is Masonry in so flourishing a condition as here, within the borders of our loved State? where are her temples more sacred, her ancient landmarks more closely guarded? where the calls of a worthy distressed Brother more promptly and cheerfully relieved? where the tears of the widow or the orphan more kindly commiserated than within the jurisdiction of your Grand Lodge.

Extend these charities, my Brethren, by establishing a system of education that shall cover with its broad folds every Masonic child within our borders. Do this, and you establish our institution, in this flourishing young State, upon a basis as firm as the Rock of ages; do this, and you plant the standard of Masonry here, against which the puny assaults of ignorance and malice can never prevail.

I am not prepared to present any plan of operations for your consideration; but that you will take the subject under consultation, and adopt such a course as may seem most proper to carry on the work, is my most earnest wish.

Regretting much that I cannot be with you in your deliberations, I am,

Fraternally, your Brother,

E. W. TAYLOR,

Sup't Ed. Fund of Grand Lodge of Texas.

Houston, January 8, 1853.

Grand Lodge of Texas in account with E. W. Taylor, Superintendent of the Educational Fund.

CR.

January 15, 1852.	By am't of acc't rendered.....	\$640 70
" " "	" 8 per cent. interest to date.....	51 25
February 1, "	" am't from Grand Treasurer.....	355 04
" "	" 8 per cent. interest to date.....	29 21
		<hr/>
		\$1,074 20

E. W. TAYLOR,

Sup't Ed. Fund of Grand Lodge of Texas.

Houston, January 15, 1853.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, laid on the table:—

Resolved, That the county of Cherokee be detached from the Third and attached to the Fourth Masonic District, and that the county of Wood be detached from the Fourth and attached to the Third Masonic District.

A. H. SHANKS,
J. F. WILLIAMS,
A. E. MCCLURE,
W. P. BRITAIN,
J. B. MALLARD.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required, immediately after the close of the present Grand Annual Communication, to have three thousand copies of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, together with all the resolutions of this Grand Lodge now in force, printed and distributed among the various Lodges in the State in proportion to the number of members of each Lodge, and that a sufficient amount be appropriated to effect the object of this resolution.

F. B. SEXTON.

The following report from R. W. District Deputy Grand Master J. T. Lytle, Eighth Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned would respectfully represent, that during the past Masonic year he has visited a number of the Lodges under his jurisdiction; the extent of the District and business-engagements have prevented a more extended communication.

It gives him great pleasure to state, as far as his knowledge extends, that the utmost harmony prevails, and the institution is flourishing greatly in the West.

He has granted two Dispensations to establish new Lodges,—Guadalupe Lodge, at Seguin, and Coletto Lodge, at Yorktown.

Some difficulty occurred in Indianola Lodge, No. 84; but, upon the resignation of the officers and the appointment of new ones, the difficulty was healed, and the Lodge has now regained its former position. This Lodge, under the care of its Worshipful Master,—our worthy Brother, Wm. P. Milby,—bids fair to become one of the brightest and best-conducted Lodges in Western Texas.

It is with much regret that the undersigned is compelled to forego the pleasure it would give him to meet his Brethren at this Grand Annual Communication, but the demands of private affairs, and the great distance at which the Grand Lodge is held, deny him this pleasure.

Fraternally,

JAMES T. LYTLE,
D. D. G. M. 8th M. D.

The following report from the Committee on Credentials was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Credentials would further report that Joppa Lodge, No. 65, is represented by Julian Field and J. M. Pelham; Tarrant Lodge, No. 91, by L. G. Harman and B. G. Bailey; Concord Lodge, No. 77, by J. B. Long; Carthage Lodge, No. 78, by H. P. C. Dulaney; De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, by Thomas H. Brennan; St. John's Lodge, No. 53, is further represented by J. C. Kincannon; Hubert Lodge, No. 67, by John D. Rodgers and Joe Foster; Sam. Houston Lodge, No. 82, by George Sanford

FAST MASTERS.

Julian Field, T. G. Broocks.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That R. Hotchkiss be added to the Committee on By-laws.

The following report from the Committee on Credentials was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Credentials beg leave to report the following additional Representatives:—

Morton Lodge, No. 72, John D. Rogers; Holland Lodge, No. 1, A. S. Ruthven; Wharton Lodge, No. 99, A. S. Ruthven. J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock, January 19, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, there were found fifty-two duly represented.

The minutes of the previous morning and afternoon meetings were read, and, on motion, adopted.

On motion, Bro. Josiah Foster, from Hubert Lodge, was added to the Committee on Returns from Chartered Lodges; Bro. John D. Rogers, from the same Lodge, was added to the Committee on By-laws; and Bro. T. S. Anderson, from Austin Lodge, No. 12, was added to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The following report from the Committee on Constitutional Amendments was read, and, on motion, received, and the amendments read a second time:—

REPORT.

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to whom was referred the following resolution,—to wit:

“Resolved, That, wherever the words ‘Grand Lecturer’ occur in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, the same be stricken out,”—have had the said resolution under consideration, and beg leave to recommend that the same be adopted.

The Committee have also had under consideration the proposed amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, offered by the M. W. Grand Master, John Sayles, and, being fully impressed with the importance of the same, recommend the adoption thereof, with the following exceptions,—viz.: strike out the words “fifteenth day of June,” and insert, in lieu thereof, “fifteenth day of January;” strike out the words “at the Seat of Government of this State, or at such other place as may be selected by the Grand Lodge,” and insert, in lieu thereof, “at such place as may be selected by the Grand Lodge at each regular Communication;” also strike out the words “Grand Lecturer” wherever the same occur in said resolution; also strike out the proposed amendment to Article XXXIX.

The Committee also recommend to the Grand Lodge to strike out of the Constitution the latter part of Article XII., following these words,—viz.: “Each Lodge under his jurisdiction.”

The Committee also recommend that the following be adopted as an additional Article of the Constitution, to be numbered Article XIX. :—

"ARTICLE XIX. That the several District Deputy Grand Masters shall be the Lecturers of their respective Districts; and it shall be the duty of the said District Deputy Grand Masters to consult with each other at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and agree upon and report to the Grand Lodge a uniform system of the work and lectures of the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow-Craft and Master Mason; and it shall also be the duty of said District Deputy Grand Masters, at least twice in each year, to call together all the Masters of Lodges in their respective Districts, at some point as near the centre of their Districts as their convenience will allow, and then and there to disseminate the work and lectures as agreed on by them and adopted by the Grand Lodge; and for their services as such Lecturers they shall each be entitled to demand and receive from each Lodge in their respective Districts the sum of ten dollars per annum, and shall also receive from the Grand Lodge the sum of money now appropriated to the Grand Lecturer, to be equally divided among all of them; and it shall be the further duty of said District Deputy Grand Masters to make out a report of the manner in which they have executed their aforesaid duties, at each Grand Annual Communication."

The Committee also recommend that Article XII. of the Constitution be so altered as to read,—

"That there shall be as many Masonic Districts as there are Judicial Districts in the State of Texas, and that each Judicial District shall be a Masonic District, and numbered and classified as are the said Judicial Districts."

The Committee would further recommend that Article XXI. be amended by adding thereto,—

—"and the Lodge nearest to the place where the new Lodge is prayed to be constituted shall be required also to vouch that the Brethren nominated in the petition for Master and Wardens are fully qualified to confer properly, in due and ancient form, the three Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow-Craft and Master Mason."

We would further recommend that the following additional Article be added to the Constitution,—to wit:

"ARTICLE XX. That the expenses of one Representative from each subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be paid out of the Treasury of said Grand Lodge during his attendance upon the same at each Annual Communication.

JAMES H. ROGERS,	} Committee.
F. B. SEXTON,	
A. H. SHANKS,	

The following report from the Committee on Lodges U. D. was read, and, on motion, adopted, and the several Representatives were invited to take their seats as members of the Grand Lodge:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee Work and Returns of Lodges under Dispensation ask leave to submit the following report:—

We have examined the work of Burleson Lodge, U. D., held at the town of Navarro, Leon county, Texas, and find the same correct in every particular; and we recommend that a Charter issue upon the payment of the usual fee.

We have examined their returns, and find the same correct, with these exceptions: they have charged three initiations at 50 cents each, when it should have been 25 cents; three passings same error, and two raisings same error; which makes their dues, as corrected, \$6 50. The proceedings of Bloomfield Lodge, held in the town of Kaufman, Kaufman county, are correct, with these

exceptions: they received and acted on petitions for affiliation, and balloted for candidates, at called-off meetings of regular Communications; this resulted from not having the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge before them: their returns are all correct. Your Committee recommend that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee. The Proceedings of Prairie Lea Lodge, U. D., are all correct, and so are their returns: therefore we recommend that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee. Gum Spring Lodge, U. D., proceedings are correct, with this exception: the Grand Officer granting the Dispensation installed the officers named in the Dispensation, and the Lodge elected officers at the close of the year, all of which your Committee look upon as irregular, but believe the fault to be in their having been wrongfully instructed by the District Deputy Grand Master, and we deem it hard to punish members of a new Lodge for faults of a Grand Officer: wherefore we recommend that a Charter issue to the said Gum Spring Lodge, to be held in the town of Starrville, Smith county, on the payment of the usual fee. Their returns we have corrected; their dues as corrected amount to \$18 75. The error of installing appears in the proceedings of Guadalupe Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Seguin, Guadalupe county; they also affiliated a Brother, which your Committee think improper; in other respects the work is regular and correct: we therefore recommend that a Charter issue on payment of the usual fee. Their returns are correct, with the exception of the one affiliation, which should not be charged.

The proceedings of Kickapoo Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Kickapoo, Anderson county, and Greenville Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Greenville, Hunt county, are correct, and we recommend that Charters issue to said Lodges on the payment of the usual fees. Their returns are correct.

The proceedings of Jacksonville Lodge, U. D., are all correct, with the exception of installation of officers and affiliations. In fact, with very few exceptions, in all the Lodges U. D. the officers have been installed; and several of them receive and act upon petitions for affiliation, and grant demits, all of which your Committee think irregular, but think it best, where there are no other irregularities, to recommend that Charters issue: therefore we recommend that a Charter issue to Jacksonville Lodge, held in the town of Jacksonville, Cherokee county, on the payment of the usual fee. Returns of said Lodge correct, with the deduction of all fees for affiliation. The proceedings of Travis Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Sherman, Grayson county, are in like condition with Jackson Lodge: we therefore make the same recommendation. Their returns require the deduction of three affiliations from the amount.

The proceedings of San Jacinto Lodge, U. D., held in Danville, Montgomery county, and Magnolia Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Magnolia, Anderson county, are somewhat irregular; but the irregularities are of a minor character, and not sufficient to require the withholding a Charter: therefore we recommend that Charters issue on the payment of the usual fees. The dues of San Jacinto Lodge should be \$9 25, instead of \$6 44 as reported. The dues of Magnolia Lodge, as corrected, are \$7 50.

The proceedings of Kaufman Lodge, U. D., held in Rusk county, are irregular in this: the officers were installed and the Lodge consecrated; demits granted to a Brother who had been initiated, passed and raised by Dispensation in said Lodge; the three Degrees were conferred upon a person living within the jurisdiction of Mt. Enterprise Lodge, and two Brothers who had been initiated in Mt. Enterprise Lodge were passed and raised in this Lodge, and all this was done under the immediate instruction and superintendence of R. W. H. M. Lawson, District Deputy Grand Master of the Third District. The proceedings of said Lodge, when unassisted by said District Deputy Grand Master, are generally correct: for reasons above stated, we think it best to recommend a Charter to issue to said Lodge on the payment of the usual fee. Their returns have been corrected, and amount to \$39 25.

The proceedings of McDonald Lodge, U. D., held at Linn Flat, Nacogdoches

county, are all correct: we therefore recommend that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee. Their returns are all correct.

The proceedings of Red River Lodge, U. D., held at Pine Bluff, Red River county, in addition to the error of installation, erred in meeting at various places; they also erred in this:—at regular meetings, the minutes commence by saying, "The Lodge met pursuant to adjournment." The word "adjourned" is not proper at the opening of a regular Communication. In other respects their proceedings are all correct: we therefore recommend that a Charter issue. Their returns have been corrected.

The proceedings and returns of Mt. Hope Lodge, U. D., are all correct; we therefore recommend that a Charter issue to said Lodge, to be held at Mt. Hope, Tyler county, on the payment of the usual fee.

The proceedings of Colorado Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Webberville, Travis county, are before your Committee: their returns are correct: we have not as yet had time to examine their work fully.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. M. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the name of "Gum Spring" be stricken out, and that "Starr" be inserted as the name of the Lodge at Starrville, in Smith county, and that the Charter issue by that name.

The following report from the Committee on Credentials was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Credentials would further report that the following Lodges are duly represented:—

Canton Lodge, No. 98,	Bros. J. W. Engledow, Jonathan Lewter.
Greenville, No. 110,	" William M. Patterson.
Burleson, No. 111,	" W. M. Taylor.
McDonald, No. 120,	" R. A. Watkins, J. L. Murphy and W. D. McKnight.
Kaufman, No. 115,	" James McDonald, William M. Ross.
Travis, No. 117,	" Thomas Howeth.
Starr, No. 118,	" Joshua Starr.
Bloomfield, No. 112,	" James Wilson.
Guadalupe, No. 109,	" A. Neill.
Prairie Lea, No. 114,	" John McMahan.
Kickapoo, No. 105,	" A. E. McClure.
Jacksonville, No. 108,	" E. B. Ragsdale.
Magnolia, No. 113,	" J. E. Cravens.
Mt. Hope, No. 121,	" H. West.
Red River, No. 116,	" J. P. Gibson.
Austin, No. 12,	" T. S. Anderson.
San Jacinto, No. 106,	" Josiah Foster.
Warren, No. 56,	" P. C. Price.
San Gabriel, No. 89,	" T. S. Anderson.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Committee on Grievances and Appeals, would respectfully beg leave to report that, from the record submitted to us, we are of the opinion

that it is not expedient or proper to disturb the action of a competent Lodge, unless there are some flagrant departures from the fundamental principles of Masonry; and in the case of the appeal of Isaac Applewhite from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, we see no good cause for disturbing the action of said Lodge, and respectfully recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution.

We are of the opinion that, unless the mode of taking the testimony before the subordinate Lodge was objected to by the party accused, or his representative, we are bound to presume that every thing connected therewith was in due form. We are also satisfied, from the evidence before us, that the charges preferred against said Applewhite are fully sustained. Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the action of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, in the expulsion of Isaac Applewhite, be, and the same is, in all things affirmed, and that the appeal be dismissed.

H. YOAKUM,

Chairman of the Committee.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 3 o'clock P.M., January 19, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of the Lodges being called, seventy-seven were found duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared the Craft ready to proceed to labor.

On motion, Greenville Lodge was allowed until the 1st of June next to pay the balance of their dues to the Grand Lodge.

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee appointed to select an orator have procured the services of M. W. John Sayles for that occasion. Bro. Sayles informs us that he will not be able to perform this duty before Friday, and we therefore recommend that the installation of officers for the ensuing year be deferred until Friday next, at 10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON, }
J. E. CRAVENS, } *Committee.*
W. A. DALLAS, }

On motion of Bro. W. B. Ochiltree, Past Grand Master, a Committee of Arrangements was appointed to prepare for the installation of officers on Friday, the 21st instant, consisting of Bros. Bennett Blake, John F. Williams, Wm. M. Ross, R. Hotchkiss and Jos. W. Baxter.

The M. W. Grand Master then declared that the hour had arrived for the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows :—

M. W. Andrew Neill,	Grand Master.
R. W. F. B. Sexton,	Deputy Grand Master.
“ Jas. F. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
“ Wm. P. Brittain,	Junior Grand Warden.
“ E. B. Nichols,	Grand Treasurer.
“ A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
“ J. C. Harrison,	Grand Lecturer.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

Thursday morning, 10 o'clock, January 20, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of Lodges being called, there were found seventy-seven duly represented.

The minutes for former meetings, unapproved, were read, and, on motion, adopted.

The following report from the Committee on Work and Returns of Lodges under Dispensation was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Lodges under Dispensation ask leave to report further. We have examined the work of Colorado Lodge, under Dispensation, and find that the Deputy Grand Master, in pursuance of a resolution of the last Grand Lodge, proceeded to investigate the difficulties existing between the Brethren at Webber's Prairie, and, after an investigation, which he has reported,—and said report is now before your Committee on Grand Officers' Reports,—he granted a Dispensation to the Lodge at Webbersville, to be called Colorado Lodge, U. D. The proceedings under said Dispensation are all regular and correct: we therefore recommend that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee. The proceedings and returns of Quitman Lodge, U. D., held at Chatfield, in the county of Navarro, are all correct: we therefore recommend that a Charter issue on the payment of the usual fee. Quitman Lodge, U. D., held in the town of Quitman, Wood county, have sent up no work. We have examined and corrected their returns.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. M. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges further report, that they have examined, and found correct, returns from the following Lodges,—to wit: Holland Lodge, No. 1; Mt. Enterprise, No. 60; Jackson, No. 35; Warren, No. 56; Forest, No. 19; Indianola, No. 84; Harmony, No. 6.

The Committee have examined and corrected returns from the following Lodges,—to wit:

Rocky Mount Lodge, No. 68; Andrew Jackson, No. 88; Tannehill, No. 52; Concord, No. 77; Boston, No. 69; Paris, No. 27; Florida, No. 46; Carthage, No. 78; Austin, No. 12; Cameron, No. 77; Hubert, No. 67; Wharton, No. 99; Lavaca, No. 86; Moreton, No. 72; De Witt Clinton, No. 29; Teutonia, No. 47; Brazos, No. 75; Montgomery, No. 25.

The returns of Holland Lodge, No. 1, are made out in a style superior, for accuracy and elegance, to any thing we have seen, and are an excellent example for all subordinate Lodges, which we earnestly hope to see emulated.

In the returns of Hubert Lodge, No. 67, it appears that a candidate was passed on the 12th and raised on the 23d of June, and no notice of a Dispensation. This is irregular, and should be noticed by the Grand Lodge. We recommend that, if unexplained by the Delegate in attendance, Hubert Lodge be reprimanded by the Grand Master, or the Deputy for that District.

Connected with the returns of Andrew Jackson Lodge is a petition asking that that Lodge be permitted to change its place of meeting from Old Hickory to the town of Linden, in Cass county. This should probably have been referred to the Committee on Petitions, but we can see no objection to granting the request.

We earnestly recommend to subordinate Lodges to guard against those inaccuracies so often occurring in returns, which, though small in themselves, put the Committee to great trouble in correcting them.

Montgomery Lodge, No. 25, has failed to extend the amounts due from each member, and has not charged for the conferment of several Degrees.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,
Chairman.

SUPPLEMENTAL

The Committee have ascertained satisfactorily that the error in raising the candidate alluded to, by Hubert Lodge, arose from an innocent misconception of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and from no wilful intention to violate its provisions. They therefore recommend that said Lodge should be excused, but that the irregularity be noticed, so that Lodges may understand that the Grand Lodge requires a candidate to labor from one monthly meeting to another.

SEXTON,
Chairman.

The report of the Committee on the M. W. Grand Master's Address was read, and disposed of as follows:—

Resolution No. 1, adopted.

Resolution No. 2, on motion, laid on the table.

Resolution No. 3, referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

Resolution No. 4, adopted.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The special Committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master, M. W. John Sayles, beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration, and cannot too highly commend the distinguished ability and Masonic fidelity and intelligence by which it is characterized. Your Committee cannot but congratulate the Grand Lodge on the selection of so eminent a Brother to discharge the duties of the responsible station of Grand Master.

The various suggestions contained in the address, your Committee think, merit deliberate action on the part of your Most Worshipful body.

In reference to the office of Grand Lecturer, your Committee are of opinion that the office has accomplished but little good, for some time past, and does not answer the object intended by its creation. Your Committee think that

some other plan for the diffusion of Masonic knowledge could well be devised, and, understanding that a judicious system is in progress before the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, will decline any recommendation on the subject at this time.

The course pursued by Washington Lodge, No. 18, in offering publicly a reward to be paid by the Lodge for the apprehension of a supposed criminal, your Committee must regard as highly censurable. The correspondence and other documents accompanying the Grand Master's address, however, show that the Lodge acted under the influence of great excitement, and from a mistaken sense of duty. It was no doubt impressed, and justly, too, with the belief that a horrid and heinous crime had been committed, and this tends, in some degree, to excuse their very erroneous and improper conduct in the premises, contrary, as your Committee conceive, to all Masonic usage. Your Committee think that it is incumbent on the Grand Lodge to publicly disapprove the conduct of Washington Lodge, and take such a course as shall, in future, prevent the recurrence of a similar procedure, and to this end have submitted the first resolution hereto appended.

Your Committee have examined, with much pleasure, the report of our R. W. Bro. John C. Gordy, which accompanies the Grand Master's address. Your Committee most heartily approve the action of the Grand Master in requesting Bro. Gordy to disseminate Masonic instruction in our jurisdiction. We take much pleasure in bearing testimony to the superior Masonic intelligence and information of Bro. Gordy, to his inflexible morality and rectitude of conduct as a man, to his courteous and affable deportment as a gentleman, and to his kindness and fidelity as a Brother. The work, as taught by Bro. Gordy, we consider *the work*,—that which is in perfect accordance with the most ancient landmarks; that which this Grand Lodge recognises as pure, uncorrupted, Ancient Craft Masonry; and we recommend that your Most Worshipful body *require, absolutely, that it only be universally practised* in your subordinate Lodges.

Several of the constitutional amendments suggested by Bro. Gordy, your Committee think, should be made; but, as they properly should be referred to the Committee on Amendments, we will not notice all of them in this report. The resolutions appended embody our views upon these subjects.

Your Committee regret that the resolution passed by the Grand Lodge, providing for procuring a stone for the Washington Monument, has not been carried into effect. But your Committee think it would be injudicious to increase the appropriation already made for that purpose, and would therefore recommend that the sum of five hundred dollars be donated by the Grand Lodge of Texas to the Washington Monument, which your Committee think will sufficiently express our approbation of the laudable object had in view by its erection.

The other matters suggested in the Grand Master's address are before appropriate committees, and your Committee refrain from any further comment thereon.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the annexed resolutions.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,	} Committee.
J. M. HALL,	
J. M. CLOUGH,	
J. M. TAYLOR,	
H. YOAKUM,	

1. *Resolved*, That the course pursued by Washington Lodge, No. 18, in publicly offering a reward for the apprehension of George P. Lynch, is hereby condemned; but that, in view of the peculiar circumstances under which that Lodge acted, it is hereby excused *for this offence*; but that all subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction are hereby prohibited from any attempt at, or even appearance of, interfering with the regular administration of the laws of the land.

2. *Resolved*, That Lodges subordinate to this jurisdiction be required to practise the work and lectures of Ancient Free Masonry, as taught by Bro. John C. Gordy.

8. *Resolved*, That Article XLIII. of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to allow subordinate Lodges to determine when they will again entertain the petition of the rejected applicant.

4. *Resolved*, That the sum of five hundred dollars, which was appropriated to procure a stone for the Washington Monument, be donated to the Washington Monument Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

It is respectfully submitted, by Guadalupe Lodge, that Article XLIII. of the Constitution be so amended or altered as to adopt a uniform term of years for which rejections shall have effect.

Also to provide, by resolution or otherwise, the following amendment to Article XXVIII. :—That, the ballot being taken in the first instance, and being unanimous in favor of the applicant, all the Degrees be conferred in due time, without further balloting, unless satisfactory objections be made in open Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL.

A communication from Eagle Lodge, No. 41, was read, and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. H. W. Bristow, Jas. F. Taylor and Rinaldo Hotchkiss.

The following report from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District was read and referred to the appropriate committee :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN :—Owing to circumstances that I could not foresee, I was compelled to visit the old States during the last summer, and was not able to visit all the Lodges in my district.

In the month of March, San Gabriel Lodge, No. 89, petitioned for Dispensation to confer other Degrees on Brethren, some of whom had taken one and others two Degrees in that Lodge, and who were just on the eve of starting for California. I granted the Dispensations, and instructed them to send the fees up to the Grand Lodge.

In the month of June I learned that San Gabriel Lodge, No. 89, could not work, for want of officers,—the Worshipful Master and the Senior Warden having gone to California, and the Junior Warden was in such feeble health as not to be able to perform any duty in the Lodge. I visited that Lodge, re-organized them, and set them to work, and since I have learned they are doing good work.

Bastrop Lodge, No. 58, petitioned me for Dispensation to receive petitions and confer the three Degrees on some in that vicinity; but, believing it not regular, I declined granting such Dispensation.

As far as I can learn, our Order is moving forward moderately (but firmly) throughout the State. I would, however, humbly suggest, that if a suitable Brother could be obtained to lecture, who would continue to labor with the Lodges until some uniformity could be established, it would be of much service to the Craft.

With my sincere prayers for the blessings of Providence upon our beloved

Order, and for the health and happiness of our Brethren throughout the State,
I remain, fraternally, yours,

GEO. HANCOCK,
D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read and adopted, with the exception of Resolution No. 3, which was referred to the Committee on Finance :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Petitions have considered the application of Rocky Mount Lodge, No. 63, for permission to remove to Bunker Hill, within nine miles of Clinton Lodge, No. 23: and, Clinton Lodge having sent up a certified resolution, expressing its willingness that the proposed move should be made, we recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution. (No. 1.)

The communication from San Jacinto Lodge, U. D., we return, with a recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Work and Returns from Lodges under Dispensation; and, if their work is reported upon favorably, that a Charter be granted upon the payment of the usual fees.

The application from Concord Lodge, No. 77, for permission to remove four miles north of its present place of meeting, ought to be granted: we therefore recommend the adoption of the resolution appended, (marked No. 2.) We have also considered the petition of Pine Bluff Lodge, No. 85, praying the remission of dues for the past and present year. As the subject is now before another Committee, we decline recommending the prayer of the petition.

We have also had under consideration the memorial from Bosque Lodge, No. 92, asking for a donation to a Masonic school. We decline the recommendation of said memorial, for the same reason.

We have also had under consideration the petition of Carthage Lodge, No. 78, requesting the M. W. Grand Lodge to grant them until the next regular Communication of said Grand Lodge to pay what may be due said Grand Lodge. We therefore recommend the adoption of resolution marked No. 3.

1. *Resolved*, That Rocky Mount Lodge, No. 63, have permission to remove to Bunker Hill.

2. *Resolved*, That Concord Lodge, No. 77, have permission to remove to a house four miles north of the present place of meeting.

3. *Resolved*, That Carthage Lodge, No. 78, have until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge to pay its dues for the past Masonic year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

Bro. A. G. Mitchell presented the following resolution, which was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Finance :—

Resolved, That Cameron Lodge, No. 76, be allowed till next Grand Annual Communication to pay the dues of the past year.

The following report from the Committee on Credentials was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Grand Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Credentials ask leave to report Bro. G. L. Williams present as Representative for Quitman Lodge, in Navarro county, and Bro. T. S. Anderson as Representative for Colorado Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to whom was referred the Charter of Gilmer Lodge, No. 61,—surrendered by the Master thereof,—and the accompanying papers, report the following resolution, which, they believe, will meet the case presented:—

Resolved, That the Charter be rescinded and cancelled.

That the District Deputy Grand Master of the District including the late Gilmer Lodge be directed to call upon the late Worshipful Master of said Lodge, and make with him a fair settlement of the equities between him and the late Gilmer Lodge, and report his proceedings herein to the next Communication of this Grand Lodge.

H. YOAKUM,
Chairman.

The following reports from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals were read, and the one from the majority adopted,—the other not concurred in:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

A majority of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom was committed the appeal from Carthage Lodge, No. 78, in the case of Bro. Swearingen, beg leave to report that they recommend that the action of said Lodge upon the first charge against said Brother be affirmed, though they do not consider the punishment by any means adequate to the offence.

In reference to the second charge, the Committee do not think that a Lodge can, at pleasure, drop a serious charge, reported by a committee, against a Brother. The reputation of Masonry, as well as of the Brother, is involved, and justice to both demands investigation. The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the proceedings of Carthage Lodge, No. 78, on the 15th of October, A.D. 1852, A.L. 5852, in reference to the second charge preferred against Bro. Swearingen, be remanded, and said Lodge instructed to try said Brother regularly upon said charge.

Respectfully submitted.

F. B. SEXTON,
J. H. ROGERS,
W. M. TAYLOR,
J. C. HARRISON.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances report that they have examined the appeal of Bro. Dozier from the decision of Carthage Lodge, No. 78, in the case of Bro. Swearingen.

Bro. Swearingen, it seems, was found guilty, upon his own confession, of a charge, and by the Lodge sentenced to be reprimanded by the Master, which was done. Bro. Dozier afterwards took an appeal. From the facts apparent on the record, we think the punishment should not have been greater; and, as the accused has not complained of its severity, it should not have been less. We therefore recommend that the appeal be dismissed.

In regard to the more important charge, which, for some cause, was not acted on, the Committee believe the Grand Lodge can hear no new proof on it; yet they know of no reason why the same may not still be investigated by Carthage Lodge.

H. YOAKUM,
Chairman.

January 18, 1853.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances have examined the appeal of certain Brethren from the decision of Leona Union Lodge, No. 39, refusing to recommend their petition for a Dispensation for a new Lodge at Centreville.

The Committee conclude that, under the 21st Article of the Constitution, if it is desired to get a Dispensation for a new Lodge, the following things are necessary in all cases:—

1. The petition must be recommended by some Lodge in the vicinity.

2. If the new Lodge is to be located within ten miles of an existing Lodge, a special Dispensation from the Grand Lodge must be obtained, after the recommendation of a subordinate Lodge.

The Committee can do nothing more with the case than to present the following resolution, which they do the more cheerfully, as they are well assured that the petitioners are Brethren of great worth, sound in faith and practice:—

Resolved, That Leona Union Lodge be advised to recommend the petition of said Brethren for a Dispensation for a Lodge at Centreville.

H. YOAKUM,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to the selection of a place for the holding of the next Annual Communication of the same, at 3 o'clock P.M.

J. M. HALL.

On motion, the names of Bros. N. J. Moore, Jas. S. Linn and J. C. Harrison were added to the Committee of Arrangements.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M., January 20, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, there were found sixty-nine duly represented.

The M. W. Grand Master declared that the hour had arrived for the election of the place of meeting for the next Grand Annual Communication, which resulted in the selection of the Masonic Hall of Euclid Lodge, No. 45, held at Rusk, in the county of Cherokee.

A memorial from Marshall Lodge, No. 22, was presented by R. W. James H. Rogers, with appropriate and most excellent remarks, praying for relief, to aid them in educational purposes, which memorial, with accompanying resolutions, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. H. Yoakum, J. M. Clough, J. C. Woolam, J. C. Harrison and Andrew Neill.

The following petition was read and referred to the select Committee on the Memorial from Marshall Lodge:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, Representative of Palestine Lodge, No. 31, and Ioni Lodge, No. 93, would respectfully state that there are now within the jurisdiction of

said Lodges two orphan (male) children of Joseph Middleton, deceased, a worthy Master Mason; that said children are not only orphans, but are ignorant and penniless, and that said Lodges, feeling the responsibility resting upon them, and from a sense of their Masonic duty, have undertaken to educate said children at Palestine Masonic Institute, and are now endeavoring to store their minds with that scientific and literary information that will prepare them to enter upon and discharge the duties which may devolve upon them as citizens of our free and happy country; but, owing to the fact that within the past two years Palestine Lodge has erected two large and expensive buildings for educational purposes, she is at this time heavily in debt, and embarrassed; Ioni Lodge, from its youthfulness and the small number of her members, has but a weak and meagre treasury; consequently, the task those Lodges have undertaken rests as a heavy burden upon them, they having also to defray all expenses for board and clothing of said orphans. We therefore ask the M. W. Grand Lodge out of its treasury to assist said Lodges in the undertaking of bringing these dependent orphans of a worthy Brother out of a state of ignorance into one of intelligence and usefulness.

W. T. MILLER,
A. E. MCCLURE,
JOHN E. CRAVENS,
JOHN B. MALLARD.

The following report from the Committee on Chartered Lodges was read and adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges, to whom was recommitted their former report upon the returns of Friendship Lodge, No. 16, beg leave to report that \$8 75 should be deducted from the amount of dues from that Lodge as they formerly reported it.

The Committee are of opinion that the errors they before reported in the returns of that Lodge probably arose from the fact that they never received the established form from the Grand Secretary: they ought, therefore, to be excused; but it is hoped they will not occur a second time.

They have also examined the returns of De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29. The returns are correct, and the dues, as corrected, are \$40 25.

Respectfully submitted,

SEXTON,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Whereas, George M. Arnold was duly elected Worshipful Master of Canton Lodge, No. 98, and he being absent on the day prescribed by the By-laws of said Lodge for the installation of officers: Therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the installation of the Master of Canton Lodge, No. 98, take place at such time as may be most convenient and practicable for them.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That a Charter issue to Quitman Lodge upon the payment of the usual fee.

Resolved, That the said Charter be delivered to the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where said Lodge is situated, to be delivered after said officer has examined, corrected and approved their work. CRAVENS.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have two hundred plain white linen aprons procured for the use of the Grand Lodge, by the next Annual Communication, and that the present regalia be preserved for public occasions.

The following resolution was read and referred to the Committee on Finance :—

Resolved, That the dues of Danville Lodge, No. 101, to the Grand Lodge, for the year 1852, be loaned to said Lodge, without interest, until the next Grand Annual Communication, to assist said Lodge in paying the debt incurred in the construction of its Lodge buildings. LETT.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the name of Quitman Lodge, in Wood county, be changed to Flora Lodge, and that a Charter issue accordingly.

(Offered by the Delegate from Quitman.)

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until half-past 7 o'clock P.M.

Thursday evening, January 20, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of Lodges, there were found sixty-one duly represented.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master exemplify the work of the three Degrees, and that an early moment be set for the same.

WM. H. BRISTOW.

The Committee of Arrangements, appointed to conduct the public installation of the Grand Officers, made a report of the programme, which was adopted.

The following portion of the report of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments was read the third time, and became a part of the Constitution :—

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to whom was referred the following resolution,—to wit:

“*Resolved*, That wherever the words ‘Grand Lecturer’ occur in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, the same be stricken out,”—

have had the said resolution under consideration, and beg leave to recommend that the same be adopted.

The Committee also recommend to the Grand Lodge to strike out of the Constitution the latter part of Article XII., following these words,—viz.: “each Lodge under his jurisdiction.”

The Committee also recommend that Article XII. of the Constitution be so altered as to read,—

“That there shall be as many Masonic Districts as there are Judicial Districts in the State of Texas, and that each Judicial District shall be a Masonic District, and numbered and classified as are the said Judicial Districts.”

ARTICLE XIX. That the several District Deputy Grand Masters shall be the Lecturers of their respective Districts; and it shall be the duty of the said District Deputy Grand Masters to consult with each other at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and agree upon and report to the Grand Lodge a uniform system of the work and lectures of the Degrees of Entered Apprentice,

Fellow-Craft and Master Mason; and it shall also be the duty of said District Deputy Grand Masters, at least twice in each year, to call together all the Masters of Lodges in their respective Districts, at some point as near the centre of their Districts as their convenience will allow, and then and there to disseminate the work and lectures, as agreed on by them and adopted by the Grand Lodge; and for their services as such Lecturers they shall each be entitled to demand and receive from each Lodge in their respective Districts the sum of ten dollars per annum, and shall also receive from the Grand Lodge the sum of money now appropriated to the Grand Lecturer, to be equally divided among all of them; and it shall be the further duty of said District Deputy Grand Masters to make out a report of the manner in which they have executed their aforesaid duties, at each Grand Annual Communication.

The recommendation of the Committee, to amend Article XXI. of the Constitution, was read a second time and passed to the third reading: the Article proposed to be added as Article XX. was indefinitely postponed.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the application for a new Lodge at the town of Concord, in Rusk county, to be called Robert Burns Lodge, No. —, signed by some fifteen Brethren, and recommended by Mt. Enterprise Lodge, No. 60, and Carthage Lodge, No. 78. Concord, the place at which the new Lodge is sought to be established, is within six miles of Mt. Enterprise Lodge, No. 60, and a special Dispensation is prayed for. We recommend that the Dispensation be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

A communication from New Salem Lodge, No. 87, was read and referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the application of sundry Brethren for a new Lodge at Madison, in Orange county, to be called Madison Lodge, No. —, recommended by De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 29, would recommend that a Dispensation be granted for the establishment of a Lodge at that place. Your Committee think it inexpedient, to say the least of it, for the Grand Lodge to grant Charters in the first instance, but are of opinion that Lodges should in all cases be required to send up work for examination, in order that the qualifications of the members may be judged of.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The report from the Foreign Correspondence Committee was read, in part, and the following resolution, as recommended, adopted:—

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge cannot rightfully exercise jurisdiction over Masons or Lodges in any territory where a Grand Lodge has been duly established, without its consent.

Resolved, That the action of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in granting a Warrant to Pythagoras Lodge, in New York City, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, was a breach of Masonic law, and of courtesy, and that no member of that Lodge shall be permitted to visit any Lodge under this jurisdiction, or receive any of the benefits of Masonry; and no German

Mason, hailing from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, shall be entitled to such rights, unless he affiliate in some Lodge under this jurisdiction.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until Friday morning, 10 o'clock.

Friday morning, 10 o'clock, January 21, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M.W. Grand Master. Officers as before.

On a call of Lodges, there were found sixty-nine duly represented.

The following report from the R. W. Grand Secretary was read and referred to the Finance Committee :—

Thursday, January 20, 1853.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

BRETHREN :—The annual report of your Grand Secretary has been delayed beyond the usual time at this Communication, owing to the unexpected absence of R. W. E. B. Nichols, Grand Treasurer, who has been prevented from attending on the present occasion, doubtless on account of the high waters in the lower part of the country.

I had confidently looked for him to-night, but learn that no communication from beyond Huntsville has reached this place. I shall, however, endeavor, for the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge, to give as full a statement of the condition of your Treasury and the general fund of the Grand Lodge, so far as has come under my knowledge, giving a transcript of what I know to be in his books and accounts.

The report of the Grand Secretary in former years was looked to, by your Most Worshipful body, as a source of general information of the state of Masonry in Texas; but the unexampled prosperity and rapid strides with which our beloved institution has of late years advanced, and the fervor evinced by every Grand Officer, as shown by their reports, in giving an accurate account of the progress of our institution within our borders, preclude the necessity of my enlarging on the subject.

As soon as was possible after the close of the last Communication, I had the Proceedings distributed among the Lodges, a large number having been mailed at Austin, in order to be more certain to arrive at the remote portions of the State, and, with few exceptions, I have every reason to believe, were received by all the Chartered Lodges under your jurisdiction.

Your Grand Secretary would here draw the attention of the Grand Lodge to what he is satisfied is a prevalent neglect among the subordinate Lodges under your jurisdiction. It must be evident to all who from time to time attend the Communications of the Grand Lodge, that, among the numerous matters which come before you for adjustment and regulation during a session, by far the greater portion of irregularities occur from a lack of information of what has been done at the Grand Lodge,—of total ignorance of the resolutions, edicts and requirements of the Constitution, as it may become changed, from time to time. Now, all this could and would be avoided if the Master of every Lodge would scrupulously act up to the instructions as given in the first page of every published Proceedings, (I allude to the words "ordered to be read in all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, for the information of the Brethren,") or were Masters more scrupulously to perform the duty which they promise to perform, when installed into the responsible office by their fellows, of causing the Constitution

"to be read in their Lodges, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins." A neglect of this most valuable custom and practice among the Fraternity cannot but bring upon them the frequent occurrence of irregularities, which are plastered over by the solace that "they are errors of the head, and not of the heart."

An error of the head is caused by want of information: that information alluded to by your Grand Secretary, so essential to the observance of the rules and regulations of our much-loved Order, can be obtained by a careful perusal of the Constitution and Proceedings of the parent Lodge from whom the subordinate has its existence.

Among us, let not numbers—let not a desire of having the largest Lodge, or let not what is very commonly called "a bright Mason"—be our only desire; but let an emulation exist of who shall be most watchful of an infringement on our ancient landmarks, or careful lest a mere superficial knowledge of the true principles of Masonry should lead us into errors which, however trivial they may appear at first, are sure to lead us into errors that will become subversive of the pure influence which they are designed to produce.

The plan adopted at the last Annual Communication, of the Grand Secretary notifying all the subordinate Lodges of expulsions, suspensions, &c. once every three months, has proved much more effectual and much more convenient than the former practice, and ought by all means to be continued. The expense is greater to the Grand Lodge than formerly, but this is as it ought to be: the mother is expected to take care of her children and see that they do not mingle with the abandoned and the profligate.

The foreign communications received during the recess of your Most Worshipful body have been numerous and interesting, and doubtless a valuable fund of Masonic information will be presented by the Committee, to the careful perusal of which the Brethren are most earnestly requested.

The resolution passed during the last Communication, requiring the Grand Secretary to procure Past Grand Masters' jewels, has been attended to: I have procured three,—which are now in the hall. The jewels for the District Deputy Grand Masters have not been manufactured; and I would, with all due deference, suggest that they be dispensed with at present: it is seldom that they are required, and, with the three now procured, the wants of the Grand Officers may be supplied.

The Domestic Correspondence during the past year, although very voluminous, does not present more than ordinary interest, and is, with this report, submitted for your consideration; and, as has been already stated, were the Craft to inform themselves thoroughly, through the medium of our Proceedings, annually, much might be added to their Masonic knowledge, and prevent the prevailing custom of writing to the Grand Officers for information.

In the last Proceedings I caused to be printed the Masonic Calendar for 1838, to which I would call the attention of the Brethren, so that they may have, from the beginning of Masonry in Texas to the present time, an accurate account of the founders of our Order in Texas, and which doubtless, in after-years, may be cherished as a relic; and, strange to say, the three Lodges who then convened to form a Grand Lodge for the Republic of Texas are this day present, by their Representatives, as Holland, No. 1, (formerly 36,) Milam, No. 2, (formerly 40,) McFarlane, No. 42, now Red Land, No. 24. (See Proceedings, p. 184, 1852.)

The amount of Dues and Fees received during the last Masonic year by the Grand Secretary, as shown by his account submitted, was \$2753 33; the amount, this Communication, so far, amounts to \$1453 00.

Many of the Lodges have not yet, however, brought their returns forward; but, although an increase of members and Lodges over the last, yet, from the position which many of our Lodges hold, of indebtedness for edifices, and school-expenses for orphan-children, it seems evident that assistance will be expected

from your Grand Lodge, to some extent, at least, on their behalf. The amount, therefore, received this year will be less than heretofore; and the current expenses of the present year will undoubtedly be at least four hundred dollars more than last.

I submit with this an account-current from the Grand Treasurer's book, which I presume to be correct, showing a balance on hand, besides the dues of the present year, of five thousand four hundred and thirty-seven dollars and twenty cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

The proposed amendment to Article XXI. was taken up and read a third time, and became a part of the Constitution.

The following resolution was read and adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will present to its Past Grand Masters a Past Master's jewel, with a suitable inscription.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances and Appeals was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, to whom was referred the memorial of New Salem Lodge, No. 87, touching the case of John D. Williams, report the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That New Salem Lodge proceed no further with Bro. Williams, without the unanimous consent of Douglass Lodge, No. 43.

Resolved, That we approve the conduct of New Salem Lodge in the course they pursued.

H. YOAKUM,
Chairman.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, the Grand Master of the Universe, since the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, to call from labor on earth to refreshment and reward in heaven our beloved and esteemed worthy Brethren, R. W. Adolphus Sterne, one of the original members and Past Deputy Grand Master, and R. W. William H. Cushney, Past Senior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge: Therefore,

Resolved, That, in the demise of our beloved and distinguished Brethren, two of the strongest pillars of our beloved Order have fallen and crumbled into their mother-earth, by which our time-honored institution is forever deprived of their light and usefulness, the State of two of her most patriotic and energetic citizens, and the disconsolate and distressed on earth of those whose eyes were ever wont to shed the tear of sympathy for, and whose hands were ever ready to protect, and whose charities were at all times freely bestowed upon, the widow, the orphan and the needy and distressed of earth.

Resolved, That, as a slight token of the regard this Grand Lodge entertains for the memory of our departed Brethren, the accompanying preamble and resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this Grand Lodge, and a copy of the same be presented by our Grand Secretary to the widows of our deceased Brothers.

JOHN E. CRAVENS,
A. E. MCCLURE,

Delegates of Palestine Lodge, No. 31.

The hour having arrived for the installation of the Grand Officers elect for the ensuing year, R. W. Andrew Neill, Grand Master elect, announced, through the Grand Marshal, the following appointments:—

R. W. J. C. McGonigal, of Matagorda,	D. D. Grand Master,	1st Dist.
" John B. McMahan, of Lockhart,	" "	2d Dist.
" A. M. M. Upshaw, of Chappell Hill,	" "	3d Dist.
" S. G. Newton, of San Antonio,	" "	4th Dist.
" Travis G. Broocks, of San Augustine,	" "	5th Dist.
" James H. Rogers, of Jefferson,	" "	6th Dist.
" John Shea, of Houston,	" "	7th Dist.
" A. K. Ellett, of Clarksville,	" "	8th Dist.
" A. E. McClure, of Palestine,	" "	9th Dist.
" W. S. Glass, of Victoria,	" "	10th Dist.
" H. Chamberlain, of Brownsville,	" "	11th Dist.
" Rev. J. H. Stribling, of Gonzales,	} Grand Chaplains.	
" Rev. A. H. Shanks, of Rusk,		
" T. M. Hardeman, of Prairie Lea,	} Grand Marshals.	
" Jas. K. Holland, of Panola,		
" P. C. Price, of Leona,	Grand Standard-Bearer.	
" J. M. Clough, of Marshall,	Grand Orator.	
" Wm. P. Rutledge, of Washington,	Grand Sword-Bearer.	
" T. S. Anderson, of Austin,	Senior Grand Deacon.	
" John F. Williams, of Rusk,	Junior Grand Deacon.	
" W. A. Dallas, of Independence,	Grand Pursuivant.	
" Thos. H. Brennan, of Jasper,	} Grand Stewards.	
" W. C. Henry, of Rusk,		
W. George E. Hunter, of Cincinnati,	Grand Tyler.	

The Craft were called to refreshment, and a Grand Procession formed, under the direction of R. W. William M. Taylor, Grand Marshal, and Bros. Rinaldo Hotchkiss and James K. Holland, Assistant Grand Marshals, and proceeded to the Protestant Episcopal church-edifice, where an able and very eloquent address was delivered by M. W. John Sayles, Past Grand Master; after which the Grand Officers elect were regularly installed, in due and ancient form, by the Grand Master, assisted by Past Grand Master W. B. Ochiltree.

The procession then reformed, and repaired to a spacious apartment, where they partook of a sumptuous repast, prepared by the officers and members of Milam Lodge, No. 2. The Craft then repaired to the Lodge Room and resumed their labors.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. W. Andrew Neill,	Grand Master.
R. W. F. B. Sexton,	Deputy Grand Master.
" James F. Taylor,	Senior Grand Warden.
" Wm. P. Brittain,	Junior Grand Warden.
" H. Yoakum,	Grand Treasurer <i>p. t.</i>
" A. S. Ruthven,	Grand Secretary.
" T. S. Anderson,	Senior Grand Deacon.
" John F. Williams,	Junior Grand Deacon.
" W. A. Dallas,	Grand Pursuivant.

R. W. Thomas H. Brennan, } Grand Stewards.
 " W. C. Henry, }
 W. George E. Hunter, } Grand Tyler.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master give, or cause to be given, an explanation of the work in the first three Degrees, this evening, at 7 o'clock.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted, and Bros. W. Stedman, F. B. Sexton and Jas. F. Taylor appointed said Committee :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Past Grand Master John Sayles, for the very able and instructive address delivered by him before the members thereof, on this day.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to communicate the foregoing resolution to Bro. John Sayles, and to ask of him a copy of his said address, for publication.

Resolved, That, if said copy can be procured, the same be published with the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

W. STEDMAN,

Delegate from Clinton Lodge, No. 23.

The report of the Superintendent of Education was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. Yoakum, Sayles and Clough.

The following resolution was read and adopted :—

Resolved, That Bros. Moore and Harrison, of the Næogdoches printing-press, be appointed printers for the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. John Sayles, Wm. M. Taylor, A. S. Ruthven, J. H. Rogers and J. C. Harrison :—

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this M. W. Grand Lodge, the officers of Lodges under Dispensation should not be installed, and that said Lodges are not entitled to a representation or vote in the Grand Lodge, and cannot elect officers, but may recommend Brethren for officers to the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That, in all other respects, the rights, duties and privileges of Lodges under Dispensation and under Charter are the same; and that both can equally receive members by affiliation, can try, suspend or expel offending members, and can grant demits.

The following report was read and adopted :—

The Committee authorize me to report back the above resolutions and recommend their adoption.

JOHN SAYLES, *Chairman.*

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

A portion of the select Committee to whom was referred the resolutions of Marshall Lodge, No. 22, and others, relative to the loan of money for educational purposes, are sorry that on such an important subject—than which none is of more universal interest—the Committee cannot agree; but the undersigned feel constrained to dissent from the report of the majority, so far as the mode of distributing the educational fund among the Lodges according to their numerical strength is concerned, as well as to the amount reported in favor of Marshall Lodge, No. 22.

That Lodge is undoubtedly entitled to great credit for the interest taken in so noble a cause; but there are other Lodges in precisely the same situation, who have done equally well, and, because their claims are not presented before

your body, they ought not to be overlooked, and so large an amount of the funds loaned to any one Lodge.

They differ essentially in the mode proposed, of loaning or placing any sum in the hands of a Lodge, unless they show that they are deserving; and, that they may be tried by their fruits, we respectfully recommend that whatever action the Grand Lodge may take in the premises, the same will only be done, and appropriations made according to the amounts expended by the Lodges respectively and the number of the needy who are profited thereby. Let the Lodges return a list of the orphans or destitute who are supplied with the means of education, and in proportion to the number and amount let the money be expended,—not in the ratio of members, but of good works.

The funds accruing in the treasury are for the benefit of the destitute alone, and not for those who have enough, or no use to which to apply it. They therefore recommend that the sum of five hundred dollars be loaned to Marshall Lodge, No. 22, and two hundred and fifty dollars to each of the Lodges of Palestine, No. 81, Lockhart, No. 59, and Guadalupe, No. 109, for the term of five years, upon five per cent. interest, and secured by notes payable to the Grand Treasurer, with three good securities.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,

Chairman of Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That so much of the report of the Committee on the Grand Officers' Reports as relates to H. M. Lawson, District Deputy Grand Master Third Masonic District, together with his report as such, lie on the table until our next Annual Communication; and that the Secretary of the Grand Lodge furnish said Lawson with a copy of this resolution.

HOLLAND.

The following report of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the Reports of Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge ask leave respectfully to report that they have had under consideration the report of our R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and find that our Right Worshipful Brother has been industriously engaged, during the past year, in the discharge of the various functions appertaining to his office.

Your Committee are of opinion that Victoria Lodge, No. 40, erred in refusing to permit the Master elect to preside, and to be installed, because he had not previously served as Warden. There is nothing in our Constitution which authorizes this restriction of the free exercise of the choice of the Lodge in selecting any member from their body to preside over them.

In the case from Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, your Committee are of opinion that the installation of an officer of a Lodge by proxy does not, by any means, constitute the proxy a member of said Lodge: it confers no benefit and imposes no restriction upon him.

Your Committee are pleased to learn, from the report of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, that the unfortunate difficulties existing among the Brethren of Hardeman Lodge have been happily adjusted. Our attention is called to the action of our Right Worshipful Brother upon the petition of sundry Brethren for a Dispensation to erect a Lodge at Belmont. Your Committee find the petition of the petitioners formally recommended by Gonzales Lodge, No. 80, for Dispensation: this certificate of recommendation is signed by the Master of Gonzales Lodge, and duly certified by the Secretary. Your Committee are of opinion that the R. W. Deputy Grand Master was not required to go behind this recommendation, and to take the statements of Brethren, that a large minority had opposed the recommendation. Your Committee, however, do not desire to be understood as

contending that the Grand Officer was compelled to grant the Dispensation as a matter of course, because recommended: the recommendation authorizes him to exercise a discretion; it imposes no obligation to grant the Dispensation.

Bro. Sexton's report satisfies your Committee that the fervent zeal which has hitherto characterized our Right Worshipful Brother continues unabated. In the case to which the attention of the Grand Lodge is called by the Right Worshipful Brother, of the initiation, passing and raising a person (by Jackson Lodge, No. 35) who had been previously rejected by Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, your Committee are of opinion that the action of Jackson Lodge was exceedingly improper, being a violation of the 44th Article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee regret exceedingly that the time of the Right Worshipful Brother did not permit him to visit Tyler Lodge, No. 50, at Town Bluff, to inquire into the grave and serious charges which have been alleged against that Lodge. Your Committee deem these charges of such import as to authorize them again to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to them, and to recommend special instructions on the subject to the Deputy Grand Master of that District.

Your Committee are of opinion that the right to grant Dispensations has become too much extended within our jurisdiction, and recommend that we get back to ancient principles as fast as possible, and that no other officer but the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master be empowered to grant a Dispensation to authorize the extraordinary initiation, passing or raising an applicant for our rites.

Your Committee approve highly of the suggestions of our Right Worshipful Brother concerning the recommendation of Brethren applying for a Dispensation to establish Lodges, and recommend them to the particular consideration of the Grand Lodge.

The report of Right Worshipful Bro. Cravens shows him to have most conscientiously and diligently discharged the responsible duties which devolved upon him, as District Deputy Grand Master, in one of the most interesting portions of our Masonic jurisdiction. Your Committee rejoice to learn, from the lips of so faithful a witness, of the great and permanent prosperity of the Craft in his District.

Bros. Lytle, Hancock and Johnson report their Districts to be in a most flourishing condition.

W. B. OCHILTREE, *Chairman.*

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 7 o'clock P.M.

Friday evening, January 21, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a roll of Lodges being called, there were found forty-six duly represented.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby acquit Jackson Lodge, No. 35, of any wilful intention to violate its Constitution in the initiation, passing and raising of an applicant who had been rejected by Gonzales Lodge, No. 30, and hereby recognises the standing of the Brother so initiated, passed and raised, but desires that it may be distinctly understood that the 44th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge means that one Lodge can never confer the three Degrees upon an applicant who has been rejected by another Lodge, without the unanimous consent of that Lodge, if in existence.

On motion, Bros. A. H. Shanks and W. H. Bristow were added to the Finance Committee.

The following report from a special Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee, to which was referred a resolution proposing an amendment of the Constitution so as to authorize subordinate Lodges to determine a time when a ballot upon an application for the Degrees may be reconsidered, beg leave to report that, in their opinion, a ballot cannot be reconsidered, under any circumstances. There can be but one ballot; and, the result being announced, it is final. If the presiding officer has reason to believe that a ballot was deposited through mistake, he *may* order the ballot-box to be again passed, before the result is announced; and that would be a proper course to pursue in all cases where but one or two black balls have been cast.

The object of taking the vote upon an application for the Degree by ballot is to enable every Mason to exercise his judgment, free from any extraneous or improper influence; and for that exercise of his judgment he is alone responsible to his God. If a ballot can *at any time* be reconsidered, the Brother casting a black ball is exposed to the solicitations of the friends of the rejected applicant; and the very object had in view, in adopting the secret ballot, would thus be defeated.

J. H. ROGERS,
A. H. SHANKS, } Committee.
F. B. SEXTON,

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject-matter of drafting and submitting a general code of By-laws for the government of subordinate Lodges have had the subject before them, and regret that they have not been able to submit such a code as they could recommend for all the Lodges; and, at first blush, it might seem to be a matter of little difficulty; but the more it is investigated the sooner the idea will be abandoned of adopting such a system as could, by any means, serve the situation and circumstances of all Lodges.

Those of a city Lodge would not be very acceptable to one remotely situated in the country. A Lodge large in numbers and rich in property would require rules to conduct and manage their finances in a manner very different from one of few members, and poor; and a system suitable to all could not well be embodied without more time than is allotted to your Committee, while attending to the other active duties of the Grand Annual Communication.

They therefore recommend that a select committee be named, to draft a code during the recess, to be submitted at the next session of the Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,
Chairman.

The following report from the Committee on Petitions was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Petitions, to whom was referred the application for a Charter for a new Lodge at John T. Whiteside's, in the county of Grimes, signed by the requisite number of Master Masons, and recommended by Washington Lodge, No. 18, would report, as heretofore, that it is not expedient to grant Charters in the first instance. We recommend that the petition be referred to the proper Grand Officer.

The memorial of Bro. J. C. Hill, of St. John's Lodge, No. 58, we have handed to the Grand Secretary, with a request that he will attend to it.

The memorial of Bastrop Lodge, No. 58, on the subject of taxing non-affiliated Masons, has received the attention of your Committee, and, owing to the late period of the session at which they have been able to examine it, and the comparatively small number of Lodges represented, they would recommend that no action be taken on the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HARRISON,
Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Master, or the District Deputy for the Seventh Masonic District, or either of them, be required to visit, as soon as possible after the close of the present Grand Annual Communication, Tyler Lodge, No. 50, at Town Bluff, Tyler county, Texas, and inquire into its character and conduct, Masonically and morally, and particularly in reference to the initiation of Charles A. Sterne, a minor; and, if satisfied that said Lodge knew the fact that said Sterne was a minor when initiated, he shall be authorized, and it is hereby made his duty, to arrest the Charter of said Lodge, and return the same to the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge; and if said officer, or either of them, is satisfied that the general conduct of said Lodge and its members is un-Masonic, or immoral, he shall suspend the action of said Lodge until, and prefer charges against it at, the next Grand Annual Communication.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby, tendered to Bro. William M. Taylor, Grand Marshal, and Bros. Holland and Hotchkiss, Assistant Grand Marshals, for the able and dignified manner in which they conducted the public procession of the Grand Lodge on to-day.

JOHN F. WILLIAMS.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called to refreshment, until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

Saturday morning, 9 o'clock, January 22, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of the Lodges, there were found thirty-nine duly represented.

The following report from the Finance Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom were referred the accounts and report of the R. W. Grand Secretary, report that they find that he received for and on account of the Grand Lodge, during the past Masonic year, the sum of two thousand seven hundred and fifty-four dollars and thirty-three cents, all of which he has properly disposed of, as appears from the vouchers presented to and examined by the Committee.

In regard to that portion of the R. W. Grand Secretary's report which relates

to the ignorance frequently exhibited, by the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, of the resolutions, edicts and constitutional provisions from time to time adopted and promulgated by the Grand Lodge, they beg to express their concurrence in the opinion expressed, and the suggestion made by the Grand Secretary, and they accordingly recommend the adoption of the appended resolution, marked A.

Your Committee have considered the recent alteration of the Constitution, made at the last Grand Communication, upon the subject of notices of expulsions, suspensions and rejections, and they are entirely satisfied that the present system works well and ought to be continued. They are of opinion, however, that, in order to make the present plan effectual, it is necessary to make of the subordinate Lodges the requirement embraced in the resolution hereto annexed, marked B, the adoption of which they respectfully urge.

Your Committee, in conclusion, beg to bear their unqualified testimony to the continued industry, vigilance, fidelity and great ability of our worthy and most excellent Grand Secretary.

J. F. TAYLOR,	} Committee.
W. H. BRISTOW,	
J. E. CRAVENS,	
A. H. SHANKS,	
J. A. BAKER,	
W. STEDMAN,	

(A.) *Resolved*, That the Masters of the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be required to read to their respective Lodges the report of the proceedings of this Annual Communication, together with the Constitution and resolutions thereto attached, at least twice during the present year.

(B.) *Resolved*, That each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be required to procure a suitable book, in which shall be recorded, in alphabetical order, the names contained in the quarterly reports from time to time made to them by the Grand Secretary, under the 23d Article of the Constitution.

The following report from the Finance Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom were referred the accounts of the R. W. Grand Treasurer, report,—

That there was in the Grand Treasury, at the commencement of the last Grand Annual Communication, the sum of \$4610 19; that he has since received from the Grand Secretary the sum of \$2287 12,—making an aggregate of \$6897 31; that he has transferred to the Educational Fund the sum of \$355 04, and paid out, by order of the Grand Lodge, as shown by the vouchers presented to the Committee, the sum of \$1104 07, and that there is a balance in his hands of \$5488 20.

Your Committee, in conclusion, deem themselves called upon to certify to the great worth and fidelity of the R. W. Grand Treasurer.

All which is submitted.

J. F. TAYLOR,	} Committee.
W. H. BRISTOW,	
J. E. CRAVENS,	
A. H. SHANKS,	
J. A. BAKER,	
W. STEDMAN,	

January 21, 1853.

The following report from the Finance Committee was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Texas.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the resolution providing for the remission of the dues of the subordinate Lodges for the ensuing Masonic

year, report that, in view of the action of the Grand Lodge during its present Communication, relative to its finances, it is inexpedient to adopt said resolution: they therefore recommend its rejection. Your Committee have also had before them the resolutions proposing to loan, without interest, to Danville Lodge, No. 101, Carthage Lodge, No. 78, and Cameron Lodge, No. 76, the respective dues of said Lodges, until the next Grand Annual Communication, and are of opinion that said resolution ought to be adopted; and they accordingly recommend the adoption thereof.

Your Committee have likewise considered the resolution relative to Pine Bluff Lodge, No. 85, and recommend that the dues of said Lodge for the past year be remitted. All which is submitted.

J. F. TAYLOR,	} Committee.
A. H. SHANKS,	
J. E. CRAVENS,	
J. A. BAKER,	
W. H. BRISTOW,	
W. STEDMAN.	

January 21, 1853.

The following report from R. W. Wm. H. Johnson, District Deputy Grand Master Fifth Masonic District, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports, with permission to incorporate their report on the same in the one already adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The undersigned, in submitting his report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Fifth Masonic District, has to say that, owing to the unparalleled sickly season, he has not been able to visit all the Lodges in his District, but, from reliable information, is enabled to inform the M. W. Grand Lodge that Masonry, in his District, is in a happy, prosperous condition. During the year I have granted Dispensations to establish new Lodges at three different points,—to wit: at Greenville, in Hunt county; at Sherman, in Grayson county, and at Pine Bluff, in Red River county; at all of which places are now Lodges regularly at work. Dispensations were also granted to initiate, pass and raise a candidate at the organization of the Lodge at Greenville, upon the unanimous request of the Brethren, for the purpose of giving an exemplification of the work. For a particular account of each individual Lodge I must refer to the immediate Representatives in attendance. I regret that business renders it impossible for me to meet with the Brethren at your Grand Annual Communication.

WM. H. JOHNSON,
D. D. G. M. 5th M. D.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted:—

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of each subordinate Lodge to report to each Grand Annual Communication the number of children of deceased or indigent Masons within the jurisdiction of said Lodge which have been educated at its expense, in whole or in part; also the amount expended during the Masonic year for the above purpose, either in the payment of tuition, erection of suitable buildings, or purchase of necessary apparatus, which report shall be signed by the Secretary, countersigned by the three principal officers.

Resolved, That there shall be annually appropriated for the purpose of education, to be distributed among such subordinate Lodges, *pro rata*, as shall present a report according to the amount expended by each, as specified in the first resolution, the amount remaining in the Treasury after paying the current expenses and appropriations, saving and excepting the sum of \$1000, which shall not be subject to distribution, but shall remain in the Treasury as a contingent fund.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master shall appoint a Standing Committee

on Education, whose duty shall be to examine the reports of subordinate Lodges and determine the amounts to be paid to each; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer to pay to each subordinate Lodge the amount so specified.

JAMES F. TAYLOR.

The following report of the special Committee was read, and the answer thereto was read and received:—

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee on whom was conferred the honor of presenting the thanks of the Grand Lodge to the Past Grand Worshipful Master, John Sayles, for his able and eloquent address delivered at this Communication, and requesting a copy for publication, have performed that duty, and respectfully submit the answer of Bro. Sayles to the request of the Grand Lodge as their report, and commend it to their consideration.

WM. STEDMAN,
F. B. SEXTON,
JAMES F. TAYLOR.

NACOGDOCHES, January 22, 1853.

BROTHERS:—Your communication of this date has been received. In reply, permit me to say that it has always been my opinion that Masonic addresses ought not to be published. They are generally prepared and intended for a particular occasion, and, that having passed, their purpose is fully answered.

Accept my thanks for the flattering expression made by the M. W. Grand Lodge, and the courteous manner in which the same has been conveyed to me.

Faternally yours,

JOHN SAYLES.

To

WM. STEDMAN,
F. B. SEXTON,
J. F. TAYLOR, } Committee.

The following report was read and referred to a special Committee, consisting of Bros. J. E. Cravens, J. F. Taylor and J. C. Harrison:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

I deem it my duty to inform the Grand Lodge that in the month of June I was duly appointed Deputy Grand Lecturer for Texas, by R. W. Bro. H. D. Woodsworth, Grand Lecturer, &c., and also of my work in the premises. I have visited but few Lodges, owing to my own ill health and the unparalleled sickness during the past Masonic year, but am happy to inform the Grand Lodge that Masonry is prosperous whither I have travelled. At Greenville Lodge, U. D., Hunt county, I was induced to grant a Dispensation to confer the third Degree. I believed that the cause of Masonry would be advanced, and that no injury could grow out of such a course.

I am not clear on the point that a Deputy has the power to grant a Dispensation, though it has been done, and acquiesced in by your Grand Body. I hope the Grand Lodge will express by resolution if the said power is such a one as a Deputy can exercise. I fear I shall not be able to be in attendance on the Grand Lodge, owing to ill health.

I remain yours,

P. W. GRAY,
Deputy Grand Lecturer.

MT. PLEASANT, January 6, 1853.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, laid on the table until our next Annual Communication:—

Resolved, That hereafter no appropriation of money, in the shape of loan or

donation for charitable purposes, shall be made from the funds of the Grand Lodge, except upon the vote of a majority of the Lodges present.

OCHILTREE.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read and adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on By-laws have had the various codes which have been sent up by subordinate Lodges before them, and most respectfully report,—

That they have examined and recommend the ratification of those of Guadalupe Lodge, No. 109, Prairie Lea, No. 114, and Lockhart, No. 59, without amendment.

Those from Kaufman Lodge, No. 115, they approve by altering the fee for affiliation to \$3.

Those of Burleson Lodge, No. 111, are recommended, after striking out of Articles IV. and V. the exception as to ministers of the gospel; also out of Article XIII. the clause as to fees of non-affiliated Brethren.

The amendments of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, are approved.

Those of Woodville Lodge, No. 62, are approved after striking out the latter part of Section 4, Article VIII., as to expelling the Tyler.

In those of Starr Lodge, No. 118, strike out of Section 5, Article III., the last line.

In those of San Jacinto Lodge, No. 106, they recommend the adoption thereof, after certain words in Article VI., Section 2, are stricken out.

Those of Lafayette Lodge, No. 34, are approved after striking out the 7th section of Article VI.

Those of Mt. Hope Lodge, No. 121, are recommended after striking out the first part of Section 2, Article XII., and all of Section 4, Article IV.

They have examined and approve the amendments to the By-laws of Matagorda Lodge, No. 7, and recommend their adoption.

They also recommend the adoption of the revised By-laws of St. John's, No. 5, with the following amendments:—Article III., Section 3, strike out "one" and insert "three;" Section 16, strike out three lines in the middle of the section, after the word "fee," to the word "it."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,

Chairman of Committee.

The following report was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Grand Master and Wardens.

The Committee appointed by your Most Worshipful body to report upon the communication from Eagle Lodge, No. 41, wherein the following questions are propounded, and the answer of the Most Worshipful Lodge asked thereto :—

First: Has a Brother the right, or is it in accordance with ancient usage, for a Brother to blackball a candidate for the second or third Degree that he does not think will make a true and good Mason, and one that he is not willing to hold fellowship with?

Second: Is it required that we should ballot for the reinstatement of a Brother that has been suspended for a given time?

Third: Has a subordinate Lodge the power to suspend or expel a Brother on the charge of drunkenness or gambling?

In answer to the first question propounded, your Committee report that they consider a Brother has the right to blackball a candidate for the second or third Degree who he thinks would not make a true and good Mason.

In answer to the second inquiry, your Committee consider that a Brother is reinstated without ballot when the time has expired for which he was suspended. The resolutions adopted on this subject at the last Grand Annual Com-

munication, and reported on p. 67 of the Proceedings of the year 1852, your Committee consider, have reference alone to the case of a suspended Brother applying to be reinstated before the time has expired for which he was suspended.

In answer to the third inquiry, your Committee consider that the subordinate Lodge has the power to suspend or expel a Brother on the charge of drunkenness, or for gambling. Not only have they the power, in such cases, so to do, but it is their duty: this duty, however, should be exercised with a due regard to the spirit of Masonic charity.

WM. H. BRISTOW,
Chairman.

No further business appearing, the Craft were called from labor to refreshment, until 3 o'clock P.M.

Saturday evening, 3 o'clock P.M., January 22, A.D. 1853, A.L. 5853.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor by the M. W. Grand Master.

Officers as before.

On a call of Lodges, there were found twenty duly represented.

The following report from the Committee on By-laws was read, and, on motion, adopted:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Committee on By-laws further report that they highly approve and recommend the adoption of the By-laws of Jefferson Lodge, No. 38, with very slight exception,—say strike out Section 3 of Article V., and out of Article VI. the word “honorable:” they then recommend their adoption, and believe they are such as would be highly beneficial to be copied by other Lodges.

The By-laws of Colorado Lodge, No. 96, are approved, as well as those of Larissa, No. 57, after striking out all that refers to Diplomas, and fees therefor; the Lodge has nothing to do therewith.

Those of Travis Lodge, No. 117, are approved, after striking out Article XXXI., and allowing the Worshipful Master to appoint a Senior Deacon, instead of electing that officer: strike out “24th June,” and insert “December 27.”

Jacksonville Lodge, No. 108: strike out all respecting Diplomas; also as to suspending By-laws.

Flora Lodge, No. 119, are recommended, after striking out of Section 25 the word “honorable.”

Red River Lodge, No. 116: strike out of Section 1, Article II., “Baptist,” and insert “Evangelist:” Section 2, Article V., for each Diploma four dollars.

Those of Corsicana Lodge, No. 104, we recommend that the word “work” be stricken out of the preamble; also amend Article II. by striking out after “installed,” and insert “on that day;” Article VII., Section 4, strike out “honorable.” They are otherwise good.

Those of Kickapoo Lodge, No. 105, we recommend for adoption, after striking out of Sections 4 and 5 all relative to Diplomas.

They also recommend the adoption of those submitted by Magnolia Lodge, No. 113.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. NEILL,
Chairman of Committee.

The following report from the special Committee was read and adopted:—

VOL. I.—37

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

The special Committee, to whom was referred the report of Bro. Gray, as Deputy Grand Lecturer, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report that the action of the Brother in granting a Dispensation was irregular, and contrary to the Constitution. But, in view of the evident good intention of his action, we recommend that it be affirmed.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. CRAVENS,

Chairman.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Texas, That for the social, generous and hospitable manner in which they have been entertained by the citizens of Nacogdoches during this Communication, and for the sumptuous and magnificent dinner gratuitously prepared and extended to them, they have our unfeigned and devoted thanks, and the assurances of the high appreciation which we hold towards them.

The following report from the Committee on Chartered Lodges was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

We, the Committee, respectfully beg leave to submit the following report :—

That we have examined the returns of Oasis Lodge, No. 79, and find the same incorrect. The dues reported, being twelve dollars and twenty-five cents, should have been ten dollars and seventy-five cents.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. H. LETT,

For the Committee.

The following resolution was read, and, on motion, adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Milam Lodge, No. 2, for the kind and hospitable manner that we have been entertained during its present Communication.

J. E. CRAVENS.

The following resolution was read and unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the M. W. Past Grand Master, John Sayles, and R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master, Andrew Neill, and the other Past Grand Officers, for the able and efficient manner in which they have performed their official duties during the past Masonic year.

JOHN FORBES.

The following proposed alteration in the Constitution was read the first time, and ordered to be printed in the Proceedings, and to lie on the table until the first day of the next Annual Communication :—

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended as follows :— That the 43d Article be stricken out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof :— That after balloting for, and the rejection of, a candidate for any of the Degrees conferred in the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge, he shall not be allowed to present his petition until the expiration of one year.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Committees, to report at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge :—

Committee to Report a Code of By-laws for Subordinate Lodges,— Bros. John Sayles, J. H. Rogers, J. C. Harrison, F. L. Barzaiz and James W. Henderson.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence,—F. B. Sexton, P. W. Gray, W. B. Ochiltree, Wm. M. Taylor and A. S. Ruthven.

On motion, the M. W. Grand Master and Bro. J. C. Harrison were authorized to read and approve the minutes.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge was closed in due and ample form, and with prayer, peace and harmony prevailing.

A. S. RUTHVEN,
Grand Secretary.

A. NEILL,
Grand Master.

APPENDIX.

(A.)

WASHINGTON, August 20, 1852.

MR. SAYLES: DEAR SIR:—It has been made imperative upon me, as acting Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge, No. 18, to confer with you in regard to a certain resolution which passed our Lodge, some time since, offering a reward for the apprehension of George P. Lynch, the murderer of T. B. Farrell. We have understood that the reward referred to is thought to be improper by some of the Grand Officers, and it is whispered (we have nothing official) that we have made ourselves liable to an action of the Grand Lodge by so doing; and, if such is the case, the Lodge requests that you will address them a letter relative to the matter, in order that we may repair damages, if possible.

It is true, there was a great excitement at that time; but still, most of the members cannot see wherein the Lodge erred. But then there is no disposition to be contentious; but, on the other hand, the Brethren seem to be perfectly willing (or, at least, so far as I can see) to do any thing that will give satisfaction to the Grand Lodge. Please answer the above as early as possible, and oblige

Yours, fraternally,

C. M. LOCKHART,

Senior Warden, acting Worshipful Master.

(B.)

BRENNHAM, August 25, 1852.

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 20th instant was received to-day. My attention has been called to the publication made by authority of your Lodge, and it was my intention to communicate with you on the subject.

It is my opinion that the publication is improper, and should be now suppressed, as far as possible. While it is proper—nay, incumbent upon Masons—to use all legal means to protect their Brethren, and to bring to justice those who have been guilty of violence towards them, they should do it in such a manner as not unnecessarily to provoke public attention to their proceedings and thus excite the hostility of the ignorant and the prejudiced.

By ancient regulations, (which are still in force,) no public processions—not even for the purpose of burying the dead—can be held, except by the permission of one of the Grand Officers. This regulation has never been enforced in our jurisdiction, for the reason that Lodges have heretofore acted circumspectly, and have not abused the confidence reposed in them. The spirit that dictated this regulation would forbid publications of the character of that made by authority of your Lodge.

It will be said, by the enemies of the Order, that the Lodge is interfering with the administration of the laws. The public are jealous of associations, especially of secret associations, and, not understanding the nature of the obligation by which we are bound, will impeach our motives, and magnify the evils that may possibly result from the act.

By our charges, we are required to be quiet and peaceable citizens, conforming to the laws of the country in which we live, and we should carefully shun the *appearance*, even, of interfering with their administration. Because no possible good can result from the advertisement, and because it may be the cause of offence to Masons and others, I think it should be suppressed.

The Lodge may authorize the payment of a reward for the apprehension of Lynch, but it should be offered publicly by some *individual*, and not by the Lodge or Worshipful Master *officially*, as was done. From my knowledge of the members of your Lodge, I cannot for a moment suppose that the publication was made through improper motives; and, if you have erred, it has been through zeal to redress the wrongs of your Brethren. An error originating from such motives cannot be the subject of Masonic censure.

Fraternally, yours,

JOHN SAYLES.

(C.)

WASHINGTON, June 28, 1852.

The Lodge was called for the purpose of taking into consideration the assassination of our worthy Brother, Thomas B. Farrell, and the attempted assassination of our worthy Brother, Thomas P. Shepard, by one George P. Lynch; whereupon the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Worshipful Master of this Lodge be authorized to offer a reward of one hundred dollars, for the Lodge, for the apprehension of the said George P. Lynch.

When, on motion, the Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till 8 o'clock P.M.

August 28, 1852.

At a regular meeting of Washington Lodge, No. 18, held this evening, at the Masonic Hall, in the town of Washington, a communication from Bro. John Sayles, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, was received and read, announcing to the Lodge his disapprobation of the course pursued by the Lodge in reference to offering a reward for the apprehension of George P. Lynch, which was published by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

Whereupon a Committee, composed of Bros. ————, was appointed to draft suitable resolutions expressive of the acts of this Lodge, in relation to a publication made by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, offering a reward for the apprehension of George P. Lynch.

Which said Committee submitted to the Lodge the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the Lodge:—

Whereas, we, the Committee appointed by Washington Lodge, No. 18, to draft suitable resolutions for the consideration of the Lodge, in reference to the action taken by the Lodge at a called meeting on the 28th of June last, in authorizing the Worshipful Master of the Lodge to offer a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension of George P. Lynch, beg leave to report that they have taken the subject under careful consideration, and find that the said action on the part of the Lodge was done under the horror-stricken excitement of the moment, having for their object, at the time, nothing but their fraternal duty in view; but, upon being satisfied that an egregious error was thereby committed, every desire is felt to amend the wrong, and ask the Fraternity to forgive and consider the case in the light intended at the time, we therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That whereas this Lodge committed an error in the action taken in the case of George P. Lynch, as aforesaid, of which the same being made apparent to us, we therefore take pleasure in retracing the same, and most fraternally ask of our Masonic Brethren that such charitable consideration of the

case as is becoming a spirit of brotherly love, relief and truth will be extended in his behalf.

Which I certify is a transcript of the records of the Lodge, the 11th day of January, 1853.

W. H. CARRY,
Secretary.

(D.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

BROTHERS:—By virtue of the commission you gave me to visit the Lodges under your jurisdiction, I have visited the following, and exemplified the work and corresponding lectures to them, strictly in accordance with your instructions; and I assure you that, to the utmost of my ability, I have endeavored to place the standard of our time-honored institution in that position that our forefathers left it, and to portray those eternal and God-like principles which are so inseparably interwoven and connected with our beloved Order, and to teach, both by precept and example, that the genius of Masonry stands forth before the world, an angel of light, glorious in form and feature, shining in the brilliancy that beams from the blessed book of God. Lodges as follows,—viz.:

Austin, No. 12; Bastrop, No. 58; Graham, No. 20; Washington, No. 18; Springfield, No. 74; Orphans' Friend, No. 17; Euclid, No. 45; Marshall, No. 22; Mt. Enterprise, No. 60; Red Land, No. 24; Webber's Prairie, U. D.; Lafayette, No. 34; Hubert, No. 67; Gillespie, No. 55; Lothrop, No. 21; Palestine, No. 31; St. John's, No. 53; Clinton, No. 23; Milam, No. 2.

I also visited Larissa, and remained there five days, but could neither get a meeting of the Lodge or Chapter. There appeared to be almost an entire indifference to the spirit of Masonry in that place, with the exception of a few Brethren. I am satisfied that there is something wrong there, but know not what it is.

All the Lodges that I visited passed a series of resolutions expressive of their approbation of the work and lectures, and I am satisfied that I have left the exact work and lectures at each Lodge; and I will here remark that I can never forget the zeal and energy manifested by the Brethren at each Lodge, in making themselves acquainted with the work, and I shall always remember the kindness and liberality extended to me during my visit to your State. Many—yes, very many—acquaintances that I have made in your State I shall live to remember; and, should I never be permitted to see them again in this world, I hope and pray we shall meet hereafter, and

"There, in that Grand Lodge of the good and the blest,
May our hearts find a home, and our spirits find rest!"

At my request, Bro. J. C. Harrison read all the resolutions passed by the Lodges, and I therefore deem it unnecessary to copy them in my report, as he will be at the Grand Lodge; besides, I presume the Masters and Wardens of said Lodges will be present, and can speak for themselves.

I hope it will not be considered presumption in me to suggest the propriety of the Grand Lodge instituting inquiry into the expediency of making some little alteration in its Constitution,—viz.:

That Article XLIII. be so amended as that the number of black balls cast shall not affect the time for eligibility to reapply; but that a certain fixed time be given when a candidate is rejected, in *all* cases, that he may reapply.

I have visited Lodges where they would give any amount if they could undo what they have done under the operation of the above article.

Also, so to change the Constitution as that the reconsideration of a ballot cannot be had under any circumstances, only when it is supposed that mistakes

are made, in case of one or two black balls; that the Master may order the ballot to be repassed, until all are satisfied that no mistake has occurred, and that in all cases before any Brother has left the room.

I have seen, in an old Lodge in your State, a ballot had, the candidate declared rejected, a motion made and carried that the ballot be reconsidered, the matter then laid on the table, and at a subsequent meeting (all in the same week) the Lodge met, the ballot repassed and the candidate declared duly elected. Such a course, I consider, is ruinous to any institution the principal support of which is *peace and harmony*.

I would also recommend that District Deputy Grand Masters be prohibited from granting Dispensations for Lodges, unless there are at least three of the applicants fully competent to confer the three Degrees. I am fully satisfied that more caution should be had on this point: however, I know that in your Grand Lodge there will be a great deal of wisdom and talent, as well as Masonic intelligence; and I would not have proposed any thing, only that I have so recently seen the evils above alluded to.

Submitted with fraternal regard.

JOHN C. GORDY.

HENDERSON, TEXAS, October 22, 1852.

At a called meeting of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, held on this day, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted,—to wit:

“Whereas, our worthy Brother, John C. Gordy, has been with us for several days, lecturing and instructing the members of this Lodge in the three Degrees of Ancient York Masonry; and whereas we are much pleased with Bro. Gordy’s work, and are grateful to him for the instruction he has imparted to and the benefit he has conferred upon us: Therefore,

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to Bro. Gordy for his kind attention, his unflinching application and his constant efforts to serve and improve us; and we commend him to all worthy Brethren as a devoted, persevering and most learned Mason, a true and upright man and an affable, agreeable and polished gentleman.

Resolved, That we highly approve of Bro. Gordy’s work and lectures, they being, from their brevity, comprehensiveness, order and simplicity, the best we have ever known; and we warmly urge the Grand Lodge of this State to adopt the same, and to require them to be universally practised.

Certified by me, this 15th January, A.D. 1853.

W. A. McCLANAHAN, *Secretary of Clinton Lodge, No. 23.*

(E.)

To the Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren of Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Greeting.

The R. W. H. D. Woodsworth, Grand Lecturer, having failed to visit the Lodges within our jurisdiction during the present year, I have requested our worthy Brother, John C. Gordy, to visit such Lodges as he can, conveniently, and impart instruction in the several Degrees of Masonry.

I have found the worthy Brother well skilled in the work and corresponding lectures, and recommend him to the Craft as thoroughly qualified to instruct them in our mysteries.

I need not commend the Brother to your kind consideration. His kindness of manners and courteous deportment will win your esteem, while from his instructions you will derive pleasure and profit.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN SAYLES,

Grand Master.

June 26, 1852, A.L. 5852.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence very much regret that the duty assigned them was not fulfilled at your last Communication by the worthy Brother to whom it was intrusted by them. The cause of this failure is unknown to the writer of this report, but we doubt not that his excuse is a valid one, his usual promptness and facility as a writer being ample guarantee. The great object of these reports is to keep the Brethren of this jurisdiction advised of the progress of Masoury under our sister Grand Lodges, to disseminate information on Masonic customs and usages and principles of government, as illustrated by instances occurring elsewhere. The advantage to be derived from this is greatly dependent on the care and skill exhibited in the selections and comments made in the report, and very much, in some respects, on the regularity with which they are made: without such regularity, the succession of events is lost, and often the interest felt in them; but the general value of these reports can only be appreciated by those Brethren who really examine and study them.

We have received, from the Grand Secretary, reports of proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, besides other communications of value, which will be noticed:—Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, 1851 and 1852; Connecticut; New York; Pennsylvania, 1851; Maryland, 1852; Georgia, 1851; Tennessee, 1852; Kentucky, 1852; Ohio, 1851; Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, California, and Grand Orient of France,—constituting a body of printed matter of 1753 pages, about one-third of which consists of the usual formal proceedings and registers of Lodges and members under the respective Grand Lodges; the other two-thirds contains varied matters of general interest to the Craft, which will repay the time and labor given to the perusal.

CONNECTICUT.—The Grand Lodge of this State met at the Temple, in the City of New Haven, on May 12, 5852, M. W. Grand Master William E. Sanford in the chair. Forty Lodges were represented. As an evidence of the prosperity which marks the progress of Masonry in Connecticut, we are gratified to quote from the report of R. W. Deputy Grand Master David Clark:—

“Brethren, unprecedented prosperity attends the Order in our State, as well as in other States of this Union, of which I have frequent and cheering reports. It behooves us to exercise due caution and prudence, all of which is essential to our peace and welfare, and to look well to the character of the applicants who desire to become members of our Brotherhood. Unless we do this, our Lodges will soon be filled with unworthy members, and disgrace will thus be brought upon our cause. From an observation of many years, I have noticed that those Lodges which have exercised proper caution in regard to the character of their candidates have generally been successful, while those who have been less cautious have frequently experienced embarrassing and sometimes fatal divisions. Let no such motives as the increase of members, the want of funds, or the desire to return the largest number to the Grand Lodge, influence us in the admission of candidates. The only object that should govern us ought to be the permanent happiness and prosperity of the Order. One fact in this place it is proper to note: in admitting those who are unworthy of the Order, and are not calculated to honor and respect it, we prevent others from joining who would greatly add to its credit and renown. It is left for each Lodge to choose which class they will have; for most assuredly we cannot have both, as such uncongenial spirits will never mingle.”

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, signed by Wm. Storer, Chairman, is replete with much valuable Masonic information, and, from the many interesting topics of which it treats, commends itself to the careful perusal of every Mason. The review of the questions so often agitated in subordinate and Grand Lodges, “as to the *true relation of non-affi-*

liated Masons to subordinate Lodges," and "what constitutes a physical disqualification for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry," is able and lucid, and, we trust, will have its proper influence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Concord, on Tuesday, June 8, 5852. Nineteen Lodges were present by their Representatives. The proceedings exhibit nothing of special interest, and the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence notices the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of but few States.

MAINE.—The published Proceedings of this Grand Lodge, held at Portland, in Masons' Hall, M. W. Grand Master John C. Humphreys presiding, on the first Thursday of May, 5852, are most full and satisfactory. Fifty Lodges were in attendance by their Delegates. We congratulate our Brethren of Maine on the evidence of their unfaltering attachment to the landmarks of Free Masonry. We take great pleasure in quoting the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in relation to a General Grand Lodge of the United States:—

"To the Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine.

"At the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, it was

"*Voted*, That the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be, and are hereby, requested to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States, recognised by this Grand Body as such, urging upon them the necessary steps for forming a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

"As the Committee were not instructed in relation to the method of correspondence, or the time of presenting the result of their labors, they have felt somewhat embarrassed as to the best method of complying with the resolution and meeting the wishes of this Grand Lodge. From the results of efforts thus far made to secure a General Grand Lodge, the Committee were satisfied that nothing could be gained by precipitation, but that, if such a body was to be formed with any prospect of success, it must be a work of time and mature deliberation.

"It has seemed to them desirable, that, if another attempt were made to organize such a body, it should be done when this branch of the Masonic Fraternity could be generally and ably represented, and without involving heavy expense to the several State Grand Lodges.

"It has also seemed desirable that such an attempt should be made when there were no exciting influences or perplexing controversies to disturb the deliberations of a preliminary meeting, or enlist any of the Grand Lodges against the measure, or against each other.

"The Committee have also desired to profit by the experience of the General Grand bodies in the other departments of Masonry, and by whatever light the communications from the several Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of the Union might incidentally reflect on this subject the present year.

"They have believed that the most favorable time for attempting an organization would be at the time of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, which bodies are to assemble in Lexington, Kentucky, in September, 1853.

"For these and other reasons, your Committee have thought proper to delay addressing the sister Grand Lodges on this subject, till their views could be better matured and submitted to this Grand Lodge, and, if approved, to send them out, in connection with the Proceedings of this Annual Communication, and also in the form of a circular, to all the elective officers of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, inviting the early attention and reply of their respective bodies to this proposition.

"Such being the views of the Committee, they will indicate, briefly, the outlines of this question, as they understand it:—

"1. They believe the interests of Free Masonry in our country, in all its

departments, would be greatly promoted by the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, with appropriate powers and limitations.

"2. That the voice of a decided majority of the Grand Lodges of this country has been clearly expressed in favor of such an organization.

"3. That the diversities of sentiment as to the precise duties, powers and limitations of such a body, so far as expressed, do not at all discourage the hope of essential agreement, on a satisfactory basis, whenever a suitable meeting of Delegates can be assembled.

"4. That the progress already made in the settlement of long-standing difficulties, in some of the States, is one of the most encouraging evidences that a General Grand Lodge may be harmoniously and successfully organized.

"5. If all the difficulties of jurisdiction and the intestine strifes in the several States were healed, so far from diminishing the necessity of a General Grand Lodge, the difficulties in the way of its organization would be removed, and the way successfully opened for its beneficent career.

"6. That such an organization is highly desirable, that it may complete our national Masonic organization, and co-operate successfully with the other national bodies, the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment. Such an organization should hold its sessions in connection with the other two, and in some cases the same individuals could represent each department of the Order, and the expense of representation be shared equitably by their several bodies.

"In this way, all the interests of Masonry would be brought into notice, and in a way most likely to harmonize and promote the interests and prosperity of all the departments.

"Such a gathering of the Masonic family, in all its branches, would bring together Masons of high character, talent and moral worth, familiar with the wants of the various departments of the Order, and the happiest results might be anticipated from their labors.

"7. Your Committee believe that such an organization, with proper regulations, would be of great value, not only to the Masonic Fraternity in this country, but to the interests of our Order throughout the world. It would be the centre of correspondence for all the Grand Lodges of the world, and a Masonic union of these United States would present to our Brethren of all lands a most happy illustration of our national motto, '*E Pluribus Unum*.'

"8. In conclusion, the Committee suggest that such an organization, meeting regularly with the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment, and bringing together from all parts of the country noble-minded men, imbued with the spirit of Masonry and charged with the responsibilities of legislating for its welfare, would be most happy in its influence on the stability and welfare of our Union. The meetings of this body might sometimes occur near our halls of national legislation, and give them an example of legislation which knows 'no North, no South, no East, no West,' and has no 'Mason and Dixon's line.'

"In the report on Foreign Correspondence for the last year, the Committee gave some views of the Mission of Masonry, in relation to our national Union, to which they respectfully refer.

"Should this Grand Lodge approve the suggestions of the Committee, they would propose that they be sent out to the Fraternity as proposed, with an introductory note, desiring early attention and reply.

"They would also propose that a copy of the circular be sent to the elective officers of all the Grand Chapters and Grand Encampments of the United States.

"CYRIL PEARL,
"ALLEN HAINES, } Committee."
"F. BRADFORD, }

MARYLAND.—The M. W. Grand Master being absent, the chair was taken

and the Lodge opened by R. W. Deputy Grand Master John D. Readell, on the 10th of May, 1852, at Baltimore. The proceedings were characterized by great harmony, but nothing of more than ordinary interest transpired. The plan adopted by the Grand Lodge, of annexing to their Annual Communication a report of the "expulsions, suspensions, reinstatements and rejections" of other Grand Lodges, we consider a most excellent one. It certainly would redound to the welfare of Masonry throughout the United States, if each subordinate Lodge could be furnished with a list of all upon whom any of our sister Lodges have placed the "brand of guilt," so as not to admit to her altar those who have been denied Masonic privileges in other lands. We give place to the list published by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and regret that it is so incomplete as not to embrace all the Masonic bodies with which we are in correspondence:—

EXPULSIONS, SUSPENSIONS, REINSTATEMENTS AND REJECTIONS.

(Communicated by the several Grand Lodges.)

GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE.

EXPELLED.

By Elkton Lodge, No. 24, Elkton, Argelon Toone.
 Rising Star Lodge, 44, S. W. Senter.
 Mt. Libanus Lodge, 59, Knoxville, James R. Smart.
 Jackson Lodge, 68, Fayetteville, D. M. Tucker.
 Liberty Lodge, 77, Smithville, William Winnard.
 Priestly Lodge, 92, Waverly, Thomas M. Warren.
 Huntingdon Lodge, 106, Huntingdon, John A. Barham.
 Lawrenceburg Lodge, 107, Lawrenceburg, James H. Moore.
 Marshall Lodge, 109, Cottage Grove, John Edmunds.
 Harrison Lodge, 114, Harrison, Allen E. Puckett.
 Petersburg Lodge, 123, Petersburg, W. J. W. Dollison.
 Cornersville Lodge, 126, Cornersville, Franklin A. Steel.
 Waynesborough Lodge, 127, Waynesborough, John C. Willett.
 New Providence Lodge, 128, Marysville, Pryor Chamness.
 Sandy Hill Lodge, 130, Sandy Hill, J. H. Warren, Jr., J. W. Finch.
 Lafayette Lodge, 149, Lafayette, K. McHogg.
 Sequoyah Lodge, 156, Nashville, Peter F. Richardson.
 Bigbyville Lodge, 167, Bigbyville, James Kannon.
 Brazleton Lodge, 190, Dandridge, S. J. Bare.

GRAND LODGE OF OHIO.

EXPELLED.

By Hiram Lodge, No. 18, Daniel Hollinger, Jacob Seibold.
 Wadsworth & Seville Lodge, 74, Joseph Elder, for retaining in his hands funds of the Lodge.
 Lebanon Lodge, 26, William G. Smith, for non-payment of dues.
 Eastern Star Lodge, 55, John N. Dill, Noah C. Bennett.
 Mount Vernon Lodge, 64, Benjamin Carman.
 Leesburg Lodge, 78, W. N. Cook, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Bolivar Lodge, 82, John W. Bridges.
 Salem Lodge, 87, John V. Bryson.
 Minerva Lodge, 98, D. W. Selby.
 Moriah Lodge, 105, William S. Pearson.
 Batavia Lodge, 109, William Wheeler.
 Wood County Lodge, 112, Philemon Powell, for non-payment of dues.

By Clinton Lodge, 118, Wm. N. Turner, Sam'l Owen, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Warrenton Lodge, 114, Robert Patterson, H. D. Staunton.
 Phoenix Lodge, 123, I. K. Seaman.
 Malta Lodge, 145, H. C. Grimmell.
 Dayton Lodge, 147, Thompson Ennis.
 Buckeye Lodge, 150, John B. Robeson, for gross un-Masonic conduct.
 Ashland Lodge, 151, Darius Moore, for gross un-Masonic conduct.
 Palestine Lodge, 158, J. D. Irwin.
 Waynesville Lodge, 163, Joseph Parker, for non-payment of dues.
 Pomeroy Lodge, 164, William Moore.
 Lythopolis Lodge, 169, G. B. Gleck, for gross un-Masonic conduct.
 Wellsville Lodge, 180, Peter McGlennan, G. W. Menough.
 Fielding Lodge, 192, Charles T. Roe, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Mystic Tie Lodge, 194, A. M. Rutledge, for un-Masonic conduct.

SUSPENDED.

By Scioto Lodge, No. 6, Robert Lowery, William R. Drury, James M. Walts,
 David Scott, Peter End, Jr., John M. Wischart, James M. Cook, Joseph
 K. Will, James B. Scott,—all for non-payment of dues.
 Mount Zion Lodge, 9, D. W. Bloom, C. C. Slocumb, for non-payment of
 dues.
 Franklin Lodge, 14, Davis W. Thayer.
 Hiram Lodge, 18, C. S. Drake, J. Wite.
 Warren Lodge, 24, John Achuff, John Ensay, George Johnson, J. S. Woods,
 B. Beterton, R. N. Flinn, William Foster, James Statler, G. B. Covin,
 William Schaffer, Nathan Jackson, for non-payment of dues.
 Lebanon Lodge, 26, Warren S. Daken.
 Clermont Social Lodge, 29, F. Bulwer.
 Columbus Lodge, 30, A. W. Reeder.
 Mansfield Lodge, 35, F. A. Griswold, R. K. Bengé, Ephraim Pepple, S.
 Steward, for non-payment of dues.
 West Union Lodge, 43, John C. Scott, Thomas Thoroman, D. W. Stableton,
 Willis Lee, for non-payment of dues.
 Miami Lodge, 46, Giles G. Dryden, George Post, Maynes Cedarburg, Jesse
 Timanus.
 Xenia Lodge, 49, J. P. Peal.
 Milford Lodge, 54, Ludwig Harden, for non-payment of dues.
 Eastern Star Lodge, 55, John Hollowell, Edward Hendrickson, G. W. An-
 drews, John Nelson.
 Wadsworth & Seville Lodge, 74, Lyman Smith, Joseph Elder, for non-pay-
 ment of dues.
 Somerset Lodge, 76, George B. Furey, A. Humbarger, H. Miser, for in-
 temperance; J. R. Hukill, Thomas Ross, Peter McMullen, for non-pay-
 ment of dues.
 Medina Lodge, 58, E. D. Brown, P. E. Munger, J. W. Pitton, D. McMullen,
 H. Pelton, for non-payment of dues.
 Sandusky Lodge, 77, David Hospelhom.
 Lafayette Lodge, 81, Allison Emerson, Samuel Scott, M. R. Southard.
 Bolivar Lodge, 82, Joseph Dunn, Lewis Larsh, William Wilkins, Robert
 Quinn, James W. Bruce, Isaac Clawson, Peter Vannausdley, for non-pay-
 ment of dues.
 Jackson Lodge, 85, H. F. Burns, John Conklin, S. I. Davis, James Hazle-
 ton, S. Hupp, J. W. Johnson, J. W. Rose, H. Tenney, J. Trowt, G. W.
 Van Horn, for non-payment of dues; B. H. Spencer, J. McGowen, for
 un-Masonic conduct; John Tavner, for non-payment of dues.
 Hiram Lodge, 88, Myram Merchant.

- By Jefferson Lodge, 90, Andrew Henry, John Burns, James H. Fountain, Joshua Kemp.
 Chardon Lodge, 93, Stephen Barnes.
 Montgomery Lodge, 94, William Y. Emmit, H. A. Bodman, Samuel Adams, Anthony M. Snider, D. K. Biddlecomb, for non-payment of dues.
 Minerva Lodge, 98, Jacob L. Lephart.
 Friendship Lodge, 103, T. Campbell, C. Keiry, J. McClellan.
 Tarleton Lodge, 104, Thomas Binkley, for non-payment of dues.
 Batavia Lodge, 109, William Wheeler.
 Wood County Lodge, 112, George Poe, for intemperance; J. D. Ralston, G. D. Avery, for un-Masonic conduct; John Woover, for intemperance.
 Clinton Lodge, 113, George L. Learett, Benjamin W. Mann, Thos. Morris, John E. McClery, Melvin Sprague, F. A. Findlay, G. W. Edmonston, John M. Sheppard, Samuel Williams, O. H. Aborn, E. Keys, J. G. Geuther, Nathan McConkey, W. C. Pangborn, B. R. Sinisher, Jesse S. Bates,—all for non-payment of dues.
 Cincinnati Lodge, 133, James Wade, Joseph Talbot, R. M. Dally, Joel Dalby, John Morris, for non-payment of dues.
 Columbian Lodge, 134, I. M. Freshwater, John Brown, W. G. Henderson, G. W. Hurd, William M. Hayes, J. Moreland, Seth Wilson, for non-payment of dues.
 Bucyrus Lodge, 139, G. W. Saltsman, Talman Rouse, O. Williams, J. H. Hutchinson, J. Osborn.
 McMillan Lodge, 141, James Irons, A. H. Baker, J. H. Hughes, J. McBride, L. Page.
 Hamar Lodge, 142, John E. McAgan, for non-payment of dues.
 Aberdeen Lodge, 149, J. H. Worstell, for intemperance; N. F. Moore, H. L. Church, for non-payment of dues.
 Buckeye Lodge, 150, William C. May, for non-payment of dues; Aaron Gray, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Ashland Lodge, 151, Curtis Laner, Isaac Bechtell, for non-payment of dues.
 Farmers' Lodge, 153, J. P. Norton, William Parsons, William Abram, J. P. Devinnery, John P. Woodbury, John Jones, William Bryant, R. H. Kuhns, Riley Ashley, William Carroll, Benjamin Runnells, Josiah Gregory, J. Gillett, A. A. Spencer,—all for non-payment of dues.
 Cynthia Lodge, 155, James Dunlap.
 Philidorian Lodge, 157, R. G. McLean, James Pughsley, for non-payment of dues.
 Pomeroy Lodge, 164, J. Keiffer.
 Hamar Lodge, 167, Albert Walker, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Wellsville Lodge, 180, D. W. Estill, Doctor Farmer, George D. Moore, William Milner.
 Bridgeport Lodge, 181, W. F. Crawford, J. C. Fields, for non-payment of dues.
 Utica Lodge, 183, A. Warthen, James Yeoman, William Spencer, W. F. Sylvester, A. Channell, for non-payment of dues.
 Union Lodge, 184, Jesse Campbell, for un-Masonic conduct.
 Fielding Lodge, 192, Thomas Taylor, for non-payment of dues.
 Yeatman Lodge, 193, B. Vanhorn, for gross un-Masonic conduct.

REINSTATED.

- By Cleveland City Lodge, No. 15, L. Umstead, J. B. Wigman, Z. Eddy.
 Warren Lodge, 24, J. C. Moody, J. W. Ute, E. McSherry, A. C. Furrow, John Davis, S. Jacobs, Joseph Yeager.
 Highland Lodge, 38, Alexander Bently.
 West Union Lodge, 43, Willis Lee.

By Aurora Lodge, 48, Thomas Curine, Moses Gregory, S. Cevniger, Nathan L. Jones, John Musser, Jacob Price, James Stevenson, Joseph Cogson.
 Milford Lodge, 54, Thomas Bond.
 Lancaster Lodge, 57, Samuel Michaels.
 Zanesville Lodge, 59, Asa Ridge, John T. Arthur, William C. Scott, Levi Thorne, Harrison Elsby, Isaac M. Brown, J. O. Hook.
 Bolivar Lodge, 82, Isaac Clawson.
 Salem Lodge, 87, James W. Pearce, William Dempsey, E. B. Wheaton.
 Friendship Lodge, 89, Hiram H. Hunt, William B. Hunt.
 Jefferson Lodge, 90, Henry Andrews, J. H. Fountain, David Bearman, John Weidner.
 Minerva Lodge, 98, Jacob L. Lephart.
 Wood County Lodge, 112, J. D. Ralston.
 Hanover Lodge, 115, Hughes Folwell, Fred. Rice.
 Goshen Lodge, 119, William T. McMullen.
 Buckeye Lodge, 150, John B. Robeson.
 Pomeroy Lodge, 164, John C. Depeu.
 Hamar Lodge, 167, Albert Walker.
 Lafayette Lodge, 175, Bemsle Hare.

GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA.

EXPELLED.

By Hiram Lodge, No. 42, John N. Young.
 Mount Moriah Lodge, 55, Samuel R. Welch.
 Tompkinsville Lodge, 61, E. B. Mills.
 Central Lodge, 70, G. Barnes.
 Wilcox Lodge, 80, Wm. J. Summerlin.
 Herman Lodge, 106, A. M. Wright.
 Sylvan Lodge, 111, Geo. W. Wallace.
 Midway Lodge, 114, D. W. Gassaway.
 Felix Lodge, 124, Hugh M. Carmichael.
 Ridge Grove Lodge, 128, Wilson Williams.
 Geneva Lodge, 129, Asa Alexander, Samuel T. Roach.

SUSPENDED.

By Gilead Lodge, No. 9, Daniel Frisby.
 George Washington Lodge, 24, Peter D. Robinson.
 Mobile Lodge, 40, Rufus Green, Charles W. Ogden, for non-payment of dues.
 Livingston Lodge, 41, Louis Hadden, R. L. Hunter, W. M. Rea, for non-payment of dues.
 Jackson Lodge, 45, Thomas W. Caskey.
 Demopolis Lodge, 49, E. A. L. Prince.
 Jefferson Lodge, 51, William F. Means, for non-payment of dues.
 Troy Lodge, 56, William M. Hill.
 Turnbull Lodge, 75, L. C. Lane.
 Erophotic Lodge, 84, Charles L. Gilbert, for non-payment of dues.
 Henry Lodge, 91, Daniel McCrimmon.
 Triana Lodge, 92, A. L. Logan, J. H. Dunn, W. Morris, R. A. Jamar, for non-payment of dues.
 Wedowee Lodge, 93, David A. Perryman.
 Oakville Lodge, 95, J. P. Jackson.
 Benson Lodge, 103, R. R. Griffin.
 Good Samaritan Lodge, 104, John Singley.
 Midway Lodge, 114, B. N. Williams.
 Notasula Lodge, 119, D. B. Horn.

By Felix Lodge, 124, John McLeod.
 Geneva Lodge, 129, Thomas J. R. Govitte.
 Roanoke Lodge, 132, William J. Taylor, for non-payment of dues.
 Loachapoka Lodge, 133, J. J. Comer.

REINSTATED.

By Marengo Lodge, No. 28, W. W. Lee, W. Springle.
 Autauga Lodge, 31, William G. Love, George M. Roy.
 Perry Lodge, 34, S. G. McLaughlin, D. W. Dillahay.
 New Market Lodge, 52, Alfred Turman, Edward M. Rice.
 Troy Lodge, 56, Elias D. Stinson, M. B. Stinson.
 Tompkinsville Lodge, 61, G. M. Hagnewood.
 Liberty Lodge, 65, John M. Jackson.

GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA.

EXPELLED.

By Petersburg Lodge, No. 15, Samuel B. Hatcher, Daniel M. Gordon.
 Hiram Lodge, 21, Charles Tucker.
 St. John's Lodge, 36, John T. Brown.
 Washington Union Lodge, 118, P. A. Wetherford.
 Dallas Lodge, 132, Abraham Bushman, Charles C. Bushman.
 St. John's Lodge, 144, Clement R. Kennon.

SUSPENDED.

By Blue Ridge Lodge, No. 7, John T. Ball.
 Rockingham Lodge, 27, Willoby D. Catlett.
 Triluminar Lodge, 117, Christian A. Glassford.
 Washington Union Lodge, 118, John B. Williams.

REINSTATED.

By Portsmouth Naval Lodge, No. 100, Wm. H. Nash, Joseph Hobday.

GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN.

EXPELLED.

By Portland Lodge, No. 31, William D. Moore.
 Grand River Lodge, 15, Robert Jarvis.

SUSPENDED.

By Phoenix Lodge, No. 13, Wells Chamberlain, for non-payment of dues.
 Oriental Lodge, 15, Daniel W. Bliss, for non-payment of dues.
 Lafayette Lodge, 16, John Jermain, Charles R. Wisnor and Oliver C. Pope,
 for non-payment of dues.
 Morning Star Lodge, 26, E. Churchill, for non-payment of dues.
 Humanity Lodge, 29, James H. Atwater, William Hedden, Amasa Earle,
 Joseph Gibbs, James Ball and P. R. Hazleton, for non-payment of dues.
 Hillsdale Lodge, 32, Joseph R. Tombs; also, G. A. Spalding, on account of
 indictment pending against him.
 Lansing Lodge, 33, Charles T. Allen.

GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI.

EXPELLED.

By Washington Lodge, No. 3, James H. Nusom, Robert Potts.
 Columbus Lodge, 5, George W. Randolph, William G. Wright.

By Leake Lodge, 17, Winston Banks.
 Gallatin Lodge, 25, John D. Howard.
 Vicksburg Lodge, 26, John H. King.
 Coleman Lodge, 29, Thomas Bennett.
 Holly Springs Lodge, 35, William W. Ragan.
 Macon Lodge, 40, John H. McClannahan.
 Thomastown Lodge, 124, Lewis Tiner.
 Chulahoma Lodge, 55, D. R. Jameson.
 Joseph Warren Lodge, 71, John W. Scuddy.
 De Witt Clinton Lodge, 84, John M. Turrentine.
 Emory Lodge, 95, William R. Martin.
 Richmond Lodge, 97, R. T. Robinson.
 De Soto Lodge, 100, John Price.
 Malone Lodge, 101, W. W. Done, Jason Hully.
 Farmington Lodge, 116, R. W. B. Oliver.
 Unity Lodge, 117, J. McSween.
 Patton Lodge, 129, W. C. Wood.

SUSPENDED.

By Columbus Lodge, No. 5, J. J. Thompson, for non-payment of dues.
 Quitman Lodge, 18, Benjamin T. Hagood.
 Gallatin Lodge, 25, W. W. Martin, Daniel Matheny, F. S. Ryan, John McDonald, T. C. Watson, J. C. Hudson, T. J. Wheat, B. F. Martin, E. F. Lowe, R. H. Sibley, J. R. Mathews, H. M. Tillman, A. J. Scrivner, J. Q. Oswald, M. M. Curtis, C. K. Swinney, W. M. Deason, E. P. Corley, J. S. Wood, G. W. Kilgrease, John Chance, George S. Ashley, J. H. Thompson, Daniel Smith, Charles Adams.
 Canton Lodge, 28, Daniel W. Dean, for non-payment of dues.
 Aberdeen Lodge, 32, Joel M. Acker, W. W. Allen, R. E. C. Davidson, Benj. F. Gullet, A. J. Holliday, A. R. Hunter, W. P. Kennedy, R. M. Moon, J. G. Pendleton, C. C. Thompson, Chas. M. Weaver, for non-payment of dues.
 Carrollton Lodge, 36, Durant H. Arnold.
 Yazoo Lodge, 42, Charles A. Leake, for non-payment of dues.
 Pythagorean Lodge, 48, William Caldwell.
 Greensborough Lodge, 49, Ed. Johnson, for gross un-Masonic conduct.
 Sterling Lodge, 54, H. F. Woodruff.
 Harrison Lodge, 57, John Besset.
 Marion Lodge, 62, A. Westbrook.
 De Kalb Lodge, 64, Richard G. Matheny.
 Louisville Lodge, 75, D. P. Smythe, R. M. Wragg.
 Coffeeville Lodge, 83, B. P. Pace, Samuel L. Banier.
 Pikeville Lodge, 85, W. W. Allen, for non-payment of dues.
 Prairie Lodge, 87, A. Forna, J. Myrick.
 Philadelphia Lodge, 93, James Guinn.
 Emory Lodge, 95, S. T. Wilson, William Bonner, Thomas Blue, A. Irvine.
 Utica Lodge, 98, James Anderson, for non-payment of dues.
 Cahoma Lodge, 104, John W. Malone.
 Moses Cook Lodge, 111, James A. Bacon, for un-Masonic conduct; James Jones, L. M. Reason, R. O. Pray, for non-payment of dues.
 Solomon Lodge, 126, William J. Watson.

REINSTATED.

By Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, W. G. Spring.
 Washington Lodge, 3, Joseph Nicholls.
 Columbus Lodge, 5, R. A. Melton, W. G. Oden.

By Leake Lodge, 17, L. G. Ross.
 Quitman Lodge, 18, Benjamin Grisom, J. B. Catching, W. H. Davis.
 Lexington Lodge, 24, John D. Wyatt, C. Overstreet.
 Vicksburg Lodge, 26, H. W. Barrett, T. W. Grothe, J. C. Parks, V. C. Dodge, F. Blackwell.
 Macon Lodge, 40, John H. Russel.
 Yazoo Lodge, 42, D. Walker.
 Ripley Lodge, 47, Jefferson German.
 Chulahoma Lodge, 55, A. H. Ferguson, W. R. Baker, John S. Logan.
 Joseph Warren Lodge, 71, U. M. Campbell, Burrel Moore.
 Camden Lodge, 74, Allen Y. Davis.
 Louisville Lodge, 75, D. P. Smythe, R. W. Wragg.
 Eastern Star Lodge, 79, Solomon Sutton.
 Scott Lodge, 80, S. Curtis, G. C. Harper.
 Pikeville Lodge, 85, John Austin.
 Trinity Lodge, 88, John T. Davis.
 Willis Lodge, 92, R. S. Willingham, D. D. Cummings.
 Emory Lodge, 95, A. Irvine, William Bonner.
 Coahoma Lodge, 104, John W. Malone.
 Bethel Lodge, 107, J. L. Jolly.
 Unity Lodge, 117, John McSween.

REJECTED.

By Harmony Lodge, No. 1, David Middleton.
 Washington Lodge, 3, B. S. Hines.
 Columbus Lodge, 5, Theodore J. Lawrence.
 Clinton Lodge, 16, R. Williams.
 Leake Lodge, 17, J. Harris, Jacob Strauss, S. Block.
 Quitman Lodge, 18, Calvin Honey.
 Raymond Lodge, 21, W. S. Little, G. B. Dane, S. M. Phelps.
 Pearl Lodge, 23, A. G. Mandell.
 Gallatin Lodge, 25, W. L. Bostick, Jos. H. Johnson.
 Vicksburg Lodge, 26, John Botts, Thomas Connors, John Head.
 Coleman Lodge, 29, B. G. Puckett.
 Grenada Lodge, 31, Robt. L. Nason, Robt Williams, Jr., T. C. Healey.
 Oxford Lodge, 33, John Vinyard.
 Olive-Branch Lodge, 34, W. L. Strahern.
 Holly Springs Lodge, 35, Wm. P. Fogg, James Glenn, Seth Morris, Gabriel B. Stone.
 Carrollton Lodge, 36, Nicholas Jackson, Gilbert Jackson.
 Liberty Lodge, 37, H. Kosminski, R. M. Neilson, J. H. Flowers.
 Monroe Lodge, 39, Amos McLemore.
 Macon Lodge, 40, J. M. Colbert.
 Yazoo Lodge, 42, W. S. M. Goodrum, Caplan McKee, Wm. Wyman.
 Shady Grove Lodge, 43, Bryan O'Neal.
 Ripley Lodge, 47, Samuel Blythe, J. W. Brooks, Isaac N. Whiteside.
 Pythagorean Lodge, 48, W. N. Hart, J. M. Thomas.
 Greensborough Lodge, 49, D. W. McKey, R. A. Knot.
 Lafayette Lodge, 53, Francis R. Williams, Samuel M. Hamilton, James S. Bass.
 Sterling Lodge, 54, James Keeton.
 Mississippi Lodge, 56, Robert Miller, Samuel Levy.
 Harrison Lodge, 57, Ira W. Walker, Asley Wyatt, David Thompson, Aaron Rayner.
 Thomas Hinds Lodge, 58, D. Hoffheimer, S. W. J. Cade.
 Tappan Lodge, 59, Alfred Darden, Willie Cherry, J. C. Perkins, L. M. Walker.

- By St. Albans Lodge, 60, Henry Johnson, J. F. Stringer.
 Marion Lodge, 62, J. W. Crane, J. Lewistein.
 Asylum Lodge, 63, W. L. Newell, W. D. Allen, M. Simon, D. C. Lewis, J. Wigley, T. O'Connell, G. W. Noland, M. A. Windham, W. De Loach, J. D. Gildart, T. J. Brown.
 Panola Lodge, 66, William S. Malone.
 Houston Lodge, 67, John Baird.
 Vannatta Lodge, 68, Younger Johnson, J. W. Blackwell, Wm. Adcock.
 Holmesville Lodge, 69, Ferdinand Philips, J. D. Jakobornski.
 Joseph Warren Lodge, 71, Andrew J. Shelton, M. M. Shelton, Warren J. Booth, W. M. Bristow, Levi Jarvis, Jr., R. H. Biggers.
 Wilson Lodge, 72, S. Strickland, B. Strickland, M. N. Acklin.
 Camden Lodge, 74, Reuben Simon.
 Louisville Lodge, 75, A. R. Howell, John W. Dotson, James B. Chambers, B. F. Kelley, Z. P. Patty, John S. Spear, William Baker, Joseph S. Sandifer, Giles C. Lynch, J. J. Mabry, John W. Sharp, Thomas H. Corner, W. W. Coleman, James A. Golden, Isaac Calloway, John S. Speaks, William Roach, A. Gillis.
 Evergreen Lodge, 77, William Ware, Henry Smith, E. S. Jones.
 Eastern Star Lodge, 79, Samuel Herring, William A. Langston.
 Scott Lodge, 80, E. S. Jones, W. Puryer, D. Carle, H. H. Moore, A. Flowers, P. Henry, J. Boler, William C. Pridgon.
 Pontotoc Lodge, 81, S. B. Palmer.
 Oakland Lodge, 82, Thomas S. Keeler.
 De Witt Clinton Lodge, 84, S. M. McClurge.
 Rikeville Lodge, 85, J. B. Mulinax.
 Trinity Lodge, 86, J. S. M. Davis, B. B. Dicken, J. A. P. Campbell, L. S. Terry, G. L. Smith.
 Prairie Lodge, 87, T. D. Rasberry, James Allen, Thos. Montgomery.
 Albert Lodge, 89, M. F. Wooten.
 Willis Lodge, 92, H. J. Hales, J. M. Baldwin, James McDonald, Henry Easting, Noel Hales.
 Philadelphia Lodge, 93, A. W. Moorehead.
 Emery Lodge, 95, John D. Walker.
 Richmond Lodge, 97, S. W. Barrett, Isaac Sullivan, N. Ward, G. S. Wafford.
 Utica Lodge, 98, H. G. Ransower, J. J. Luckin, R. A. Herren, O. H. Herren.
 North Mt. Pleasant Lodge, 99, Jesse Pritchard, A. M. Edwards, W. R. Pate, L. L. Lumsden, J. A. Morphis, H. Forehand, J. E. Wood, S. V. Akin.
 De Soto Lodge, 100, E. T. Perry, J. Jean.
 Malone Lodge, 101, John E. Clark, James Williams, James Bell.
 Wayne Lodge, 102, William McAry.
 Sharon Lodge, 103, Ira Speight, C. J. Welborne.
 Pearl River Lodge, 105, J. Thrasher, Gilbert Gay, J. W. Bilbo, T. Y. Brittain.
 Union Lodge, 106, Robert Slater.
 Bethel Lodge, 107, A. Hyman, E. G. Threat, S. Mitchell, T. W. Tompkins.
 Carrollville Lodge, 108, W. B. Barry, S. McGehee, J. D. Wells, J. Stovall, E. Folsom, S. Knowles, D. Buchanan, W. B. Beck, W. Beck, Jr.
 Danville Lodge, 109, P. H. Roberts.
 Moses Cook Lodge, 111, Nathaniel Pary, John S. Brush, William Purvis, B. D. Mitchell, William Summers, James Groves, John M. Stewart, Wm. Smith.
 Bovina Lodge, 112, J. R. Cook.
 Farmington Lodge, 116, R. W. B. Oliver.
 Unity Lodge, 117, J. W. Scott.
 Snowsville Lodge, 119, J. J. Thomas.
 Magnolia Lodge, 120, V. Desportes, J. Henley.
 Oak Ridge Lodge, 123, Samuel Rainy.

By Thomastown Lodge, 124, Calvin Beacham, Willis Merriman, A. Huckaby.
 Solomon Lodge, 126, W. O. Wallace.
 Friendship Lodge, 127, L. B. Scruggs, C. F. Alexander.
 Tallaloosa Lodge, 128, T. B. Jordan, Joseph Woods.
 Patton Lodge, 129, B. F. Newberry, J. Wilkerson.
 Alamutcha Lodge, 130, L. H. Love, Bogan C. Hannall, J. Lehman, J. W. Simms.
 Water Valley Lodge, 132, R. L. Cobb, W. T. Matthews, J. A. Redwine.
 Lodi Lodge, 134, J. G. Pitman.
 Falconer Lodge, 137, W. R. Bounds, Burwell Arrenton.
 Mellen Lodge, 138, Spencer Haley, J. F. Jennings, M. Wall.
 Dalton Lodge, 143, J. Tedford.
 Jefferson Lodge, 146, M. Lasster.
 Bay of St. Louis Lodge, 147, Charles Blank, Guillumme Macoullerd.
 Grizaba Lodge, U. D., T. B. Clark, Samuel White, Thomas Guist, S. Folk.
 Hartford Lodge, U. D., John Burt.
 Harrisburg Lodge, U. D., John Reeder, Thomas Armstead.
 St. John's Lodge, U. D., J. E. Brogan.
 Auburn Lodge, U. D., Sidney S. Whitehead, Stephen A. Daniels.

GRAND LODGE OF LOUISIANA.

EXPELLED.

By Edna Lodge, No. 64, D. M. Hundley.
 Mount Moriah Lodge, 77, O. S. Heath.
 Minden Lodge, 51, B. McClosky.
 Many Lodge, 88, K. J. McLemore.
 Patmos Lodge, 97, James J. Puller.
 Germania Lodge, 46, Spickerkottter.
 Foyer Maçonnique Lodge, 44, Louis Vaillancour.

SUSPENDED.

By Concorde Lodge, No. 3, O. Abbott, E. Creven, F. Foygnet, L. F. Nicomede, J. B. Sorapuru.
 Foyer Maçonnique Lodge, 44, — Angella, William Collins, Jean Dubois, — Falques, Martin Jourdain, — Kennedy, Pierre Lasalle, Jean Livran, Jean Mayer, Francisco Perra, — Bada, — Silver.
 Friends of Harmony Lodge, 68, W. J. Armstrong, William Nesin.
 Mount Moriah Lodge, 77, John C. Argo.
 Perseverance Lodge, 4, F. V. Bienvenu, Henry Fourquette, Francisco Gomez, Zephirin Latour, Felix Mondeval, Manuel Ronquille, Antoine Tousa.
 Germania Lodge, 46, Auton Boerger, Julius Fulda, H. Grob, J. H. Hahn, David Israng, F. M. Kotch, B. Nessler, Aug. Rinne, J. Stadecker, George Theurer, — Volmers.
 St. James Lodge, 47, J. C. Burnett, J. G. Bryce, William Huntstock, A. Peniston, J. C. Taylor.
 Providence Lodge, 50, Ferdinand Bernd.
 Union Fraternal Lodge, 53, George J. Brown, William C. Carr, M. D. Mays, E. W. Parker, James D. Summerville, H. F. Stinsten, William L. Spears, E. B. Winds.
 Alpha Lodge, 72, Rev. H. G. Blinn.
 Trinity Lodge, U. D., L. R. Burns, V. B. Penney.
 Louisiana Lodge, 102, R. C. Faulkner.
 Mount Gerizim Lodge, 54, Walter R. Lassiter.

By Minden Lodge, 51, W. W. Manning.
 Les Vrais Amis Lodge, 93, François Perez.
 Perfect Union Lodge, 1, V. St. Victor.
 Edna Lodge, 64, R. L. Scott.
 Franklin Lodge, 57, B. F. Whitworth.
 Coushatta Lodge, 60, James C. Watts.
 St. Helena Lodge, 96, Benjamin Weill.

REINSTATED.

By Concorde Lodge, No. 3, O. Abbott, E. Crevon, F. Foygnet, L. F. Nicomede,
 F. Perillat, J. B. Sorapura.
 Mount Moriah Lodge, 77, John C. Argo.
 St. James Lodge, 47, J. C. Burnett.
 Germania Lodge, 46, Julius Fulda, J. H. Hahn, J. Stadeker, F. M. Koch.
 Providence Lodge, 60, William B. Harper.
 Perseverance Lodge, 4, Louis St. Martin.

REJECTED.

By St. Albans Lodge, No. 28, John H. Baumgartner.
 Feliciana Lodge, 31, Magnus Bain, Alexander Davidson, Lewis Gurlack,
 William H. Glass, J. M. Holliday, L. T. Maddux.
 St. James Lodge, 47, Stephen Basilisco, P. H. Harbour, Simon Mendleson.
 Minden Lodge, 51, John Brice.
 Union Fraternal Lodge, 53, J. Bozeman, B. J. Ford.
 Lafayette Lodge, 56, Martin Burge, Dennis C. Daniel, H. Thompson.
 Franklin Lodge, 57, David A. Bell, John Findlay, Henry Humble, John W.
 Minor, Charles Rabe, W. B. Wood.
 Coushatta Lodge, 60, G. W. G. Brocelee, Matthew W. Hall, C. G. Mar-
 baker, William Wimberly.
 Joppa Lodge, 74, M. Belle, Peter McLeish, J. W. Markham, J. C. Silvey.
 Iberville Lodge, 81, W. T. Beckley, P. P. Lugg, Samuel C. Trever.
 Oliver Lodge, 84, Johnson Beatie, Charles Hilburn, L. H. Henrickson.
 Henderson Lodge, 99, Willis Bonner, James H. Dauson, W. D. McCoy.
 Taylor Lodge, 100, John Boepple, John Greer, M. S. Haygood, Wm. A.
 Jones, David Mohr, Bennet L. Rye, James B. Reynolds.
 Franklinton Lodge, 101, William B. Bowman, Tyra Rambert.
 Mount Lebanon Lodge, U. D., D. E. Brown, David Cook.
 Perseverance Lodge, 4, P. Cestac, François L. Hubac.
 Providence Lodge, 60, William Cavanah, J. Y. Christmas, S. Harmon, H. D.
 Wagon.
 Mount Gerizim Lodge, 54, Henry Curtis, James J. Hightower, J. S.
 Murray, Edwin Tatum.
 Livonia Lodge, 91, Garland C. Collins, James Hutches, Timothy O'Mullen.
 Bellevue Lodge, 95, Jacob G. Curry, J. W. O'Daniel, S. R. Rosenbaum.
 Patmos Lodge, 97, Henry C. Calhoun, Isaac R. Cole, John Franklin, Fray
 B. Gardner, Leaner E. Love, Spencer C. Williams.
 Vienna Lodge, U. D., James Cook, Eli Hart, C. W. Lyles, John C. Maddar,
 Thomas A. Wafer.
 Western Star Lodge, 61, William H. Dinkgrove, Peter D. Towles.
 Tunica Lodge, 63, James F. Dickason.
 Orleans Lodge, 78, T. M. Daviedson.
 George Washington Lodge, 65, S. H. Fulton, P. Mead.
 Alpha Lodge, 72, H. Franco.
 Thibodaux Benevolent Lodge, 90, — Franklin, — Gilmore.
 St. Helena Lodge, 96, Simon Frank, Bernard Kernan, William McCallister,
 Alonzo S. Lewis.
 Harrisonburg Lodge, U. D., Isaac Fleishman, W. D. Laland.

By Many Lodge, 88, G. G. Garner, N. H. McLemore.
 Phoenix Lodge, 38, George Washington Howard, William P. Morrow, Reuben Vansickle, Robert H. Williams.
 De Witt Clinton Lodge, 80, John Jarman, James Martin.
 Olive Lodge, 52, A. Kalisher.
 Caddo Lodge, 49, James Lee, Joel Tallmadge.
 Hermitage Lodge, 98, Edward Lang.
 Friends of Harmony Lodge, 58, John Marshall.
 Monticello Lodge, 92, Lewis H. Moore.
 Sparta Lodge, U. D., John G. Noles, Samuel H. Sherwood.
 Mount Moriah Lodge, 77, George A. Smith.
 Castor Lodge, U. D., T. W. Stegall.
 Foyer Maçonnique Lodge, 44, V. Weill, J. Withney.

GRAND LODGE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

EXPELLED.

By New Jerusalem Lodge, No. 9, H. Buett.

SUSPENDED.

By Hiram Lodge, No. 10, William H. Barnecol, W. H. Collison, John D. Randolph, Daniel Serrin, T. Thorne,—all for non-payment of dues.
 St. John's Lodge, 11, De Witt Kent, for non-payment of dues.

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT.

EXPELLED.

By Franklin Lodge, No. 4, B. S. Davis, of St. Albans.
 Missisquoi Lodge, 9, Gardner Rolleston, of Broome.

GRAND LODGE OF ARKANSAS.

EXPELLED.

By Western Star Lodge, No. 2, Little Rock, George H. Hayden.
 Franklin Lodge, 9, Clarksville, Harvey Hanlief, W. B. Dewes, James Champlin.
 Holly Springs Lodge, 22, Holly Springs, W. M. Wilson.
 Grand Lake Lodge, 23, Grand Lake, L. B. Luckie.

SUSPENDED.

By Western Star Lodge, No. 2, Little Rock, Hugh Brogan, for non-payment of dues.
 Franklin Lodge, 9, Clarksville, H. L. White, T. J. Swan, Robert Hart, John N. Reynolds.
 Grand Lake Lodge, 23, Grand Lake, G. C. Tuley.

REINSTATED.

By Western Star Lodge, No. 2, Little Rock, Isaac Hawkins.

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

EXPELLED.

By Tuolumne Lodge, No. 8, Sonora, R. C. Barry, for un-Masonic conduct.

GEORGIA.—We have always sat down to the perusal of the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge with great interest and pleasure, and never with more satisfaction than at present. Among the gallant sons of this chivalrous State, the principles of our Order appear to meet with unusual favor, and to intertwine its pure sentiments of "charity and brotherly love" with their lofty feelings of chivalry. Progress in Masonry, with our Brothers of Georgia, is a matter of course; and each Masonic year witnesses new Masonic altars erected, additional Masonic temples built, and other links added to that extended and ever-extending chain of strong hands and noble hearts into which the widow and the orphan can come for sympathy in distress, protection in the hour of danger, relief in distress and refuge in adversity. One hundred and sixty-four subordinate Lodges now work in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and six thousand four hundred and sixty-nine members are bound together by the most sacred ties of brotherly love. The report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, held at Macon, the 28th of October, 5851, and of which William C. Dawson was Grand Master, is very full. We take great pleasure in making the following extracts from the address of Grand Master Dawson:—

"From the Grand Secretary's report to me, I find the number of our Chartered Lodges to be one hundred and forty-three, Dispensations granted this year, twenty,—making one hundred and sixty-three Lodges. The number of members, according to the last returns of the subordinate Lodges, 6140; initiations, 1664,—an increase of Lodges and initiations not surpassed in any State of the Union, according to population.

"As to the present unexampled prosperity of the Order, I deem it a fit and proper occasion to say that I most cordially adopt the sentiments, and almost the language, of a Brother: the doors of our Lodges should be strictly guarded, that no unworthy applicant may be permitted to enter. There is no harm—indeed, the vital interests of the Order imperiously require—that rigid examination should be made in every case. Relax this duty, and you open our arcana to impending dangers. It were better that fifty good men be rejected than one bad man be admitted. A Lodge cannot be called prosperous which is admitting indiscriminately the evil and the just. Its prosperity depends infinitely more upon the character than the number of its members. Let this be good, and the shafts of envy, malice, bigotry and superstition will fall harmless at your feet."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is one of great ability, and—which we regret, from its tone and research—its length forbids its being herewith incorporated. Truly may the Free Masons of Texas pray for the advance of Free Masonry in Georgia; truly may they rejoice in the growth of that institution which binds them more and more together. Texas owes a debt to Georgia which gold cannot discharge nor the restless wing of Time obliterate. The bones of her sons, foully and basely assassinated, whiten our plains. The tomb of Fannin is here. The foundation of our free institutions has been cemented with the blood of her gallant sons. The midnight storm, as it roars fearfully and wildly around our homes, or comes sweet and gentle as the voice of love and peace to cool our fevered brows, passes over the graves of her martyred sons. Our friends, our neighbors and Masonic Brothers are many of them emigrants from Georgia. Georgia has indeed suffered much that Texas might be free,—free in politics, free in religion and free in the institution of Masonry; and we beg Georgia Masons to believe that there is no Texan Free Mason so ignorant of the history of his freedom as not to know how much he is indebted for its enjoyment to Georgia chivalry, or so cold as not to be ready to pour the "balm of Gilead" into the bosoms of those families sorely smitten that Texas Masonry might be rescued from the despotism of military and priestly domination. We conclude by quoting from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:—

"While congratulating you upon the rapid growth and flourishing condition of

Masonry within our borders, your Committee deprecate a too luxuriant growth. Weeds may be springing up, concealed by the golden grain, and, when the harvest is gathered, evil and woe may befall us, and from a quarter least expected,—our own midst. We earnestly advise our Grand and Deputy Grand Masters to grant Dispensations with great caution,—to be careful to ascertain that a new Lodge is needed in the vicinity for which it is asked, and that the Brethren who ask for the Dispensation are not only worthy men, but competent to discharge the duties which they take upon themselves. A Lodge should be to the Grand Lodge what an individual Mason should be to his Lodge,—not a drone in the hive, but an active, zealous member; not a detriment, but an ornament. A Lodge should be as jealous of its reputation and standing as a Mason should be of his character and honor. We trust, therefore, that our Grand Officers will use great care and deliberation, and grant no Dispensations unless imperatively needed.

“If space and your patience permitted, we might fill a large volume in reviewing more minutely the voluminous and interesting correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. Your Committee hail with pleasure the triumphant march of Masonry throughout the land ‘so highly favored of the Lord.’ Her course is onward and upward. The night of bigotry and persecution is past, and we behold the star of our beloved Order rising above the horizon, and shining forth in unrivalled beauty and splendor, the wonder and admiration of the world.”

TENNESSEE.—The Grand Lodge of this State met at Nashville, on the 4th of October, A.L. 5852, M. W. Charles A. Fuller, Grand Master. The present condition and the increase of Masonry in Tennessee are no doubt most correctly represented in the quotation which we make from the communication of the R. W. Grand Secretary, John S. Dashiell:—

“Your Grand Secretary further states to the Grand Lodge that, since its last session, his situation in life makes it imperatively necessary for him to decline a longer continuance in the honorable office he now holds. Entering upon the discharge of the duties of Grand Secretary on the decease of our much-lamented Brother, Moses Stevens, which occurred on the 2d day of March, 1840, through your kindness I have had the honor to fill this distinguished office to the present time; and, now that I am about to separate from you in my present official capacity, it affords me pleasure to look back and contemplate the many delightful and instructive meetings I have been permitted to enjoy with so many distinguished Brethren from all parts of our State; and yet these pleasing associations have often been interrupted by the hand of death, and many of our Brethren, during my long service, have closed their labors on earth and entered upon the realities of another world. Still, I have been mercifully spared to record the proceedings of those who have succeeded them. How far I have discharged the great trust your confidence has reposed in me from time to time, you, my Brethren, are the best judges. If, in my long service with you, I have done that which I ought not to have done, or have left undone that which I ought to have done, I feel well assured you will allow the mantle of charity to cover my failings, so far as prudence and justice will permit. I can only say, I have endeavored to discharge my duty to the best of my skill and ability, and that whatever errors I have committed have been of the head, and not of the heart. However, it is a pleasure to me to look back and mark the progress of our time-honored institution since my induction into the office of Grand Secretary. When I entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office, not more than eight Lodges were represented in this body, and yet that little handful of pilgrims were seen wending their way for several succeeding years to our beloved Temple, to lay their offerings upon the altar of charity and good-will towards their fellow-men. Unwearied in their exertions, they have gone on until that little band has gathered strength, and now numbers an army

of one hundred and sixty Lodges. This certainly must be gratifying to every Representative present, and forcibly reminds us that, by patience and perseverance, all things may be accomplished. And now, with this bright prospect before us, I regret exceedingly that I am compelled to retire from your service. You have long and repeatedly shown your kindness and confidence in me, by unanimously re-electing me to this post for twelve consecutive years. This ought to satisfy the ambition of any reasonable man; and my most ardent hope is that you will select, from the many competent Brethren in your midst, one better qualified to fill the office of Grand Secretary, and it will at any and all times afford me much pleasure to give any information within my reach respecting the affairs of the office."

MISSOURI.—The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was held at the City of Booneville, M. W. Grand Master B. W. Grover in the chair, on the first Monday of May, 5852. The address of the M. W. Grand Master represents Masonry as progressive in Missouri. This young Grand Lodge is entitled to great credit, as being the first among her sisters—many of them by far much wealthier—for taking the first step in the formation of a Masonic college. We congratulate our Brethren of Missouri in having the honor of this noble conception, and trust it will redound to their praise. We here quote the remarks of Grand Master Grover on this subject:—

"The reports of the Board of Curators and Faculty of the Masonic College will afford you the best data for your deliberations upon this important subject. There is now resting upon us,—upon the Grand Lodge of Missouri,—in relation to the college, responsibilities of no light character,—responsibilities from which it would be wrong, if *not cowardly*, to retreat. We are the pioneers in the experiment of a Masonic college in the United States. We are the first, be it said to our lasting praise, to attempt the permanent establishment of an institution of learning destined to educate the homeless and destitute orphan. Thus far, its friends—the friends of human improvement and mental illumination—have stood firmly by it; and, in reference to the state of feeling on the part of the Fraternity in our own jurisdiction, I am happy to state, there is almost a universal desire still to sustain it. The only question with some, not naturally sanguine, is, whether we did not begin on a basis too extensive for the means and demands of the Fraternity in Missouri. But that question is not now debatable: we have begun; we have embarked in the enterprise as it is; and to it we have again and again pledged the *faith* of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Allow me to say that the success which has so far attended our efforts gives flattering augury, not only of the lasting benefits which it promises in the future, but of its ultimate triumph. Let us, then, be diligent and assiduous in urging forward its just claims; let us spare no effort, shrink from no labor, to liberally endow it, and thereby attain the noble end, the glorious purpose, for which the institution was established. Let us go forward, nerved with the assurance that the Grand Master of the Universe will never suffer the 'vine planted by his own right hand' to wither or die. Let us remember that 'time, patience and perseverance' will accomplish all things. Let us console ourselves with the reflection that, under the most adverse circumstances, so much has been learned, so much accomplished for our future direction. Let us, with a determined purpose and untiring zeal, worthy of the enlarged benevolence of Masonry, liberally, permanently endow this institution of learning,—place it beyond the reach of failure,—make it (what it was originally designed to be) 'an institution which will furnish a home to shelter, and a school to educate, the helpless orphan of every indigent Mason,—an institution the sight of whose stately columns and open doors *will brighten the care-worn features* and hush the wailings of the disconsolate widow.'

"My Brethren, as members of the wide-spread family of Masons, we have a great duty, an exalted mission, to perform,—to educate, to clothe, to cherish and

protect the widow and the orphan, to lift the heart-broken and disconsolate widow from beneath the dark cloud of despair, in which misfortune, or the icy hand of death, has placed her, to pillow her bruised and broken spirit on the unfailling charity of our mystic Brotherhood, so that, when the angel of death shall beckon her away to that 'bourne' whose sands are marked by no returning footprint, when she, too, shall be called to the spirit-land, she may turn her last lingering look upon its massy columns, and solaced with the reflection, die in the full assurance, that her desolate household, her orphan-children, shall be *educated and protected* while the eternal charity of Masonry endures."

WISCONSIN.—This Grand Lodge met on June 8, 5852, at Jonesville, M. W. Abram D. Smith, Grand Master. The report bears abundant proof of the prosperity of Masonry in this new State. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, signed by G. H. L. Palmer and John Bullen, is elaborate and lengthy.

CALIFORNIA.—This Grand Lodge met in Annual Communication in May, 5852. It was then presided over by M. W. John A. Tutt, who was succeeded by M. W. B. D. Hyam, the present Grand Master. There are about twenty Lodges under this jurisdiction, only ten of which were represented. The Proceedings manifest that there are able workmen in California, although so much raw and unpolished material has been thrown among them by the too liberal use of Dispensations in the older States. Their Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Bros. L. Stowell and B. D. Hyam, give us an excellent report, replete with information and accurate in its details. Most of the subjects considered have been laid before this Grand Lodge. We learn from it that a Grand Lodge has been organized in Oregon. It is stated thus:—

"Your Committee have also received the Proceedings of a convention held at Oregon City, Oregon Territory, on the 16th of August, A.L. 5851, by the Chartered Lodges in that Territory, to take into consideration the subject of forming a Grand Lodge. The convention adjourned to meet on the 13th September following. Three Lodges were represented,—viz. : Multnomah, No. 84, Willamette, No. 11, and Lafayette, No. 15.

"On the 15th, a Constitution was reported and adopted. An election was held, the result of which was as follows:—

M. W. Berryman Jennings,	Grand Master.
B. W. John Elliott,	Deputy Grand Master.
" W. J. Berry,	Grand Senior Warden.
" J. C. Ainsworth,	Grand Junior Warden.
" Benjamin Stark,	Grand Secretary.
" Robert Thompson,	Grand Treasurer.

"The Grand Master was duly installed by Bro. John Elliott, Past Master, and the Grand Master duly installed the other Grand Officers.

"Their Communications are to be held annually, on the first Monday in June.

"Your Committee cannot but express regret that the Lodges in Oregon deemed it *necessary*, from any circumstances then existing, to organize a Grand Lodge at so early a date, as they fear the benefit to be derived will not compensate them for the burdens they must necessarily bear in supporting it with so few Lodges; yet we would not sit in judgment on the acts of our Brethren, for we believe they have done that which they were persuaded was for the good of the Order, and for the sake of harmony and good-will towards each other.

"Regretting, as we do, to part with No. 11 and No. 15 from our little fold, we nevertheless most fraternally and cordially extend to the Grand Lodge of Oregon, our youngest sister, the right hand of fellowship, and in so doing wish them every prosperity.

"We cannot, however, close our remarks upon this Grand Lodge, without mentioning that we have been informed that the construction of the convention upon the *definition* of 'Past Masters' includes all those who have presided as Masters, and those who have only received the *Degree*, and admits all such as members of the Grand Lodge.

"We are sorry our Brethren have adopted that construction, and trust they may soon be induced to retrace their steps; for we hold and believe it to be bad Masonic doctrine, and dangerous to the peace and welfare of any Grand Lodge."

We concur with our sister of California in regard to "*Past Masters*."

The following resolutions were adopted by the Grand Lodge:—

"*Resolved*, That we recognise our sister Grand Lodge of Oregon, and welcome her into the Sisterhood of Grand Lodges, and that the Grand Secretary open the usual correspondence with her.

"*Resolved*, That a Grand Lodge is the Supreme Head of Symbolic Masonry, and that she has the exclusive right to establish Lodges, to confer the three symbolic Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry within her jurisdiction.

"*Resolved*, That 'Polar Star Lodge, No. 1,' 'Amigos del Orden, No. 5,' and 'Disciples of the Masonic Senate, No. 5,' in Louisiana, be declared clandestine, and that the Lodges under this jurisdiction shall not receive to Masonic communication any member belonging to any of said Lodges, or to any other Lodge in Louisiana not holding authority under the Grand Lodge of that State.

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that it is contrary to, and inconsistent with, the ancient usages and precepts of our Order, to withdraw from a subordinate Lodge without some good cause, or to reside in the neighborhood of a subordinate Lodge without becoming a member thereof.

"*Resolved*, That all non-affiliated Master Masons, who refuse to contribute to the support of the institution, unless prevented by disability, do, by so doing, forfeit all the rights, privileges and benefits of the Order.

"*Resolved*, That hereafter no Lodge in this jurisdiction shall advance a candidate to a superior Degree, unless he, in open Lodge, satisfy the members present that he is fully qualified in his work to enable him to progress."

A controversy in California, between the Grand Lodge and its Grand Master, is not one likely to be permanent, but deserves notice, because of the warning it affords of the evils of strife, and of the danger resulting from the exercise of power by an officer in an improper manner. It is a source of deep grief to the entire Fraternity that any one occupying the high position of a Grand Master should be liable to such censures and accusations of his Brethren as are brought against Grand Master B. D. Hyam, of California. He had been a prominent member of the Grand Lodge, and was Deputy Grand Master in 1851-52, and was elected Grand Master at the Annual Communication in May, 1852. In August following, a Special Communication is called by order of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Charles M. Radcliff, and a committee report the following charges and remarks:—

"1. That Grand Master B. D. Hyam, on the night of the 25th June last, assembled several Master Masons in a house not devoted to Masonic uses, and there conferred the three Degrees of Masonry upon an individual who had been duly rejected as a candidate, on the 3d day of the same month, in California Lodge, No. 1, in the presence of the Grand Master; and that those Degrees were given purposely in a covert manner, and in a spirit of malice towards the Lodge in which the candidate had been so rejected.

"2. That the Grand Master, on another occasion, and in a similar manner, conferred the Masonic Degrees upon a candidate who had been rejected in Mountain Shade Lodge, No. 18, receiving a fee of one hundred dollars therefor.

"3. That on another occasion, in the near vicinity of working Lodges, the Grand Master, in known opposition to the desires of the Fraternity, and with-

out any good reason, much less necessity, for so doing, made Masons at will, receiving fees for the work, and appropriating them to his own use.

"4. That the Grand Master has entered a working Lodge as a visitor, interfered with its proceedings, refused to obey the gavel when called to order, and treat the Master with the respect due to his office,—used language unworthy a Brother, and otherwise conducted himself in an un-Masonic manner.

"Such is a brief synopsis of the offences of the Grand Master, of which complaint is made. The evidences of their truth are conclusive. The facts were substantially admitted by the party accused. At the convention above named, the Grand Master confessed having acted injudiciously in regard to the rejected candidate of California Lodge, and could furnish no excuse by which to justify his conduct. On being assured that he had lost the confidence of the Fraternity in the State, and solicited to discontinue the further exercise of the powers he so strangely abused, he refused, in such terms as to indicate a disregard for the opinions of his Brethren, or the prosperity of the institution of which he had been made the head. He persisted that, though his acts might tend to evil, he could do no wrong for which he could be held responsible; for, by virtue of his office, he had the *power* and the *right* to perform such acts as he might deem proper. He had obtained the impression, which he pertinaciously maintained, that as Grand Master he was superior to all Masonic authority; that his will was above all law; that in him was vested the discretion and the power to make and break Masons, and create and destroy Lodges at will; that he could not be shaken from his high position; and that to himself alone was he accountable. This opinion seems to have actuated him in pursuing a course of conduct that has set the feelings and wishes of the Fraternity at defiance, disturbed the peace and harmony of Lodges, and violated the valued and ancient rules and usages by which the institution of Free Masonry has been so admirably controlled. And in examining documents in relation to this subject, your Committee perceive that authorities for which they desire to entertain the highest respect sustain him, to a considerable extent, in this despotic and destructive sentiment. In a report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the New York Grand Lodge, they find the following paragraph:—

"‘Since the time when the memory of Masons runneth not to the contrary, Grand Masters have enjoyed the high prerogative of making Masons *at sight*, without any preliminaries, and at any suitable time and place, they alone being the judges of the propriety, the time and the place. For so doing, no earthly power can call them to account.’

"In another part of the same report, the Committee says,—

"‘Of his possessing the power to do this, we have no doubt whatever. With regard to the expediency of doing so in a particular case, he is the sole judge. The Grand Lodge, during his term of office, cannot act upon it; after his term expires, they can, but can only proceed to the extent of censuring, by report of committee, or by resolution, and of expressing opinions on the questions involved. They cannot deal with him for an error of judgment in the exercise of his prerogatives, nor deprive him of any rights for or on account of its exercise, or of any error of judgment he may commit in its exercise. He cannot be suspended, or expelled, or deprived of his office, dignities or membership in the Grand Lodge, or any other privilege or right, during his term, nor be put upon trial during his term; for there is no power to try him, or to which he is amenable.’

* * * * *

"That our present Grand Master has shamefully abused the powers of his office,—that he has employed that office for unworthy purposes,—that he has exhibited an inexcusable indifference towards the consequences of his un-Masonic acts,—that he has wilfully violated the spirit of our Grand Lodge Constitution,—that he has appropriated to his own use money that was never contemplated being employed for any other than Masonic uses,—that he has conducted himself with impropriety in a Lodge meeting,—that he has treated

his Brethren with unmerited contempt,—that he has done all this, and more, deserving of reprehension, there is no room for any one conversant with the facts to doubt. And we repeat, if there is no precedent or law by which we can reach such flagrant acts, it is proper that one should now be made. Your Committee are pleased to observe that the ‘General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of England’ acknowledge the right and power of Grand Lodges to adopt such measures as exigencies may demand, to meet such cases as that being considered. They say,—

“‘If the Grand Master should abuse his power, and render himself unworthy of the obedience of the Lodges, he shall be subjected to some new regulations, to be dictated by the occasion; because, hitherto, the ancient Fraternity have had no reason to provide for an event which they have presumed would never happen.’ Ed. 1847.

“Were it otherwise, or were it indeed true that no law exists, and none can be made, to limit the rights and powers of a Grand Master, our institution would occupy a position not only lamentable, but ridiculous.

* * * * *

“Your Committee were pleased to perceive that an opinion different from that quoted from the New York reports prevails with some of the Brethren, well instructed in Masonic knowledge. The Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, touching the subject before us, reasons as follows:—

“‘At that period of our history when there existed no Grand Lodges, as at present organized, and when the Craft only met at an Annual Grand Convocation, like that held by Prince Edwin at York, the Grand Master, elected by them, held all the power and authority of Masonic government in his hands,—being guided by no other rule than the ancient charges and the customary unwritten laws. When the present system was adopted, and Grand Lodges became legislative bodies, the authority formerly held by the Grand Master alone became vested in him and the Grand Lodge together. He can make no law by himself, nor can he perform any attribute of government, save under the authority of the Grand Lodge,—to every law of which, and to its Constitution, must he yield obedience and support, as well by his obligations of office as by reason of his authority being derived from it. He is now strictly a constitutional officer, elected under and by virtue of a Constitution, deriving his powers from it and subjected to its limitations: it is only when that Constitution is silent that he can fall back on any of the former attributes of the office and exercise them for the good of the institution. This is the natural and infallible result of the present Grand Lodge system; and to say that the Fraternity, in forming a Grand Lodge, with a written Constitution, have not the power to limit and define the power of the Grand Master, is saying they have no right to create a Grand Lodge at all; for, if they cannot do so, then, as a natural result, his authority is superior, or at least equal, to that of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master having the power to disregard and nullify every act that might not please him. If we accept the present Grand Lodge system, we must accept its consequences,—one of which must infallibly be the curtailment of the power and prerogatives formerly attached to the office of Grand Master, the making him subject to the Constitution and laws, and leaving him no other powers formerly attached to his office but such as are not laid down in those laws and Constitution, or inconsistent with them. This is no more a violation of, or encroachment on, the ancient rules of the society, than the creation of modern Grand Lodges, the requiring of Charters for private Lodges, or many other regulations of the present day, which encroach upon ancient rights and privileges, but which have been voluntarily and even cheerfully submitted to by the Fraternity, for the sake of discipline, harmony, order and good rule; and upon exactly the same principle that men in civil societies surrender many natural rights for the mutual support and protection afforded by an ordinary government.’”

And they adopted the following resolutions:—

“Resolved, That Grand Master B. D. Hyam has, since his elevation to the office of Grand Master, been guilty of conduct unbecoming his high station, and tending materially to disturb the harmony and prosperity of the Fraternity within his jurisdiction, and has therefore merited the unqualified reprehension of this Grand Lodge.

“Resolved, That upon his return to this State, from which he is now temporarily absent, Grand Master Hyam be requested to permit the R. W. Deputy Grand Master to discharge the functions of Grand Master during the remainder of the present Masonic year.

“Resolved, That the Grand Lodge request each Lodge under its jurisdiction to appoint a committee to notify Grand Master Hyam of the proceedings of this Convocation, and to induce him to comply with the terms of the foregoing resolution.”

A reply to these proceedings, from Grand Master Hyam, has been also examined. He fully answers every charge that is brought against him; recriminates the authors of the proceedings with acting from malice, and with great ability makes out a strong defence. We should be glad to extract from his reply, but do not find matter of general interest to the Craft not already taken from the report. He contends for his right as Grand Master to make Masons at sight, most strenuously,—denies that he acted under the circumstances stated, or that he improperly received funds therefor. He gives at large a detail of facts, which, if true, go far to sustain him. We are unable to decide between the parties as to the facts, but we believe the doctrine that a Grand Master may make Masons at sight is subject to limitation and regulation by the Grand Lodge, and we cannot say that the Grand Lodge of California exceeded their power in adopting the resolutions set forth above. It is to be regretted that the action was taken at a called session, thinly attended. Such a meeting may have been unduly influenced against him, and it is to be hoped that at the next Annual Communication the subject will be decided with justice, but in kindness of spirit.

INDIANA.—This Grand Lodge, of which M. W. Alexander C. Downey is Grand Master, met on the 24th of May, 5852. One hundred and ten Lodges were represented. The Order appears to be in a most healthy and flourishing condition, but we find little of general interest to the Craft not alluded to elsewhere. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is lengthy, but we trust more accurate generally than in its allusion to this Grand Lodge. They say,—

“TEXAS.—This Grand Lodge met at Henderson, January 20, 5851, and has under its jurisdiction seventy-two Lodges, of which fifty-one were represented.

“The practice of requiring a Brother who may see fit to cast a ‘black ball’ to give his reasons therefor has obtained in Texas, and, as might have been reasonably expected, has resulted in confusion and trouble. In one instance, a Lodge suspended a Brother for voting against a Brother for the Fellow-Craft’s Degree,—and, upon appeal, the Grand Lodge confirmed the suspension. In another Lodge, a rejected candidate was permitted to prefer charges against a member for voting against him. Now, this is all wrong. We have, in another part of this report, expressed our opinions upon this subject, and need not repeat them here.

“The Committee upon Foreign Correspondence made a very interesting report, in which they speak in very flattering terms of our Grand Lodge, and make lengthy extracts from Past Grand Master Deming’s address.”

We concur that this is all wrong, if true. We have searched for the evidence of its truth in our past Proceedings, but cannot find it. Our Brethren have read rather too hastily.

OHIO.—This Grand Lodge is ably presided over by M. W. Grand Master William B. Hubbard, and met in October, 5851. The Grand Master delivered an able and lengthy address. It contains a record of his official acts,—an example worthy to be followed,—and contains matter of great interest, most of which is touched on in our report. Among other things, he says,—

“Deeming that the high prerogative of ‘making a Mason at sight’—that is, at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master—should be exercised, if at all, with great care and circumspection, I have, in cases where I deemed it safe for the Order to exercise it, nevertheless requested and obtained the written consent of the Lodges within whose jurisdiction the applicants resided, to the conferring of the Degrees, and then caused the Degrees to be conferred in a regular Lodge. Yet a case might occur in which I would deem it my duty to exercise this ancient and high prerogative, and make a Mason at sight, without the intervention of a Lodge, or other assistance.”

There were one hundred and seventy-five Lodges represented. A report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Bro. H. L. Hoemer, is able and interesting. We are pleased to find that they take the same view of most questions discussed with ourselves. The following paragraph in reference to their correspondence with New York evinces the right spirit:—

“In concluding their observations on this subject, your Committee would observe that the Grand Lodge of Ohio will never claim that she is above or beyond the instructions of the Grand Lodge of New York, or any other Grand Lodge of the Union. She recognises the right of mutual effort in this respect, and is as ready to receive, in the kindly spirit of brotherly love and charity, reproof for her errors, as to inflict it, in the same spirit, upon others. But when this right, which under any circumstances should be exercised with delicacy, is severed from its fraternal connections, and used to dictate, to ridicule and to abuse, it deserves the open and undisguised reprobation of the whole Fraternity. In her independent character, the Grand Lodge of Ohio is entitled to equal respect with the other Grand Lodges of the nation; and, when she ceases to command it from any of her sisters, she would be false to herself and to all the principles of the ‘great institution,’ if she failed to notice it, and adopt proper measures for her protection.”

Masonry is evidently in a healthy and prosperous condition in Ohio, and we congratulate our Brethren there. The energy and zeal manifested are worthy of all praise. The amount of dues received for 5851 was \$5882. The mileage and *per diem* system prevails there, and the amount paid out on this account was \$5375 63.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Proceedings of this ancient Grand Lodge, sent us in print, are contained in a pamphlet of only twenty-one pages. It consists of the addresses of Past Grand Master William Whitney, and the present Grand Master, Anthony Bournonville, with a list of Grand Officers and Committees. From the address of Past Grand Master Whitney, we learn that the Grand Charity Fund consists of stocks and money of the value of \$5862, the income of which is specially set apart for the relief of the widows and orphans of deceased Masons. The Grand Lodge has also control of a large fund called the “Girard Bequest,” from which an appropriation for charity, of \$2000, was dispensed the last year by the Trustees. The receipts of the last year on the General Finance Account was \$20,606. Expenses, donations, &c., \$20,182. From their account, we perceive that the Grand Lodge receives dues from Lodges, Chapters and Encampments. It seems strange to us that a Grand Lodge should have any control over Chapters and Encampments, but we suppose that it is the result of some agreement between the several bodies.

From the address of Past Grand Master Whitney we make the following extract:—

“My wish has been, while I have presided over this Grand Lodge, not to lay

out or establish any new channels through which might flow in gentle streams the benefits of our Order, but to follow in the long and well-beaten paths, and to maintain the same unimpaired, which were marked out with so much wisdom and care by those who have long since gone to their eternal homes, and which have been perpetuated from generation to generation down to the present time. That encroachments and deviations have been made by some, in former years, in regard to many of the ancient usages and customs of the Order, all must admit. It should be the sincere wish and desire of every true Mason to live up to, follow and be governed by the principles inculcated by our Order, and to walk in accordance with those rules which, if strictly adhered to, will make us all better men and Masons while we sojourn here upon earth, and render us more acceptable to Him who forever presides in the Grand Lodge above, and to whom we must all acknowledge obedience and submission.

"Let us, then, one and all, endeavor so to work and live, while on this earth, that all our doings may be such as shall at last gain us admittance into that Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect and Builder of the Universe forever reigns.

"I think I can truly say that at no former period of the history of our Order in this State has our institution been in so prosperous and flourishing a condition as we find it at the present time. Numerous applications have been made for the revival of old Warrants, as well as for granting new ones, in various sections of our State. The recent public procession which took place in this city, and which was highly creditable to the Order, it is believed, has given an additional impetus to Masonry, and no doubt will be the means of producing an additional desire in the minds of hundreds, if not thousands, to be initiated into our mysteries and become members of our subordinate Lodges. In my last address to you, one year since, I then recommended that the Lodges could not be too cautious, or guard too rigidly their portals, as to whom they admitted among them. I may be permitted again to repeat this caution.

"The qualifications of every applicant cannot be too rigidly examined, and none should be admitted who do not possess, to the fullest extent, all the qualifications requisite to make them useful and valuable members of our Order. The greater number of members a Lodge can obtain does not, of necessity, make her the most useful, or, of necessity, add to her prosperity. I cannot but think that there is, even at this time, more danger of some of our Lodges breaking down from having too many than from too small a number of members.

"There is another circumstance to which I would here beg leave to refer,—viz.: The practice prevailing among some members of the city Lodges, when they have been disappointed in obtaining office, to emigrate to other Lodges, with the sole intention of obtaining preferment in the Lodge to which they may go. Let me say to the Brethren that this practice is all wrong, and I feel it to be my duty to urge upon the officers and members of the various Lodges, to discourage this bad practice as far as possible. The Ahiman Rezon, in reference to this matter, speaks as follows:—'No set or number of Brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the Lodge in which they were made Brethren, or were afterwards admitted members, unless the Lodge becomes too numerous; nor even then without a Dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy.' "

And from that of Grand Master Bournonville the following:—

"Whatever difference of opinion there may exist as to any subject agitated in this Grand Lodge, it should never be forgotten that the sacred tie which binds our hearts together in the mystic circle of brotherly love and affection admits of no discord; whilst it should ever be uppermost in our minds and hearts, that the first claim an erring Brother has upon us is that beautiful token of Masonic excellence, CHARITY. I should be derelict in what I consider a conscientious discharge of my duties were I not to refer to an important though delicate subject, which has ever been a matter of anxious solicitude with me. Spread as our ancient Brotherhood is over the entire inhabited globe, it

would be a matter sincerely to be wished that steps be taken to establish perfect Masonic relations and recognition with all the children of this beloved family. Would it not comport with the high dignity and position of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to take some steps in this matter, and bring the strayed children of Masonic faith in Continental Europe into one fold? May the wise and experienced Brethren of this Grand Lodge ponder on this subject, and propose some practical action with regard to it! Nor should we be idle and stand aloof, when portions of the Masonic Fraternity in our own country are momentarily separated by honest differences of opinion, which can be removed when the warm and kind hand of Masonic love is stretched out to reunite them."

KENTUCKY.—This Grand Lodge sends us a well-printed report, of one hundred and eighty-eight pages, of which one hundred and eleven contain returns of two hundred and fifty Lodges, with register of their members. An address of Grand Orator S. D. Mitchell occupies fifteen pages. It is eloquent and able, and we regret that our limits forbid us to extract copiously.

M. W. Thomas Ware is the present Grand Master, and P. Swigert Grand Secretary. The Grand Lodge met in August, 1852. Grand Master C. G. Wintersmith delivered a beautiful address, from which we make extracts:—

"I deem it my duty to call the earnest attention of the Grand Lodge to an opinion, I fear, too general, and which is sometimes carried out in practice. It seems to me that the regulation requiring the lapse of one month to intervene before action is had upon petitions for initiation or advancement ought to be rigidly enforced. I have had—though announcing here, at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, my fixed determination not to grant Dispensations unless in cases of most manifest emergency—very numerous applications for such Dispensations. Some of them stated no reason at all; some of them asked an abrogation of the rule entirely, by requesting an open Dispensation, to be filled up at pleasure; and some of them were based upon what I conceived a violation of Masonic propriety. As some of these may again occur, I will state them. They said that the applicant had resided long in their vicinity, was a gentleman of good character, and had lately determined to go to California, or some other distant section of the country, upon a business-excursion, or for purposes of settlement, and before he went was desirous of receiving the Degrees of Masonry. Now, I am slow to impute improper motives to men; but it struck me very forcibly that such a man would come awkwardly to a Lodge, seeking admission and declaring that he was uninfluenced by motives of self-interest, but prompted by a desire to assist in the great design of the institution, arising from a favorable opinion, long conceived or maintained, of its excellence. I thought, probably, that he was waiting until he saw how Masonry would be directly beneficial to himself, in his contemplated journeyings, or, if indeed a higher motive induced action, long delayed, he would be rather unskilled to be sent out as a missionary. Such applications, entertaining the views I did, I could not grant.

"Some of the Lodges disregard the regulation requiring time to intervene previously to advancement after initiation; and some of them dispense with an examination of the candidate in open Lodge, or in any other way. Surely Brethren do not reflect upon the consequences which would flow from such a course if generally adopted. It cannot be expected that either intelligent or attached Masons can be made in this way. Precipitately hurried through from one Degree to another, without becoming proficient in the rites and ceremonies into which we have been inducted, and unimpressed with the beauties of the precepts and doctrines thus allegorically, or rather symbolically, presented, our conceptions of them must be vague and undefined. We are so constituted that we cannot love that of the excellence of which we are ignorant, or which appears to us hazily mystic. Those thus passing on, little taught and less learned, are generally but illiterate smatterers in the workmanship,—thoughtless of the

grand design portrayed, when understood, by every part of every ceremony and emblem, and unimbuéd with the deep and consoling and noble spirit which, like an ethereal and heavenly thrill of love, pervades our whole system. The result is, they become indifferent and non-affiliating, and, ceasing altogether to contribute either to the knowledge, brotherly love, or charity of the Order, drones of the hive, forget they are members of it, except when distress or want of assistance drives them pleading to its bounteous almonry. The Lodge indulging in such practices may flourish for a while, but then it will droop and sink away into the mere shadow of a name; for I can conceive of no greater cause of blight to such an institution as ours than the existence among us of a large class of non-affiliating Masons. On the contrary, if no candidates were permitted to advance until they manifested that they were thoroughly versed in the ceremonial and imbued with the sentiments of the preceding Degrees, they would be diligent to learn them, and, knowing them, would love them with perpetual and increasing fervency.

* * * * *

"In the course of the past year, one who was a Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge,—whose genius and intellect have brilliantly illumined the pages of his country's history, who has occupied a very large share of public attention, upon whose eloquence listening senates and multitudes have hung enraptured, who has everywhere been a distinguished champion of the rights of humanity,—after a long life and illustrious career, yielded up his spirit to the God who gave it, and has departed to that bourne whence none return. Profound and deep were the sensations which thrilled the bosom of this nation and the civilized world when it was announced that HENRY CLAY had 'closed his bright eye' upon the things of earth. Let us, mingling in the universal grief and mourning of the vast host of the friends of the advancement of humanity, pay such tribute to his memory as may become his illustrious character and our venerable Order.

"GEORGE WASHINGTON was initiated into Masonry in Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, Virginia, on the 4th of November, 5752, and was made a Fellow-Craft in March, and a Master Mason in August, 5753. The centennial anniversary of these dates will occur before the next convocation of this body. All the events connected with the life of this most remarkable and peerless man are invested with a peculiar interest. To his character history furnishes no parallel, and around his memory cluster the ever fresh, bright and effulgent rays of a perpetual halo of glory. The mention of his name everywhere blanches the cheek of the despot and swells the heart of Freedom's votary. It is the homage which all men pay, as if impelled by its magic, to superior virtue. Yet such a man deemed it honor to be a Free Mason, and a member of a society, as he said, 'whose liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice.' Well, indeed, might this be so; for liberty, virtue and right ever found a friend, and despotism, vice and wrong ever found an enemy, equally in Washington and in Free Masonry. I submit if the occasions referred to ought not to be celebrated by our Order with appropriate honors."

The report of the Foreign Correspondence Committee is brief, but able and discriminating, only presenting new matters not before acted on by the Grand Lodge. We make one extract, in which we fully concur:—

"Your Committee deem it not improper to invite the special attention of the Grand Lodge to an evil which exists to an alarming extent among the Craftsmen of this Masonic jurisdiction. They allude to non-affiliated Masons, and to Masons who, though nominally members, never, or very rarely, attend the meetings of the Lodge. This subject was presented at your last Annual Communication, in manner as follows:—'Non-affiliated Masons, or those who have ceased to be members of Lodges but still are entitled to the benefits and privileges of the Order, are exciting a good deal of attention. Some Lodges have

gone so far as to impose a tax on them.' 'The right to be free from taxation, unless the individual is represented,' or the political axiom, that 'taxation and representation go together,' we consider to be as well settled a Masonic as a political truth; and we cannot conceive that any such right exists. Nevertheless, we see the evil and deplore it. There are too many of these drones, who do not work, pay no taxes, and yet claim the right to the benefits of the Order."

The finances of this Grand Lodge should be large. The receipts for dues, &c. amounted to \$8269, but the mileage and per diem system deducted over \$2000, other expenses about \$6000, leaving a balance of \$208.

The Masonic college appears to be in a prosperous state. We rejoice to see the efforts of our Brethren in this noble cause of educating the children of Masons attended with great success. It will richly repay the Grand Lodge by its fruits for all her care and solicitude.

NEW YORK.—The Proceedings of this Grand Lodge are contained in a record of one hundred and eighty-four pages, neatly and appropriately prepared. The annual meeting was held in June, 5852, M. W. Grand Master Oscar Coles presiding. He has been succeeded by M. W. Nelson Randall, present Grand Master. A glorious mantle has fallen upon him: may he worthily wear and adorn it! There are about two hundred Lodges under this jurisdiction, of which one hundred and eighty-three were represented. The troubles which have afflicted this Grand Lodge, and which still cripple her resources, do not prevent her progress, nor hide the bright light of her well-informed members. It is impossible to read these Proceedings without deriving profit and pleasure from them. The annual address of M. W. Oscar Coles is a model of chaste language and lofty sentiments.

The Grand Lodge, by resolutions, presented jewels of value to Past Grand Masters Willard and Milnor, in token of esteem and the value of their services. The ceremonies of presentation were delightful to read of, and the reality must have been glorious. An address was delivered to each by Grand Master Coles, in presence of the Grand Lodge, and each replied. It is lovely to see Brethren thus honoring each other.

It gives us pleasure to learn that the Grand Lodge has restored R. W. Robert R. Boyd, former Grand Secretary, to the privileges. His conduct, while under punishment for an offence of which he declared he was unintentionally guilty, manifested the true Masonic spirit, and, we doubt not, contributed to his restoration.

The following proposition, made by W. Finley M. King, presents matter of serious import for mature consideration. It was not finally acted on by the Grand Lodge:—

"*Resolved*, If the several Grand Lodges within the United States, or two-thirds of the same, shall concur that all matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in any of the said Grand Lodges, or between two or more Grand bodies of the same Order, which cannot by their own action be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of, shall, if the importance of the case or the common welfare of the Fraternity demand it, be submitted, with accompanying evidence and documents, to the several Grand Lodges, in their individual capacities; and the concurrent decision of two-thirds of the whole number, officially communicated, shall be held authoritative, binding and final on all parties concerned."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is, as usual, full of interest and information. It is prefaced by R. W. Jarvis M. Hatch who, acknowledges his indebtedness to the services of R. W. Bro. Powell, the Grand Secretary, for material assistance, and says, "To his delicacy, taste and discrimination the reports owe many and valuable modifications."

We first thank the Brethren for their brief notice of our humble report in 5851, and make the following extracts from theirs:—

"We understand it is proper to adjourn, declare adjourned, close and call from labor to refreshment,—that all four forms of ending the active labor of a Lodge
Vol. I.—39

are proper and Masonic. The propriety of each depends upon the occasion and the circumstances. Every Lodge has its stated meetings; that is, those stated or appointed in the By-laws, or required or fixed by a Grand Lodge. At the end of one of these, and at the end of a special or called meeting, when every thing is done which the Lodge have to do, the meeting should invariably be *closed*, and *declared closed*, by the *Master* or presiding officer; and no one of the other forms is proper to that occasion. If, *during* such a meeting, it is desired to cease active labor for a short period, for the purpose of rest or refreshment, or for any cause whatever, to be resumed again the same day or evening, it is then proper to call from labor to refreshment; and it is the only case in which that form is proper. It is a form that is proper and Masonic *during* a session, but never at the *end* of a session. If the intermission is to be over the same day or evening to another, to finish the work on which the Lodge is engaged, and for which there is no time at that time, or to do some other work pertaining to the same session, and which might then be done, if there was time or the materials were ready, then it is proper and Masonic to *adjourn* the Lodge to that other day or evening, and for the Master or other presiding officer to declare it so adjourned; except for cases of special emergency, of which every Brother must have notice. A Lodge, in that sense, is but a session or meeting of a body of Masons; and the Lodge, session or meeting is in that case adjourned as to time of action, but it is a continuation of the same meeting or session, though on a different day. The minutes of each day should be made and signed separately; and those after the first should be headed 'Adjourned Meeting' and be kept in all other respects the same as of a stated meeting, and separately signed as such. But the minutes need not be read at an adjourned meeting, unless desired. They should be read, with those of the first meeting, at the next *stated* one, and be then duly approved. At the end of the labors of an adjourned meeting it should be *closed*, and so declared by the Chair, unless it is desired further to adjourn it. *But no stated or called meeting can be adjourned beyond the hour of the next regular or stated meeting.* If the business is unfinished, and if it pertains to that session particularly, the meeting may be adjourned to the hour of the next regular meeting, and then finished before opening the regular meeting appointed for that hour. But the adjourned meeting must be duly *closed* before opening the other. A Grand Lodge is but an aggregated Lodge, and the same rules apply to it. Whenever a call from labor to refreshment is proper *during* the day or evening in a Grand Lodge, an adjournment is proper, *instead* of the call from labor to refreshment. The only difference is, that the latter is *indefinite* as to the time to be consumed in the recess, while the former is definite. In the latter case, the Craft are to be called to labor by the presiding officer or Junior Warden, when he thinks proper; but in the former—that of adjournment—the time is fixed, and every Brother informed of it, and he returns to labor without call. In such case, the adjourned hour is named at the time of adjournment, and the Lodge is to recommence labor (without the forms of opening and closing) at the adjourned hour; and so on, from day to day, during the session. Calling the Craft from labor to refreshment can seldom be proper during the session of a *Grand Lodge*; but adjournment is always so, until the time to close, at the end of the session. The practice of calling from labor to refreshment is derived from the former custom of having tables spread and food and drinks supplied in the ante-room, or at a hotel near by, to be partaken of *during the session*. That is a practice now generally abolished in America, but which is continued in England, France and Germany. And, since we have wisely abolished the custom, we ought to abandon the name also.

"We are sticklers for ancient forms, so far as they are obligatory or essential; but there is no warrant for claiming that this custom of calling from and to labor, and to and from refreshment, is an old Jewish custom, or any more ancient than English *habits*. *Hilarity* was the origin of it, and not the retirement of the Craft from labor to *regular meals*. And it is absolutely certain that

the Junior Warden, under whose supervision the Craft are said to be during the hour of refreshment, and who calls them off and on, was *unknown in Masonry* until A.D. 1716. No Masons' Lodge, earlier than that, had any Junior Warden; and, consequently, it is a mere modern fiction that it was a *practice at the building of Solomon's Temple*. Hiram Abiff was Warden of the work at the Temple, but not Junior Warden. And the traditionary manner of his death shows that he had nothing to do with superintending the Craft at their meals. He was 'custos laborium,' 'custodien de 'la loge,' Warden, or General Overseer of the Lodge, or the work going on,—or, as we call him, 'Operative Grand Master.' But we make this explanation only to correct an erroneous idea of many, that he, as Junior Grand Warden, had the superintendence of the Craft at refreshment as well as labor, and called them off and on. It is likely they went off and on at the regular hours, which were regularly instituted by the custom of the country, or by King Solomon, and were well known to all mechanics, and others; as, for instance, 'low six, high twelve and six at evening,' or, as the modern Jews worded it, 'the third, sixth and ninth hour,'—corresponding to morning, noon and evening, six, twelve and six, as still practised. The first mention of a Junior Warden in Masonic records of any description is 1723.

"The Grand Master of North Carolina admits what he considers a variance, in this respect, from old forms, to be *unimportant*. He says, 'These, though *apparently unimportant* changes, are, nevertheless, changes, and, as such, at variance with that principle of inviolable uniformity upon which the utility and perpetuity of our Order must depend.'

The Committee state that their "attention has been called to a practice, in some Lodges, of appointing a Master *p. t.* at a meeting where the regular Master and Wardens are absent; and even, in some cases, when the Wardens are present." This practice they decide to be wrong, and correctly say that none but present or Past Masters, or the Wardens of a Lodge, can preside over a Lodge. That "the Warden of another Lodge, as such, cannot. He must be a Past Master. And, to entitle any one else than the regular Master or Wardens of a Lodge to preside in it, the Lodge must be called together by the Master, or, in his absence, the Wardens in succession; and the chair can only be taken on their invitation. We would add, that the Master or Warden must himself first open the Lodge, before he can put another person in the chair. It follows that a Lodge cannot be opened unless one of those officers is present, except by the authority of one of the elected Grand Officers, in behalf of the Grand Lodge, acting officially, in her name.

"A practice exists in this State, by which the Master, when compelled to be absent, personally requests and authorizes some particular Past Master of that same Lodge to take the East when the Lodge has been opened by the Warden, and there is work to be done which the Warden, through inexperience, may be unable to do; and, in such case, on the request being made known to the Warden, that officer customarily waives his own privilege, and joins in the request, and thus the work of the Lodge is not retarded. We know, too, that, in practice, the Wardens generally, when the Master is absent, invite a Past Master to take the chair at once and open the Lodge for them. The reason of the rule is, that every Lodge should be opened in the form familiar to it; and the reason of this practice of our Wardens is, that the Past Masters of that same Lodge are always familiar with its own form of opening. And, in our experience, the form varies somewhat in every Lodge,—at least as much as the work does. There are scarcely any two Lodges, in any part of the country, that open, work or close exactly alike. The difference, however, is slight and unimportant."

Commenting on the address of M. W. Bro. Douglass, of Florida, they remark:—

"He says a Lodge U. D. 'cannot make By-laws;' and that 'Brethren made in a Lodge U. D. have not the right of voting until regularly admitted to membership after the Lodge is *chartered* and *constituted* by the Grand Lodge.' He quotes the editors of the *Miscellany and Magazine* as agreeing in this opinion.

If so, the practice of most Grand Lodges is wrong. But it is not long since Bro. Mackey decided that unanimity is not requisite in balloting for candidates; which opinion he has since corrected, upon a more full examination; and we think he will live to change this one in regard to Lodges U. D. We agree, with the editors of the *Masonic Review* and the *Signet*, that a Lodge U. D. has all the powers, for a limited time, of a Chartered Lodge, except those of electing a Master and Wardens, and being represented in Grand Lodge. They may form and adopt By-laws, admit adjoining members, make Masons, try and suspend or expel them, elect or appoint all officers, except the Master and Wardens, dispose of their funds in purchasing necessities, and in charities, and commission a Delegate, Representative, or proxy to the Grand Lodge, to look after their interests and present their Dispensation, By-laws and records, and their application for a Charter; but such Representative is not a member of the Grand Lodge, nor entitled to be present at the opening, nor the election, nor any more so at other times than is necessary to enable him to attend to the business he is sent upon; and he is entitled to pay from the Lodge, but not from the Grand Lodge.

"Bro. Douglass quotes Laurence Dermott, as 'an accomplished Mason of the last century,' in support of his views. Dermott is a writer of no authority: he belonged to a spurious Grand Lodge, and he does not, in the quotation made, or elsewhere, sustain the views of the three able individuals whose opinions have been cited on this question; but, if he did, he is so far from being 'an accomplished Mason,' that he was, in his lifetime, only regarded as an adventurer who emigrated from Dublin to London (after being made in Dublin) in order to better his portionless fortune and gain notoriety. The first he did not effect; the latter he did fully accomplish, at the expense, however, of the peace of the English Fraternity for forty-one years, (1772 to 1813), and at the cost of being universally looked upon as an interloper among English Masons. He was the greatest Masonic impostor of his own times, and has been the cause of more evil to the Craft in the United States than any other *British* Mason whatever. Besides, Dermott's book is a mere patchwork. There is nothing original in it but its falsehoods. This may be deemed harsh language, especially of the dead, but it is every word true, and he died unrepentant of the evils he had caused and the slanders and falsehoods he had uttered, and under an expulsion by the regular Grand Lodge of England,—which expulsion was never removed, so that we are at liberty to speak of him as we think and as the truth requires. Dermott, instead of being an accomplished Mason, adopted and persisted in errors of all sorts; built up a spurious Grand Lodge; introduced the Arch Degree into the Lodges; changed the word of the Master Mason; introduced changes in the signs and grips, and new and unheard-of signals and words, and new tests on examination; introduced the fallacy of Past Masters having seats as honorary members by courtesy in Grand Lodges, and gave them a right to speak and make motions, and finally a right to vote, in order to keep up the numbers at his meetings; and, finally, remodelled and greatly changed the written Constitution.

"All this he pretended to have received from the Grand Lodge at York, which ceased to work in 1787, gave up its existence in 1788, and, deceived by his pretensions, solemnly made over its powers to him, confirming his Grand Lodge Constitution, without knowing what it contained. He succeeded in deceiving the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and induced them to enter into written correspondence with him. He got a Scotch nobleman, then in Parliament as one of the Scotch Peers, the Duke of Athol, to take the office of Grand Master, and continued it in the same family, descending as the dukedom descended; for he could get no English nobleman to accept the honor, although he tendered it to several, who all indignantly refused. He introduced the Royal Arch into Ireland, by conferring it on Irish Masons in London; but the Irish and Scotch Lodges continued to use the old word,—the word of York,—the one now used. He finally got the Duke of Athol elected Grand Master in

Scotland, and, on his visiting the Grand Lodge, it was found that he was not in possession of the true word, and it had to be imparted to him.

"Dermott, in the mean time, never left London; but, from all these circumstances, he gained a wide reputation. Decayed Past Masters flocked to his banner, and helped to fill up his Grand Lodge, attracted by the seat and the vote allowed them, and by the secrets of the Royal Arch, and the pretence of being ancient; and they, in their turn, attracted others, and especially *candidates*, with the promise of more secrets than the true Grand Lodge could give, and in the end, about 1795, his Grand Lodge got the greatest additions, and took the lead for a time, say to 1808. In the mean time he sent out deputations to the East Indies and many of the American colonies, especially New York, Boston and Charleston, and by that means introduced his errors into the New World, where they flourished vigorously until 1814, after the Union of 1813 in England, when the Master's word of the ancients was dropped, and the Royal Arch separated from the Lodges. In the mean time he had manufactured the Degrees of Past Master, Mark Master and Super-Excellent Master. The system, in England, is mixed with his novelties to this day; and through him Templarism was engrafted on the English and Irish Lodges. So great was the success of his humbugs, that his books reached five editions in America and ten in London; and yet one can neither gather the history or character of the *institution*: all he can get is the *character*, but not the *history*, of the Grand Lodge of the pretended ancients."

In relation to tests, they say,—

"Perhaps we may be allowed to suggest a test that is not additional, that would, in general, serve to detect impostors who have no Grand Lodge certificate,—viz.: 'Under what Grand Lodge does your Lodge act? Who is its Grand Master, and who its Grand Secretary?' Or, 'When does your Lodge meet?' The first question, if answered correctly, would surely detect; and even the second would be likely to, as our Grand Lodge Directory, published by Assistant Grand Secretary Shove, and sent to all the Grand Lodges in correspondence, gives the place of meeting of each Lodge. However, in general, the name of the Lodge alone will detect an impostor, because the list of Phillips's Lodges is pretty thoroughly discriminated."

In reference to members of a Lodge petitioning for Dispensation to form a new one, and its effects on their membership, they say,—

"We do not think the membership of petitioners is *suspended* at all,—and this with entire deference to the opinion of the able and intelligent author of the Secretary's report; nor that it is changed or affected by the fact of petitioning, until the Dispensation is granted. From the date of the Dispensation, according to the practice of some, and from the date of organizing under the Dispensation, according to the practice of others, their membership ceases in their old Lodge, and they become members of the new one under Dispensation. We care not which of these dates is regarded, but one of them must be, in our judgment. On learning that the Dispensation is granted, they should pay their dues to the old Lodge up to the time of actual withdrawal, whether it be the time of paying, or a later or earlier time. But, whether they do pay them or not, the Secretary of the old Lodge should enter in the Lodge books, in the registry of members, if there be one, the fact of their 'ceasing to be members of that Lodge, by the granting of a Dispensation to form a new one, for which they were petitioners,' and inserting the date of the Dispensation, or of organizing the new Lodge; and the payment or non-payment of their dues, the amount and time, so that, in the next return to the Grand Lodge, they may be returned as withdrawn, and the true date given. This true date, we think, is the *date of organizing under the Dispensation*. In that way the Grand Lodge gets all her just dues, and the subordinates also; and there is no suspension or membership in abeyance. If the dues are unpaid, the Secretary should look after them, ask for them and get them, or report the delinquents to the old Lodge, which may, in some States

and countries, suspend them for non-payment of dues, and in others merely censure, or in others strike the name from the roll,—in disgrace, of course. In such case, the facts, and all that is done, should be reported to the Grand Lodge, and the new Lodge be fully informed in writing, under the seal of the old Lodge, in the usual way of certifying matters to be communicated to other Lodges. And they, the new Lodge, may themselves suspend or censure the delinquent, or strike him from their roll. Thus, both Lodges may act upon the case, or the new Lodge may pay the dues, and charge them to the member on their books, and require him, at a later day, to pay them, if they wish his services and wish to save him from censure. The Grand Lodge may consider, on the report of the old Lodge, the fact of such conduct a good objection to granting a Charter to such a petitioner, and may grant it to the others without him, if there be seven others free from objection, or refuse it entirely."

Owing to the omission of our report last year, no allusion has yet been made to the union between the Grand Lodge and St. John's Grand Lodge of New York, on the 27th of December, 1850. Though late, we must express our heartfelt satisfaction at the event, and leave it to the hypocritical to find causes of objection. Its object and its result was harmony, and, like charity, covers a multitude of sins. We concur with the Grand Lodge of Virginia, when they say,—

"In New York, much has been done to conciliate and bring back to the legal rule and government of the Grand Lodge those erring members who had established within that great State another Grand Lodge, under the name of St. John's Grand Lodge. In December, 1850, the beautiful and imposing ceremony, which was referred to in the last report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence as *about* to take place, brought the two pre-existing Grand Lodges, and the members of each, together, and resulted in the acknowledgment of one common Grand Lodge. Since that period, more order, wise discipline and harmonious action have prevailed with the great Masonic body of New York than for many years previous had existed. We most cordially congratulate our Brethren of that State, and all good Masons, on this happy event. The past should be forgotten, and only a bright future looked to and hoped for."

The following also presents a pleasant picture:—

"We have to report to the Grand Lodge that Masonry continues prosperous, and to extend itself, in all lands. It has received a large increase the past year, in number, strength and character, in the United States of America, embracing a large increase of Lodges and charity funds, and one independent Grand Lodge,—that of Oregon. It has also received a decided advance in Europe and Asia, by the increased patronage of the Royal Houses of Denmark and Sweden, at the North; of Prussia and Bavaria, in the centre; of France, in the South, of Sardinia and Lombardy; and of the Sultan of Turkey, in the East,—all of them permitting and encouraging the spread of the institution among their people, and in some instances actually presiding in it, and giving it the sanction of their personal example and favor.

"It has also extended considerably, under the patronage of the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, in the southern and eastern portions of Asia, on the continent of New Holland, and in the islands of the sea. A Provincial Grand Lodge has been established at New South Wales, and entered into correspondence with the Grand Lodge of California; so that the chain, brightened in every link, has in the years 1850, '51 and '52 extended itself around the whole earth. Among so many Lodges, the sun ever shines upon the Brotherhood in some part of the world, and the gentle light of the moon, or that of the stars, constantly smiles radiantly upon the work in the Lodges in some of these many countries. There, in each of them, upon the altar, lies the Bible, and there God is acknowledged. There the square teaches its lesson, and the compasses circumscribe desire. At the foot of those altars kneel the penitent worshippers; and by them stand the representatives of Truth,—the divine attribute which is the founda-

tion of every virtue,—teaching the cardinal rules of life, our duty to the Supreme Grand Master, our fellow-men and ourselves, and pointing to the great revelation which lies open before them, as the chart of our whole duty to God and man. Thus may it long continue! Thus may it ever be!”

MASSACHUSETTS.—This ancient and venerable Grand Lodge met in December, 5851, M. W. Edward A. Raymond presiding, who declined re-election, and was succeeded by M. W. and Rev. George M. Randall, present Grand Master. After his installation, Past Grand Master Raymond delivered an eloquent address to his successor and the Grand Lodge. From it we extract the following:—

“MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER:—I should be justly chargeable with dereliction of duty if I were to take my seat without first congratulating you on your attainment to the high official dignity with which your Brethren have now honored you. They have with great unanimity, and, in my judgment, with great wisdom, placed you at the head of the first Grand Lodge ever established on the American continent.

“It is a station that, with a personal exception, has been for more than a century worthily and honorably filled by Brethren of high moral and intellectual worth,—Brethren, some of whose names equally illustrate the history of our country and the annals of our beloved institution. And while, sir, you will not esteem it impertinent in me to say that the place can never fail to reflect honor on whoever worthily fills it, you will permit me also to add that your zeal for the institution, your attachment to its great principles, your tried fidelity to its established laws, and your acknowledged abilities, are a certain guarantee that your administration of its duties will reciprocally reflect honor on the place.

“At no period, during the last quarter of a century, could you have been called to the high station you now occupy, under circumstances more flattering, more encouraging, or more auspicious of a prosperous and happy administration. All around you is at peace. Our Brethren are united, and brotherly love prevails throughout our borders. If the jarring sounds of discord are heard at a distance, they are not permitted to disturb our peaceful labors. The only strife which we recognise as Masonic, or fitting for Masons to be engaged in, is the strife of emulation in good works,—of ‘who best can work and best agree.’”

“The three years which I have had the honor to preside over this Grand Lodge have been years of increasing prosperity. In the graphic words of the inspired poet, we have literally ‘lengthened our cords and strengthened our stakes.’ The number of our Lodges has been increased from fifty-eight to sixty-nine; while others, whose names have been long borne upon our rolls as maintaining a merely nominal existence, have been revived, and are at work, under circumstances which promise much future success and usefulness.

“What has been the acquisition to the number of our Brethren during the same period I am not precisely informed. It must, however, have been very considerable. The returns of the Lodges from year to year have indicated a steady increase of work. The returns for the past year have more than realized my most sanguine anticipations, and manifest a degree of prosperity in the Lodges—particularly in those located in the interior of the State—not less gratifying to me than it must be encouraging to them and to the members of this Grand Lodge.

“But, Brethren, while it is proper that we should rejoice, and be thankful to Him who directs our destinies and in whose infinite mercy and goodness we humbly ‘put our trust,’ for those manifestations of His power and approval of our labors, let us not forget that the hour of prosperity is often the hour of danger. When all around is bright and beautiful as a summer morning,—when the winds and waters repose in silence, and the murmurings of the tempest are not heard,—*there is danger*,—danger that, through too great confidence in the

stability and perpetuity of that which is now pleasing to the eye and to the senses, we neglect those precautionary measures of security on which alone we can with reasonable confidence rely when the tempest shall come, the winds blow and the waters be agitated again.

"Allow me, then, my Brethren, to admonish you to be ever watchful of your institution. Guard well the doors of your Lodges. Cause strict examination to be made into the character of your candidates. Suffer none to cross the threshold of our Lodges whose reputation is not pure and spotless. Recollect that the future success and usefulness of our institution depend very much more on the *character* than the *number* of its members."

Grand Master Randall's reply is brief. But let it speak for itself:—

"I sincerely thank my Brethren for the honor which they have conferred upon me. It is an honor to any man to hold the office of Grand Master of this ancient Fraternity; it is a distinguished honor to preside over the oldest Grand Lodge on this continent,—the parent of Free Masonry in the New World. I stand here to-night, the youngest, the lowest and the last in that long line of Grand Masters which has come down to us through a period of *one hundred and eighteen years*. On this catalogue are enrolled illustrious names, which would honor the history of any country. I am here occupying the chair once filled by one who left it to go forth to lay down his life on yonder height in the cause of his country's independence.

"On such an occasion, and in such a position, I will not disguise the deep emotion which I feel, arising from the marked distinction which this Grand Lodge have conferred upon me, by which they have not only called me to preside over the interests of this institution, but have constituted me a link in this long and noble Masonic chain.

"About a quarter of a century ago, a terrible tornado swept over this Fraternity, and, in the mad frenzy of its violence, it shut the gates of our temple, so that, for a time, none ventured to seek for admission. 'The wood, hay and stubble' that for years had been gathering about its courts were caught up and borne off on the wings of the whirlwind, far away,—so far that I trust they will never find their way back again. While this hurricane was strong enough to do all this, it was not strong enough to remove, one hair's breadth, the 'immovable jewels' of that temple.

"It was remarked by our Right Worshipful Brother who addressed us on the occasion of our last annual meeting, that, in consequence of the state of things to which I have alluded, 'for twelve or fifteen years very few persons were initiated into our mysteries; consequently, our Fraternity consists, almost exclusively, of old Masons and young Masons. We have scarcely any of the middle-aged or intermediate class. As the old pass away, the responsible charge of the institution must devolve directly upon the young. Heretofore the change has been gradual. The time rapidly approaches when it must be sudden. There is no middle class to receive from their elders, and patiently communicate to their juniors, the fruits of past experience.' Little did our Right Worshipful Brother think that, in the short period of one year, what he predicted as sure to happen at some future time would actually occur by the election to the chair of Grand Master of one of the youngest members of the Fraternity that has ever held this office. In this fact I find a fresh cause of embarrassment. Surrounded as I am by so many older in years and older in Masonry than myself, it is with no little diffidence that I enter upon the duties of this office.

"I must again sincerely thank my Brethren for this expression of their regard and confidence, and I can only assure them that, with His blessing without whose aid all our labors will be in vain, I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of Grand Master to the best of the ability which God has given me."

After the installation of the other officers he again addressed the Grand Lodge, and we extract:—

"To the officers and members of the Grand Lodge have the general interests

of the Fraternity in this State been committed. The duties and the prerogatives of the Grand Lodge are, in a great measure, legislative; they are also, in some respects, judicial and executive. It is the central power of Masonry in the State; and, while much of its business is necessarily of a parliamentary character, it is also strictly Masonic. It becomes us to remember that, while important powers are intrusted to us as legislators, authorizing us to do many things, there are things which we cannot do. While, by our edicts, we may regulate the general affairs of our institution, and by virtue of an executive authority we may require these regulations to be duly observed, we have no power whatever to remove, or to change in any degree, the ancient landmarks of our Order. Our legislation must all be within, and subservient to, these long-established bounds. The principles of our institution are conservative. They are fixed, and we cannot change them without violating our Masonic vows. This power of conservation, arising from adhering to established principles, submission to authority and respect for order, which distinguish this institution, is destined to exert a most salutary influence upon the spirit of the age, whose tendencies are to break away from all wholesome restraints and to run to the most disastrous extremes. It shall be my endeavor, in the administration of the duties of the office of Grand Master, to adhere strictly to the ancient usages of the Order, and to use my influence on the side of the strictest conservatism. While the meetings of the Grand Lodge are almost exclusively occupied with matters of business, yet they are also meetings of a *Masonic Lodge*, and, as such, every thing pertaining to them should be conducted in the utmost Masonic order. At our Annual and Quarterly Communications many Brethren are present from other and distant parts of the State: every thing, therefore, connected with the session of this body, should answer as an example for the imitation of the subordinate Lodges.

"While important interests are intrusted to the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, the prosperity of the institution is, in a very important measure, committed to each individual member. The humblest Brother holds the key of admission in his hands. On every member, therefore, whatever his rank, is devolved the responsibility of allowing or refusing admission to applicants. It is for them to say who shall, and who shall not, become members of the Fraternity. You have been impressively told this evening, by your late Grand Master, that a season of prosperity is a season of danger. I trust that this salutary admonition will be duly heeded. Let every member feel the responsibility that rests upon him, and with moral courage meet and discharge his duty. In the ballot which is placed in your hand reposes a silent but effective power, and you should use it without prejudice, or partiality, or passion,—discreetly, conscientiously and firmly.

"If we would have our institution hold that place in the estimation of the public to which its principles justly entitle it, then we must seek to secure this distinction by the elevated character of its members. While Masonry is *conservative*, to a degree beyond any other human society, yet it may and should be *progressive*: we may advance, and, to be true Masons, we must advance, in all that elevates and ennobles human character. It should be our endeavor to maintain our Fraternity at such an elevation that all who aspire to enter its mystic pale shall be required to ascend, rather than to descend, in order to do it. Let no member hesitate to use the prerogative and power of the ballot when a candidate is proposed who has a questionable moral character. However it may be in other societies, it is enough that a man is a profane swearer, or habitually intemperate, to warrant his silent but prompt rejection from the doors of our institution. How can we consistently permit an individual to enter our pale, where he is taught, first of all, to look to God as the author of all blessings, and to revere His word as the source of divine knowledge, whose tongue is blistered with blasphemy?—and how can we, knowingly, admit within our temple a drunkard and call him Brother? Our principles, not to say a

sense of self-respect, imperiously require us to guard our doors against all who will not be an honor and an ornament to our ancient Order.

"There are two species of qualifications,—moral and intellectual,—which should be required of all candidates; and, in guarding and promoting the interests of this institution, a due regard should be had to both the mind and the character of the applicant. The officers of subordinate Lodges should be well qualified for their duties. Without proper qualifications, they cannot expect to discharge their duties satisfactorily or successfully."

Interesting ceremonies took place in the Grand Lodge, on the presentation of an ancient Masonic jewel, said to have been worn by George Washington during the Revolution. It was a jewel appertaining to a Mark Lodge, and was presented by R. W. Bro. Colonel Flores, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Peru. It had come to him from a Polish officer, who served under Washington, and loaned it to him.

At a special Communication in May, 5852, the Grand Lodge was visited by Bro. Louis Kossuth, of Hungary. Appropriate ceremonies and addresses ensued. Governor Kossuth closed his remarks thus:—

"I am one of the humblest of the Brethren among you, an exile from a distant land; but your kindness, and the generous hospitalities and great attention bestowed on me by the citizens of your magnificent country, I attribute to no merits of my own, but to a generous sympathy in the sufferings of my people.

"M. W. Grand Master and Brethren, I thank you again for these distinguished marks of your kindness. Rest assured, it will be the great aim and effort of my life to walk worthy of the character of a Mason, and to fulfil the duties which devolve, according to his ability and rank, on every member of our noble institution."

The following extracts from a report made by M. W. Grand Master Randall express our sentiments fully, and, though long, will be read with interest and profit. We rejoice to see such sentiments from a Christian minister. They are worthy of him, of his Grand Lodge and of Masonry:—

REPORT.

"The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Jacob Norton and others, professing the Jewish religion, praying this Grand Lodge to cause such changes to be made in the Masonic usages and ritual as will conform the *work* of the Order to what they regard as ancient usage, beg leave to present the following report:—

"The Committee invited Bro. Norton to meet them and express his views on this subject, which he did very fully, candidly and ably. After due and careful consideration, your Committee unanimously recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw. The Committee make this recommendation for reasons which they will endeavor to state as briefly as a respectful consideration of the subject will admit of.

"Your Committee would observe, in the first place, that the petitioners desire that all reference to the fact or to the doctrines of the Christian religion, in the work or in the lectures of Free Masonry, should be expunged. The petitioners say in their petition 'that Masonry was intended to unite men of every country, sect and opinion.' This is not so. All reasoning, therefore, upon such premises is erroneous. This society was not designed to 'unite men of *every opinion*.' For example: If a man believe that there is a God, and yet holds that He is not the object of divine worship, is not a Being to whom prayers are to be addressed, that the Bible is not His inspired word, that an oath is not binding, that there is no such thing as a moral obligation to lead a pure life,—he is not a person whom Free Masonry would unite with her institution. And why not? We answer, Because his opinions do not agree with her principles.

"The basis of this Fraternity is indeed broad, very broad, but not so broad as 'to unite all men of all opinions.'"

"Free Masonry opens her doors to men of every country and of every sect in religion,—to Jews and to Gentiles. She does not close her portals against any man for his religion. In this she is tolerant in the fullest degree. The Jews in this country are allowed to enter our institution and enjoy all its privileges, of whatever name or nature. No restrictions whatever are placed upon them because of that religion which has drawn upon them the most terrible persecutions in almost every land but our own. In this Fraternity they are admitted to an equality with all others, and no distinction whatever is allowed to their prejudice. However the Jew may be looked upon and treated in the world, in a Masonic Lodge he is recognised and greeted as a Brother.

"In this sense, our institution is not exclusive, and embraces men of all religions, without invidious or prejudicial distinctions. When the Lodge has done this, she has done all that her professions require her to do. If we did not do thus, our Jewish Brethren would have good cause of complaint.

"The petitioners do not pretend that they are oppressed in this respect,—that they are not admitted freely and fully to an equal enjoyment of all the privileges and benefits of this institution. But they wish to have the ritual and usages of Free Masonry, as it exists in this State, and as it has existed here since its introduction into this country, so changed that its ceremonial shall be perfectly agreeable to their religious views.

"It appears to your Committee that any alteration for such a reason would be to make Free Masonry do the very thing which the petitioners say it should not do,—viz.: *make the society sectarian*. For if a Jew have a right to require the work of the Lodge to square with his peculiar views, so may a Romanist or a Protestant make the same demand. A Quaker may object to any obligation; the Deist may object to all prayers; the Swedenborgian, to all reference to the doctrine of the resurrection of the body; the Papist, to the use of an English version of the Bible; the Mormon, to the use of any Bible at all. The Socialist may object to the rule of obedience, and the practice of preferment, and to all distinctions whatever. When Free Masonry professes to receive into her pale men of every religious sect, excluding none on account of their religion, she does not mean to stultify herself by pretending that all her lectures and ceremonies are so constructed as to please every individual by exactly according with every shade of his religious views. Such a pretension would be sheer folly, since no institution can do this, and no honest society would pretend to do it.

"What this institution does profess to do is to exclude no man from her pale because of his religion,—to make no invidious distinctions between men of different religious sentiments. If she compelled a Jew to offer up a prayer in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, or compelled a Christian to pray differently from the mode of his faith, then there would be oppression. If a Jew prays at all, she leaves him to pray as he thinks most proper; and the liberty which she allows to a Jew she allows to a Christian. To permit a Jew to pray as he pleases, and to compel the Christian to pray as the Jew does, and only as the Jew does, would be wrong and oppressive. An Israelite believes that he should pray to the Most High alone; the Christian believes, as sincerely, that he should offer up his prayers in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and he cannot conscientiously pray in any other way. The Jewish Brother says, I cannot be compelled to pray in a way which is contrary to my conscientious belief. Very well: in this institution nobody requires him to do so. But he is not satisfied with this degree of liberty. He demands that the Christian shall pray as he does, or else not pray at all. The Christian replies that it is as much against his conscience to neglect to pray in the name of Christ as it is against the conscience of the Jew to pray in His name.

"If the Grand Lodge should pass an edict requiring all prayers to be in the Jewish form, and in no other, then it would be guilty of violating the assurance

which the candidate receives at his initiation. It would be making a distinction which would be oppressive. The true and just course is the one which this Grand Lodge has ever pursued, and that is, to leave this matter entirely without legislation. The Jew and the Christian, of whatever creed, is allowed to offer prayer in the form which he deems the most acceptable to the Most High. No one can be, in this matter, aggrieved, who is neither required to pray in a particular form, nor required to pray at all, unless he is disposed to do so. Any absolute prescription of a form, on the other hand, by the Grand Lodge, would be an infraction of the principles of the Order.

"A compliance, therefore, on the part of this Grand Lodge, with the request of the petitioners to instruct the Lodges under its jurisdiction to permit only such prayers as will not conflict with any person's religious opinions, 'provided he has Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity with all men,' would be to make Free Masonry prospective and sectarian,—which is the very thing against which our Hebrew Brethren profess to petition.

"Furthermore, if this petition were to be granted, and the changes made which are desired, where is this change to stop? Can we have only Jewish prayers and yet have a *Christian Bible* upon our altar? Will not consistency require that we should have no longer the great light of Masonry as it has shone ever since its benign ray struck upon this continent, but only *one part* of it,—viz.: the Old Testament,—and that in the Hebrew tongue?

"Again: if this request be complied with, how can we refuse to receive and grant the petitions of others, who are neither Jews nor Christians, who believe in God, but who do not believe in the immortality of the soul? Must we not change our lectures and charges? Must we not fling away the sprig of acacia? Can we keep that precious emblem of immortality when it becomes offensive to the religious notions of one who believes in God but does not believe in the immortality of the soul?

"Where, we ask, is this thing to end? If we should commence the work of change, that we might adapt our Order to the conflicting opinions of all who may enter its pale, it requires no great sagacity to see that the result would be a complete annihilation of this institution.

"Thus far, we have considered simply the inexpediency of making some of the changes asked for by the petitioners. We come now to the question whether this Grand Lodge has the power or the right to make these proposed alterations. On this point your Committee cannot hesitate, for a single moment, to answer this question most decidedly in the negative.

"We have received Free Masonry, with its landmarks,—with all its landmarks,—from England. Among these is the 'dedication to the Holy Saints John.' We have so received it, and we have so imparted it. Our Jewish Brethren request us to change this dedication, and to make such other alterations 'as are consistent with their religious belief.'

"This Grand Lodge can do many things; but there are some things which it cannot do, and to remove an 'ancient landmark' is one of the things it cannot do. If it should pass a vote changing 'the dedication,' it would not only transcend its legitimate authority, but it would do an act which the obligations of the subordinate Lodges would compel them to entirely discard. What they, as Lodges and as individuals, have received, they must impart, and that, too, in the way in which they have received it, and in no other way. Without further discussion, we might rest the case here, as clearly made out, on the ground that the Grand Lodge have no authority whatever to grant the request of the petitioners, and, if they should do so, it would avail nothing, since the obligations of the members of the subordinate Lodges would impel them to resist any such ordinance of the Grand Lodge.

"But for the satisfaction of our Jewish Brethren, whose petition is couched in the most respectful terms, we are willing to go a step behind this position, and briefly refer to the historical aspect of this question.

"Dr. Anderson, together with others who were constituted his associates, drew up a series of Lectures for the use of the Lodges. These were widely disseminated, and constituted an authentic digest of the pure and legitimate doctrines of Masonry. These lectures formed the basis of all succeeding ones; and, says Dr. Oliver, throughout the whole series, the Saints John are named as the patrons of the Order. They accompanied all the Warrants which were sent to foreign parts; and we accordingly find that, at that early period, in every country of Europe where Masonry was planted under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, the Lodges were called by the name of St. John.

"When Masonry was revived in 1717, and these lectures were authorized by the Grand Lodge of England, we have no reason to doubt that the landmarks were then pure and unchanged. As an illustration of what was then held touching the subject under consideration, we quote the following question, which occurs in their lectures:—

"Q. 'From whence came you?'

"A. 'From the holy Lodge of St. John.'

"This is an unequivocal testimony of the first Grand Lodge, under the revived system, to the fact that Lodges were dedicated to St. John.

"In a formula used a little later than the middle of the last century, which was called 'the Old York Lecture,' the two Saints John occupy a prominent situation. The following is an extract:—

"Q. 'To whom were they [Lodges] dedicated under the Christian dispensation?'

"A. 'From Solomon the patronage of Masonry passed to St. John the Baptist.'

"Q. 'Why were the Lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist?'

"A. 'Because he was the forerunner of our Savior, and, by preaching repentance and humiliation, drew the first parallel of the gospel.'

"Q. 'Had St. John the Baptist any equal?'

"A. 'He had:—St. John the Evangelist.'

"Q. 'Why is he said to be equal to the Baptist?'

"A. 'Because he finished by his learning what the other began by his zeal, and thus drew a second line parallel to the former,—ever since which time, Free Masons' Lodges, in all Christian countries, have been dedicated to the one or to the other, or both, of these worthy and worshipful men.'

"Says Dr. Oliver,—

"In the original lectures compiled by Sayer, Payne and Desaguliers, and improved by Anderson, Desaguliers and Cowper, in the reviewers of Dunckerley and Martin Clare, twice repeated, and in the extended rituals of Hutchinson, Preston and others, which were in use down to the reunion in 1813, and by some Lodges even to the present time, 'the Saints John occupy their place as the patrons of Masonry: no link in the chain of evidence is broken; for in no one ritual, whether *ancient* or *modern*, which was in use during the whole century, were they omitted.'

"It was a law of the English Grand Lodge, established in 1721, that the Lodges in and about London and Westminster should hold an Annual Communication on St. John the Baptist's day, or else on St. John the Evangelist's day.

"But that this was no new custom, no innovation upon ancient usage, is evident from a historical fact. It is stated that Queen Elizabeth sent an armed force to break up the Annual Grand Lodge at York, which was always held on the day of *St. John the Evangelist*; when Sir Thomas Sackville, the Grand Master, induced the officers to be initiated, and their report to the Queen was so satisfactory that she gave them no further disturbance. Thus it appears that more than one hundred years before the revision of Masonry, by the Grand Lodge in 1717, the Grand Lodge of York observed the festival of St. John the Evangelist.

"This custom, it is said, has existed from time immemorial, in proof of which Dr. Oliver refers to a copy of the old Gothic Constitutions, which was produced

at a grand festival on St. John's day, in the year 1663, before Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Alban's, Grand Master.

* * * * *

"When Masonry was in the custody of the Jews, there is no doubt that Lodges were dedicated to Solomon. But after the destruction of the Temple at Jerusalem and the dissolution of the Jewish polity, both civil and ecclesiastical, Masonry naturally fell into the hands of Christians. From that time to this, our tradition is that they were dedicated to the Saints John, and no historical facts have been, or can be, adduced to show that tradition in this respect is erroneous.

"We have no evidence that there have been any Lodges but *Christian Lodges* since the destruction of Jerusalem. The Jews have not been in a situation to hold Lodges. They have had no country, no home, no nation, no government. They have been flying from one country to another, seeking to escape from the persecutions which everywhere pursued them. That they have maintained their existence as a race, dispersed as they have been over the earth, is a miracle, which proves, if nothing else did, that they are the ancient people of God, and that their condition for the last eighteen hundred years is a fulfilment of divine prophecy.

"Free Masonry did for them what few if any other societies were willing to do. They were virtually outlawed in many countries, and in scarcely a single Christian nation were they admitted to the enjoyment of the full privileges of citizenship. Even in England, at this very day, they are debarred from holding a seat in Parliament. In some of our own States they are not eligible to hold any civil office, and yet nowhere upon the face of the earth do they enjoy so much of privilege, or are they so well treated, as in England and the United States. Under such circumstances, this institution, true to its principles as a cosmopolitan society, opens its doors to them and permits them to enter its pale, if they desire to do so, with the assurance, if they do, that they shall be hailed and treated as Brethren; that there shall be one spot which they may call home, where they may dwell in safety and in peace, where they shall enjoy all its immunities and privileges, eligible to any office, entitled to all the benefits which the Fraternity have covenanted to extend to each other. This was a very great favor, and we have no doubt that our Israelitish Brethren have esteemed it as such.

"To the best of our information, it was not until about the middle of the last century that the Jews were admitted into Free Masonry, with the exception of their connection with spurious Lodges on the Continent,—as Masonry was then understood and practised.

"Up to about the year 1754 there was no authorized form of Masonic prayer in use in the Lodges in England. The Prayer-Book was then a text-book of the Lodge. The Master was left to his own discretion in this particular, although the general practice was to select an appropriate form from the Liturgy. About this time the Jews were first admitted into the English Lodges: they very naturally objected then, as they object now, to the use of the forms of Christian worship. These objections, being yielded to by some of the Masters, led to irregularities in the devotional services of the Lodge Room. But this did not meet the approbation of the old and eminent members of the Order, who were desirous of transmitting to their successors the forms and lessons of Masonry as they had learned them. In order to set this matter right by authority, Dr. Manningham, then Deputy Grand Master, in connection with Dr. Anderson, drew up a prayer, to be used at the initiation of candidates, and laid it before the Grand Lodge at London for its sanction, by which it was immediately adopted.

* * * * *

"This historical incident clearly proves two important facts:—that previous

to the year 1754 the English Lodges had been accustomed to use prayers taken from a Christian Liturgy, and, secondly, that the admission of Jews into the Fraternity caused a discussion of the propriety of such prayers, which resulted in a decision of the Grand Lodge, by which a Christian form of worship was adopted.

"It is very evident, from what has been said, that all the Masonry which the world has known any thing about, since the destruction of Jerusalem, up to about one hundred years ago, has been Christian Masonry; that is, Free Masonry in the hands of Christians, conducted by them after a manner which has recognised, in some form or other, the fact and the authority of the Christian religion. Yet it does not exclude persons who are not Christians. It requires belief in God, as an indispensable qualification. Professing that, if there be no objection to the candidate as wanting in other qualifications, he is admitted. In this sense we have received no other kind of Masonry, and we can transmit no other. At the building of the Temple, the society was mainly in the hands of the Jews; now it is mainly in Christian hands, but open for Jews as well as Gentiles. It is confined to no sect and to no nation. We trust that this Grand Lodge will be the last to do any thing to change the ancient landmarks of the Order, to circumscribe its influence, to restrict its usefulness, to render it national or sectarian, or to commence, in any form or for any purpose, the mischievous work of innovation upon its well-established principles. For these reasons, and for others which might be named, the Committee recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw."

We have also received the Proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, a volume of three hundred and eight pages. It appears that Prince Lucien Murat is the present Grand Master. He is, we believe, a grandson of Marshal Murat, of France, who was King of Naples, and a son of Citizen Achille Murat, formerly of Florida. We beg to refer the Proceedings to some Brother more familiar with the French language than ourselves.

Among the many events of good and evil with which our Masonic life for the past year has been chequered, we are called to pay one tribute at the shrine of departed worth, and unite our voice in the cry of sorrow which has gone up from our sister Grand Lodges. Each Grand Lodge has its own peculiar cause of grief for the loss of some shining light of their number; indeed, many are the bright ornaments which have been removed from their places by the unerring hand of Death; but among them all the Grand Lodge of Kentucky has lost a lofty pillar of strength and beauty, whose fall brings with it the universal lamentation of the whole Fraternity. The M. W. Grand Master of Kentucky, Bro. C. G. Wintersmith, thus beautifully announces it:—

"In the course of the past year, one who was a Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge,—whose genius and intellect has brilliantly illumined the pages of his country's history, who has occupied a very large share of public attention, upon whose eloquence listening senates and multitudes have hung entranced, who has everywhere been a distinguished champion of the rights of humanity,—after a long life and illustrious career, yielded up his spirit to the God who gave it, and has departed to that bourne whence none return. Profound and deep were the sensations which thrilled the bosom of this nation and the civilized world, when it was announced that HENRY CLAY had 'closed his bright eye' upon the things of earth. Let us, mingling in the universal grief and mourning of the vast hosts of the friends of the advancement of humanity, pay such tribute to his memory as may become his illustrious character and our venerable Order."

The Grand Lodge duly responded to this appeal by the adoption of the following resolution, which has been certified to our Grand Secretary:—

"Resolved, That the subordinate Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, in the State of Kentucky, and throughout the Union, be requested to subscribe

such amount as in their discretion they may think proper, to aid in the erection of a monument over the remains of our late worthy and esteemed Brother, HENRY CLAY, of the City of Lexington, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and that said subscriptions be forwarded to Henry T. Duncan, President of the 'Clay Monumental Association,' Lexington, Ky."

It is to be hoped that this resolution will be fully and nobly carried out in action, by the erection of a monument worthy of the world-wide reputation of our departed Brother, the orator, statesman and Christian gentleman. Whether we honor ourselves by thus honoring his memory, or neglect this noble work, yet there are thousands of the good and true who will ever rejoice in the faith that the pillar fallen on earth has been raised to the Eternal Temple above, where such as he have gone before.

In this connection we cannot refrain from alluding to the appropriate honors with which the centennial anniversary of the initiation of GEORGE WASHINGTON as a Mason has been celebrated in most of our sister Grand Lodges. In all, without exception, has this been done, where the Grand Lodge convened in season to take order on the subject. It is to be greatly regretted that in our jurisdiction the matter was not presented in time to secure a general observance of the day,—although our Grand Master authorized the several Lodges to do so, but too late to insure concert of action. The Grand Master of Kentucky thus refers to the occasion:—

"GEORGE WASHINGTON was initiated into Masonry in Fredericksburg Lodge, No. 4, Virginia, on the 4th of November, 1752, and was made a Fellow-Craft in March, and a Master Mason in August, 1753. The centennial anniversary of these dates will occur before the next convocation of this body. All the events connected with the life of this most remarkable and peerless man are invested with a peculiar interest. To his character history furnishes no parallel, and around his memory cluster the ever fresh, bright and effulgent rays of a perpetual halo of glory. The mention of his name everywhere blanches the cheek of the despot and swells the heart of Freedom's votary. It is the homage which all men pay, as if impelled by its magic, to superior virtue. Yet such a man deemed it honor to be a Free Mason, and a member of a society, as he said, 'whose liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice.' Well, indeed, might this be so; for liberty, virtue and right ever found a friend, and despotism, vice and wrong ever found an enemy, equally in Washington and in Free Masonry. I submit if the occasions referred to ought not to be celebrated by our Order with appropriate honors."

The Grand Master of New York, M. W. Oscar Coles, thus nobly speaks on the same theme:—

"A new era in Masonic history is about approaching. On the 4th day of November one hundred years will have elapsed since our beloved WASHINGTON was received as an Entered Apprentice Mason in a Masonic Lodge. In him, during the long and arduous struggle of the Revolution, Masonry ever found a firm and true friend. 'In those days when fathers were dying and mothers were weeping over them, when the wife bound up the wounds of the husband and the maiden wiped the death-damp from the brow of the lover,' when encompassed by disasters and misfortunes which would have broken the spirit of any of mortal mould, save his, when a nation looked to him alone as their protector and support, in his camp, surrounded by those illustrious men for whom some of the brightest pages in the world's history is reserved, it was in a Masonic Lodge he invoked the God of battles to aid him in the accomplishment of his country's freedom. If a grateful people reverence his name, Masons should cherish his memory; for with the advancement of civil liberty, like the banyan-tree of the East, which, defying the lightning and the tempest, from a single root furnishes shade for an army, so has Masonry, nurtured amid the tumult of camps and the clashing of steel, spread itself over the breadth of our land, until the sound

of the gavel is heard wherever the shrill echo of the woodman's axe resounds through the forest. Were it another than a Washington we seek to honor, we might be charged with a sectional violation of the old landmarks of our time-honored institution; but, although born of us, and the Father of our Country, his fame belongs to the world. No nation has ever refused him honor, and the united voice of the whole earth has proclaimed him Great and Good. It is for his goodness Masonry honors him; it is for the estimable qualities of the heart, so portrayed in him, she reveres his memory; and, still viewing him as one of the best and noblest of her defenders, his name will never be forgotten by us until time shall be no more. It is for you to determine how we shall best evince our respect for our illustrious Brother."

Passing from these topics, in which our feelings of sorrow are so mingled with emotions of joy that we scarcely know whether we grieve for our loss, or exult over the glorious examples and the bright hopes which those examples afford, we feel constrained to call your attention to subjects in which grief is unalleviated by any sufficient counterpoise. It is with heartfelt sorrow that we have to allude to the continuance of strife, or to the existence of new discord, in the Masonic family. We are *Brethren*, and among Brothers there should be no strife, except that glorious emulation of "who can best work and best agree." In the building of the Temple "there was not the sound of axe, hammer, or any tool of iron heard in the house while it was building:" so, in our moral temple, no discordant sound should be heard. But alas! the "tongue is an unruly member," under the control of the evil passions of men. It is a tool of iron, whose harsh notes so clash and resound in parts of our building, that the spirit of peace seems wellnigh ready to take its flight and leave us with no good designs on our trestle-board; or, rather, that board and its teachings seem to be cast aside among the rubbish, or overwhelmed by the ruins of the temple.

These remarks are induced by the report of continued discord between the Grand Lodge of New York and the spurious body claiming that title,—by the controversies between that Grand Lodge and other Grand Lodges, resulting from their action on the schism of 1849, and the intrusion on that Grand Lodge, and her jurisdiction, by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg,—and the renewal of discord in Louisiana.

We shall, as briefly as the subjects will permit, review these matters, and, in doing so, endeavor to be candid and frank in our judgment, yet *fraternal* in our spirit and manner. It will be borne in mind that at our Thirteenth Annual Communication, in January, 1850, this Grand Lodge emphatically decided that the only Grand Lodge in New York which it could recognise was the body then presided over by M. W. John D. Willard,—subsequently by M. W. Bros. Milner and Coles, and now by M. W. Nelson Randall. A large majority of our sister Grand Lodges decided the same way, and we have seen no cause to change our position, after careful examination of the reports from California and Mississippi, which latter has changed her position. The Grand Lodge of England is now on the same side. Ohio took neutral ground, in the report on the subject, which was accompanied with a resolution refusing to acknowledge either body as regular,—which was equivalent to declaring both clandestine, at least in its practical effect. It appears that the report was "agreed to" by the Grand Lodge, but no separate vote taken on the resolutions. The New York Grand Lodge complained of this, or commented on it. Afterwards, the Ohio Grand Lodge offered its mediation between the two New York bodies, which was declined. Now, at its last Communication, the Ohio Grand Lodge adopted a resolution that it would "*continue* to recognise the Grand body known as the Willard Grand Lodge," and, "*as heretofore*," have no communication with the other. The Committee, in their report, and the Grand Master, in his address, take the position that the Grand Lodge of Ohio had never adopted the resolution refusing to recognise the Grand Lodge of New York, or the arguments of their

committee, who offered the resolution; although the report was "agreed to." Upon this action the Committee of Correspondence in New York make a report of eight closely-printed pages, criticizing very sharply and severely the whole proceedings, arguing and contending, in a harsh spirit, that they were right in their construction of the former action of Ohio, and virtually accusing her Grand Master and Committee of prevarication, and of being influenced by selfish and improper motives in their previous conduct.

Now, whatever may be our judgment of the action of Ohio, whether she or any other Grand Lodge is bound by a report which is "agreed to" generally, (and we are free to say we think such *agreement* made the *principle* of the report, not its arguments, their own,) yet it seems to us in exceeding bad taste for the New York Committee to enter on a discussion of their reasons for changing their ground. Certainly they should be glad that their sister Ohio had at last got right and had recognised them, without quarrelling with her as to the mode in which she had done so. The Brethren of Ohio were doubtless sincere in their desire to do good and act rightly, and they were entitled to their opinion. We doubt not that the Grand Master, who is a most excellent Mason, and the late Committee, were honest in their belief that the Grand Lodge was not bound by its agreeing to the report of the former committee; and when the Grand Lodge itself affirms that construction, it is put beyond question that they did so understand it. In the name of peace, Brethren, what more is desired? Ohio now is on the right side: be content, and cease criticism and severity. This close cutting and splitting of hairs will one day bring with it retribution. The Grand Lodge of New York herself is not free from comment, if she is to be judged by the letter of the bond, or the exact language used by her committees and officers.

The schism among the Fraternity of New York, created by the difficulties in 1849, still exists to some extent. At a special Communication (or *Meeting*, as they call it) held on the 16th October, 5851, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"Whereas, after the unhappy difficulty which occurred in the Grand Lodge of this State in the year 1849, eventuating in the formation of another body claiming to be a Grand Lodge, each party appealed to the Grand Lodges of the world, setting forth the circumstances and facts connected therewith, and soliciting their opinion thereon;

"And whereas nearly all of the Grand Lodges of the United States, the majority of those of Europe, and recently the Grand Lodge of England, have, with great unanimity, emphatically recognised and sustained this Grand Lodge, as the only true and legally-constituted Grand Lodge of this State, and have, at the same time, earnestly advised and urged those who withdrew from among us to return to their allegiance, and again unite themselves with the 'Sons of Light;'

"And whereas we are led to believe that a convention of members of certain Lodges, hitherto under our jurisdiction, have evinced a disposition to comply with the aforesaid recommendation of our sister Grand Lodges: Therefore,

"*Be it Resolved*, That, in accepting the just and important decisions of our sister Grand Lodges, we deem it imperative to accept the whole, and not a part of their friendly counsel and support; and being, furthermore, ardently desirous of restoring harmony to the entire Masonic Fraternity of this State,—

"*Resolved*, That each and every person expelled, by name or otherwise, for matters connected with the difficulties of 1849, be, and they are hereby, restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry; *Provided, that within sixty days from this date they acknowledge allegiance to this Grand Lodge.*"

Under this, St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and five others, also several Brethren, returned to its allegiance; and on the 3d June, 5852, at the Annual Communication, the action taken was confirmed, on motion of M. W. Bro. Willard, as follows:—

"Whereas, doubts are entertained by many as to the constitutional power of the Grand Lodge, at a quarterly or special meeting, to adopt the resolution vitally affecting the interests of the whole Fraternity of the State, which was adopted on the 16th day of October last, in relation to the Lodges that were separated from us in consequence of the events of 1849, and the persons whom the Grand Lodge, at its annual meeting, expelled by name, on account of their participation in these events:

"Resolved, That said resolution be, and it is hereby, confirmed, so far as it relates to the Lodges and persons who complied with its provisions within the sixty days specified therein; and we cordially welcome them into the Fraternity.

"And whereas David Booth, as this Grand Lodge has reason to believe, intended in good faith to comply with the provisions of said resolution, but from a mistake as to its meaning has failed to do so: Therefore,

"Resolved, That said David Booth be, and he is hereby, restored to all the rights and privileges of Masonry, provided he shall, within twenty days, deliver to the Grand Secretary a recognition of this Grand Lodge, written in such form as the Grand Officers shall approve."

We are further informed that there are now only seventeen Lodges, or parts of Lodges, adhering to the Seceders, or Phillips's faction; and from the tone of the Grand Lodge proceedings we infer that no further effort will be made to restore them, because, as the Foreign Correspondence Committee say, they are not good materials for the building.

A difficulty of an important nature has arisen between the Grand Lodge of New York and that of Hamburg, upon which it becomes every Grand Lodge of America to speak out plainly. The principle involved in the case is simple, well known, and, we had supposed, universal. It is certainly so in America, but, *as it seems*, not so in Europe. It is this: That no Grand Lodge has a right to interfere or exercise any Masonic jurisdiction whatever in the territory already embraced by another Grand Lodge. A contrary rule would subvert all order and government, and must be resisted at all hazards. It seems that Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, of New York City, holding its Charter under the Grand Lodge of New York, became dissatisfied with the authority of the Grand Lodge; but what special subject of complaint it had, we are not advised. It appears to have arisen from the fact that the members of that Lodge were Germans, who desired to be in closer relations with a Grand Lodge of their own language, which worked according to their particular rite. Whatever the cause, that Lodge petitioned the Grand Lodge of Hamburg to grant them a Warrant, and refused allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New York. The Hamburg Grand Lodge granted the petition and issued the Warrant. An earnest remonstrance against this was addressed to that Grand Lodge by the Grand Master of New York, but it was unheeded, and the Grand Lodge of Hamburg persisted in its action. Whereupon the following action was taken by the Grand Lodge of New York:—

"Resolved, That the body formerly known as Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, be, and the same is hereby, declared irregular, and all Masonic intercourse with them prohibited. And whereas the Grand Lodge of Hamburg has refused to accede to our affectionate remonstrance against granting a Warrant to Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, all Masonic intercourse be, and the same is hereby, suspended between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, until she recalls said Warrant.

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and a copy of the last resolution to Pythagoras Lodge, and demand their jewels, books, papers and other properties."

In this course we think our New York Brethren are fully justified. It was due to themselves, and to the rights of every Grand Lodge in America, and

every one should sustain them by decisive action. Several who have spoken have done so. A report to the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which was approved by that body in suitable resolutions, thus speaks:—

“Your Committee cannot hesitate to regard the act of Pythagoras Lodge, in dissolving its connection with the Grand Lodge of New York, and declaring itself independent, as an act of mere rebellion against the only authority that it could rightfully acknowledge, as subversive of true Masonic principle, and in plain and undisguised violation of every Masonic duty and obligation. The whole subject, however, acquires its alarming importance from the act of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, aiding, abetting and assuming to protect Pythagoras Lodge in its flagrant dereliction from the path of moral as well as Masonic rectitude. No principle is better settled than that which prescribes that no territory ought to be, nor can rightfully be, covered by more than one supreme jurisdiction. This principle was promptly acknowledged and sustained by the Grand Orient of France, in disclaiming and disavowing the action of La Loge Française, in the City of Richmond, which assumed to organize itself within the jurisdiction of Virginia, under a supposed authority of the Grand Orient of France.”

And, in reference to this, the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky say,—

“We cannot too strongly express our disapprobation of such ‘foreign interference.’ What would our Brethren of Hamburg think of our Grand Lodge, if some of her subordinate Lodges rebelled against her authority, set up for themselves, and, wishing to have some show of legality, should apply to this Grand Lodge for a Charter, and we should grant it, and thus encourage a parcel of disorganizers to set her authority at defiance? Would they consider that we were acting on that great Masonic as well as Christian rule of ‘doing unto others as we would they should do unto us’? We know nothing of the merits of the controversy between Pythagoras Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York; but we do know that no subordinate Lodge may, by resolution, dissolve its connection with the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction it is, and thus seek foreign protection. Let it present its grievances in the regular constitutional way, and in the true spirit of Masonry and republicanism abide the result.”

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the resolutions on this subject, appended.

The troubles in Louisiana, to which we have alluded, arise out of their former controversies, which were healed over by a compromise, and, as we had hoped, buried in the ocean of oblivion forever. A brief statement of facts is necessary to its elucidation, which we gather from several sources:—

“The Grand Lodge, on the 10th January, 1833, applied formally in writing to the Grand Consistory for a cession of this authority. It says, ‘Motives of the highest kind for the welfare of the Masonic Order have determined the Grand Lodge of this State to constitute in its bosom a special chamber for the *symbolical* Degrees of Scotch Masonry.’

“Consequently, it begs this Grand Consistory to divest itself of the *right which it has to constitute* Scotch Lodges here, to transfer the same to said chamber, and to give proper information of said transfer to the *Lodges now working under its jurisdiction*, directing them to obey, henceforth, the commands and statutes of the State Grand Lodge in its said chamber.’

“This application was granted on the 28th of January, 1833, by the Grand Consistory: the Charters then held under it, for Scotch Lodges, were returned, and new ones taken from the Grand Lodge; the former body ceased to exercise the power to issue such Charters; and the latter body continued to exercise it until the 4th of March, 1850, when the Grand Lodge, by resolution, formally renounced the further exercise of the power,—and, on the 5th, notified the Supreme Council of its decision. Thereupon the Supreme Council resumed its

exercise; and those three Lodges which had always worked in the Scotch Rite, after a few months, threw up their Charters, and received new ones from the Supreme Council.

* * * * *

"But other facts are connected with it. All are aware of the difficulty which arose in Louisiana in consequence of this concordat with the Grand Consistory. To adjust that difficulty, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, on the 26th of November, 1849, appointed a committee to consider the state of Masonry in that State. They reported, in part, on the 20th of December, 1849, and the Grand Lodge removed the interdict to Masonic communication between its members and those hailing from the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. On the 28th January, 1850, the committee reported a plan of union, which was adopted, and soon after agreed to by the other Grand Lodge, which was ratified and confirmed, and went into effect on the 4th of March, 1850. On the 29th of March, 1850, a committee was chosen to draft a new Constitution, which duty they performed, and reported on the 19th of April, 1850. On the 24th of April, 1850, the Grand Lodge, in considering the report, ordered a convention of Master Masons to be held at Baton Rouge, on the first Monday in June, 1850, to be chosen by the Lodges, and referred the Constitution to that body. The Convention met, and agreed to a Constitution, which was promulgated by the Grand Lodge on the 22d of June, 1850. *The three seceding Lodges were represented in that convention, and their Delegates acceded to the Constitution there framed.*

"Now, on the 29th of January, 1850, the Grand Lodge adopted, as a part of the Articles of Union, the following:—'Nor shall any Lodge be created or constituted by the said united body under any other title than that of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.' This indicated her intention, as a basis of union, to abandon the Scotch Rite, which, on the 4th of March, she did formally abandon; and the Constitution adopted in June still further confirmed this action, and declared that 'it [the Grand Lodge] is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity recognises nothing but pure Ancient Free Masonry, consisting of the three symbolic Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow-Craft and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinction derogatory to the character in which it is constituted.' Also that 'It shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry within this State.'

"The three Lodges decided to withdraw as follows:—The Friends of the Order, October 20, 1850; The Polar Star, November 21; The Disciples of the Senate, December 9.

"It is claimed that they had bound themselves to the new Constitution and had no right to change their allegiance, and that they had consented to the abrogation of the acknowledgment of any other than the York Rite, and the denial of any other authority than the Grand Lodge over the three symbolic Degrees.

"To this the Lodges reply that their Delegates acted contrary to positive instructions, and that the Lodges are not bound by their acts; that the Grand Lodge undertook, in 1833, to establish and keep up within its body a department for the regular administration of the Scotch Rite, but has now abandoned it; that they have never practised any but the Scotch Rite, which differs so much from the York Rite that the provisions of the Constitution adopted at Baton Rouge are inconsistent with its existence; that, while the Scotch Rite acknowledges the other rites as a fundamental and integral part of Masonry, its Constitutions forbid its amalgamation with any other rite.

"Consequently, they claim the right to transfer their allegiance to a body which can constitutionally and consistently govern them in that rite."

From these facts the question arises, Can Lodges of Masons of the Scotch Rite legally surrender their Charters to the Grand Lodge under which they act,

and take out new ones from an authority of their own rite? The Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York say they may; that their surrender of their Charters leaves only their personal allegiance as Masons, and that Scotch Masons are not amenable to a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. However this may be, we shall not now argue the question, but simply state that we do not concur in the conclusion. But it further appears that the "Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite" in Louisiana is not recognised by any other body of that rite in America, England, Scotland or Ireland. The following communication from the Grand Lodge of Scotland to M. W. John Gedge, Grand Master of Louisiana, takes decided ground against it:—

"EDINBURGH, June 12, 1851, 20 ST. ANDREW SQUARE.

"M. W. JOHN GEDGE, *Grand Master*, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

"MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER:—Your circular of 1st March last was laid before the Grand Lodge of Scotland, at its Quarterly Communication, on 5th ultimo, and was then remitted to the Grand Committee to be answered.

"I now, therefore, in terms of instructions from the Committee, reply to the queries contained in the circular referred to.

"1st. No Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Scottish Rite can lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry *within the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge*.

"2d. The fact of such spurious societies being constituted as Lodges of the *Scottish Rite* can make no difference to Brethren belonging to St. John's Masonry.

"3d. Lodges organized in the manner noticed in your circular—viz.: by a Supreme Council, established in a country already possessing a Grand Lodge or other recognised Masonic authority—cannot be acknowledged as legitimate; neither can members initiated under such organization be received in a Grand Lodge, or acknowledged by Brethren regularly initiated, by virtue of Warrants emanating from a Grand Lodge practising the three symbolic Degrees known as St. John's Masonry.

"I may mention that a Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree exists in Scotland, but it is debarred from interfering with any Masonic authority *previously constituted*; and, were members of that Supreme Council so to interfere, they would be violating their allegiance to the Grand Lodge to which they owed fidelity before entering into those higher grades which are altogether ignored by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

"M. W. Sir and Brother, I have the honor to be fraternally yours,

"J. LINNING WOODMAN,

"*Clerk Grand Lodge of Scotland.*"

This appears to us to settle the question; for, however lawful it may be for the seceding Lodges to take out Charters from an authority of their own *rites*, that authority must be legitimate and legal itself, in order to transmit lawful authority to others. The root being rotten, the branches must be unsound; the foundation gone, the superstructure must fall. Nor can it be said that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, having recognised the existence of the Supreme Council, is precluded now from denying its authority. This may be good law in regard to contracts between men, where there is no fraud or mistake; for there no one is interested but the parties. Not so in regard to Masonic authority and jurisdiction. The whole Masonic family is interested in preserving every part of it pure and keeping each body in its own sphere of action. The recognition of a clandestine Lodge by another would never bind that other always to recognise it after discovering its error; nor would any part of the Masonic world be bound by its act of recognition. We therefore conclude that

the "Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, etc. etc." in Louisiana, so called, had no power to grant Charters to the seceding Lodges, and that its acts in the premises were encroachments on the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

In closing this report, the Chairman takes pleasure in recording his acknowledgments to R. W. Bro. James Reilly, for his aid in preparing it and making selections,—to whom also the Grand Lodge is largely indebted for similar services in 1851.

We congratulate our Brethren on the prosperity of our Order in this State and throughout the Masonic world. May it continue to progress in its onward and upward course, until Earth's remotest regions are illumined with its light!

PETER W. GRAY,
For the Committee.

[The following report from R. W. H. Chamberlain, District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District, was not received until some time after the close of the Grand Lodge.]

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, December 27, 1852.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

It is a source of sincere regret that I am deprived of the pleasure of attending the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, by a combination of circumstances not under my control. For this neglect I hope to be excused by your fraternal and generous indulgence.

Notwithstanding the unsettled and disturbed state of our frontier, Masonry has continued to prosper, and gather in fresh memorials of public confidence and esteem, while extending its arms of benevolence and truth. Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, sends up her dues, amounting to \$87 75, for the current year. Our glorious centenary in honor of the Father of his Country, and our illustrious Brother, was attended with the best results in the Valley of the Rio Grande. It was the joyful occasion of meeting with several of our esteemed Brethren residing in Mexico, and from other parts of our own happy land.

During our Masonic year, I have granted *eight Dispensations* for conferring *Degrees* to Rio Grande Lodge, No. 81, on application of said Lodge, by unanimous vote of its members, they presenting to me the most satisfactory evidence that the cases were clearly emergent, and such as are contemplated by the provisions of our Constitution. The candidates, also, were all well known and highly esteemed.

As "*a good man and true*," I am under the disagreeable necessity of excepting *one* of these Dispensations from the foregoing description. I am *now* satisfied that the Grand Lodge would not deem my action in this excepted case in accordance with their late decision. I will therefore simply state the facts and plead the sin of ignorance, relying on your justice, mingled with kindness.

The case is as follows: On the 1st of March, by unanimous request of the Lodge, I granted a Dispensation for conferring the *three Degrees* on a candidate (W. W. Dunlap) who had been *rejected by one black ball* some eight months previous. He was a member of the bar, well known and highly respected as a true and trusty man, in this city, by a great majority of its citizens. The Lodge had been deeply wounded by his rejection. The individual was known who cast the black ball, and his *reasons* were deemed wholly unjustifiable. In this light the subject was presented to my mind before I had been made acquainted with the decisions of the last Grand Lodge, and the Dispensation was granted.

The Grand Lodge is not asked to *approve* this action. But, in consideration of the facts above stated, our desire is that the standing of the Brother be *confirmed*.

On one occasion there appeared a disposition on the part of some of our number to encourage the *lectures* of a Brother whose system differs somewhat from that approved by the Grand Lodge of this State. I thought it my duty to interpose my authority and to forbid any such proceedings. If I have erred in thus endeavoring to prove myself a faithful watchman, let my error be pardoned.

With fraternal regards, I remain,

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

H. CHAMBERLAIN,

D. D. G. M. 9th M. D.

P.S.—*Two* of the Dispensations named were for the three Degrees; *four* for the two Degrees; *two* for the first Degree, as will appear on the returns of Rio Grande Lodge.

H. C.

INDEX TO VOL. I.

Act of Incorporation, 197.

Address of M. W. Grand Master Anson Jones, 21.

Branch T. Archer, 51.

Anthony Butler, 87.

Jas. Webb, 129.

N. H. Darnell, 148.

A. S. Ruthven, 199.

E. W. Taylor, 216.

Geo. M. Patrick, 315.

T. J. Hardeman, 381.

W. B. Ochiltree, 470.

Jno. Sayles, 529.

Branch T. French, of District of Columbia, 309.

John D. Willard, of New York, 424.

Bro. Hoit, of Alabama, on the History of Masonry, 448.

R. W. Robt. G. Scott, Grand Orator, delivered in Richmond, Virginia, 435.
extracts from address of Bro. Jos. R. Chandler, 454.

Adjourning, opinions of Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of New York on the subject of, 609.

Affiliation, report of Committee in reference to, 395, 464.

Allen, Bro. E., reply to address of Bro. Anson Jones, 168.

Amendments to Constitution, 187, 202, 204, 384, 390, 392, 405, 417, 418, 482, 494, 506, 516, 542, 557, 562, 566.

Appeal from Panama Lodge to Free and Accepted Masons, 466.

Appointments of Grand Officers for the years 1838, 11; 1839, 42; 1840, 57; 1841, 75; 1842, 98, 113; 1843, 127; 1844, 142; 1845, 162; 1846, 192; 1847, 212; 1848, 250; 1849, 299; 1850, 366; 1852, 506; 1853, 567.

Archer, B. T., address of, 51.

Arnold, Benedict, allusions to as a Mason, 422.

Articles deposited in the corner-stone of the National Monument by the M. W. Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, 293.

Austin Lodge, communication from, 77.

B.

Balloting, report of Committee on, 240.

Bankroft, Munson, report on petition of, 307.

Bengal, communication from Grand Master of Provincial Grand Lodge, 242.

extracts from Proceedings of Provincial Grand Lodge, 242.

Bible, reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence in reference to a belief in, 239, 280.

Butler, Anthony, M. W. Grand Master, address of, 87.

resolutions on death of, 345.

C.

- California, Grand Lodge controversy with Grand Master B. D. Hyam, 601.
 Call, Bro. Isaiah, report of Committee on case of discharge, 86.
 Ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the Washington Monument, 312.
 Ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of a monument erected in Richmond, Virginia, to the memory of Washington, 434.
 Certificates, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence in reference to, 237, 334.
 Chandler, Bro. Jos. R., extracts from address of, 454.
 Chapter, Grand, resolution from, 805.
 opinions in reference to, 284, 330, 461.
 Charges in Constitution of 1848, 254.
 old from Grand Lodge of England.
 Charters granted, 1838, 27.
 Circular from Washington National Monument officers, 339.
 Clay, Henry, extracts from address on death of, 608, 623.
 Clinton Lodge, No. 23, resolutions of, in reference to Bro. Jno. C. Gordy, 582.
 Collingsworth, Jas., report of Committee on funeral of, 37.
 Communication of Grand Lodge,

First Annual,	1838,	11.
Special,		20.
Second Annual,		24.
Extra,	1839,	46.
Third Annual,		47.
Fourth Annual,	1840,	66.
Fifth Annual,	1841,	89.
Sixth Annual,	1843,	115.
Seventh Annual,	1844,	131.
Eighth Annual,	1845,	149.
Called,		177.
Ninth Annual,	1846,	183.
Tenth Annual,	1847,	193.
Eleventh Annual,	1848,	215.
Twelfth Annual,	1849,	267.
Thirteenth Annual,	1850,	314.
Fourteenth Annual,	1851,	379.
Fifteenth Annual,	1852,	470.
Sixteenth Annual,	1853,	528.

 Special Grand, of Grand Lodge of Virginia, held at Richmond, Virginia, February 21, 1850, 434.
 Communication from Temple Lodge, No. 4, 38.
 Austin Lodge, No. 12, 77.
 M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 247.
 New York, 265.
 in relation to Matagorda Lodge, 159.
 from Brethren of Matagorda Lodge, 269.
 Royal Arch Chapter, 112.
 Geo. Fisher, Worshipful Master of Union Lodge, Panama, 390.
 Jackson Lodge, No. 35, 275, 391.
 Lockhart Lodge, No. 59, 392.
 Union Lodge, Panama, 466.
 New Salem Lodge, 492.
 Washington Lodge, No. 18, 233.
 Bro. G. K. Teulon, at Boston, 151.
 Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, 242.
 Jno. C. Gordy, Grand Lecturer, 581.
 Constitution of Grand Lodge of Tennessee, adopted 1838, 12.
 of Grand Lodge of Texas, 14.
 resolutions to amend, 93.
 revised, 1841, 103.
 amendments to, 187, 204, 257, 384, 390, 392, 406, 417, 418, 482, 494, 506, 516, 542, 557, 562, 566.
 report of Committee on Amendments, 193, 516, 549, 562, 572.
 for a General Grand Lodge, 335.

- Connecticut, distinguished Masons of, 421.
 Controversy between Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, 286.
 Vermont and New York, 288.
 Convention for organizing Grand Lodge of Texas, 9.
 Crumpler, D. D., report of Committee in reference to, 243, 244.

D.

- Darden, S. H., Grand Lecturer, report of, 385.
 Darnell, N. H., Grand Master, address of, 148.
 Dashiell, John S., R. W. Grand Secretary, extracts from communication to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, 598.
 Demits, opinions of Grand Master Hobs of Illinois on, 429.
 report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence on, 464.
 Dermott, Laurence, character of, as given in Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, 612.
 Diplomas, report of Committee on, 93.
 resolutions on form to be adopted for, 170.
 Dispensations for Lodges in 1838, 25.
 report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence on, 240, 282.
 Distinguished Masons of Connecticut, 421.
 District Deputy Grand Masters' reports, 150, 151, 272, 341, 382, 389, 396, 474, 479, 495, 502, 533, 542, 548.
 Disturbances in the Grand Lodge of New York, 368.

E.

- Eagle Lodge, No. 41, report of Committee on communication from, 576.
 Education, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence on, 238, 279.
 report of Select Committee on, 304.
 resolution appointing a superintendent of, 249.
 M. W. Grand Master W. C. Dawson, of Georgia, on the subject of, 441.
 of North Carolina, on the subject of, 447.
 resolutions in reference to, 574.
 Educational Fund, report from Superintendent of, 396, 519, 546.
 Election of George Fisher, Grand Secretary, 12.
 of Grand Officers for 1838, 10; 1839, 34; 1840, 49; 1841, 73; 1842, 97; 1843, 126; 1844, 141; 1845, 161; 1846, 191; 1847, 207; 1848, 248; 1849, 298; 1850, 356; 1851, 407; 1852, 497; 1853, 554.
 England, Grand Lodge of, extract from records of proceedings in 1731, 463.
 European Correspondence, report of Committee on, 465.
 Ewing, Alex., report of Committee on case of, 276.
 Expulsion, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence in case of, 376.
 Expulsions, &c. communicated by the several Grand Lodges to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, 586.
 Extracts from Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, 242.
 Bro. Huntton's centennial address at New Haven, 421.

F.

- Fisher, George, election of, Grand Secretary, 12.
 Grand Orator, report of, 292.
 Worshipful Master of Union Lodge, Panama, communication from, 390.
 Fontaine, Edward, R. W. Grand Chaplain, address of, 519.
 Free Masonry, reminiscences of early history of, in Texas, 6.
 French, B. B., M. W. Grand Master of the District of Columbia, address of, 309.

G.

- General Grand Lodge, Constitution for, 335.
 report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence in reference to, 236, 277.
 report of select Committee, 304.
 opinions of G. M. Deming of Indiana, 431.

- General Grand Lodge, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Grand Lodge of Maine thereon, 584.
 Goff, Wm. D., Deputy Grand Lecturer, report of, 389.
 Gordy, Jno. C., Grand Lecturer, communication from, 581.
 resolutions of Clinton Lodge, No. 23, in reference to, 582.
 Grand Officers, style and rank of, 258.
 Gray, W. F., resignation of, 12.

H.

- Hamburg, Grand Lodge of, difficulties between and Grand Lodge of New York, 627.
 Hardeman, T. J., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 381.
 Hardeman Lodge, resolution withdrawing Dispensation, 516.
 Haynie, S. G., report of Committee in cases of expulsion, 83.
 History and origin of Masonry, by Bro. Holt, of Alabama, 449.
 R. W. Edward Fontaine, Grand Chaplain, 520.
 Hoffman, L. C., report of Committee in case of, 300.
 Hoyt, Bro., of Alabama, address of, 448.
 Huntoon, Bro., extracts from centennial address at New Haven, 421.
 Hyam, B. D., Grand Master of Grand Lodge of California, difficulties between and Grand Lodge of, 601.

I.

- Incorporation, report of Committee on Act of, 154.
 Act of, 197.
 Installation of Grand Officers for 1838, 20; 1839, 44; 1840, 51; 1841, 75; 1842, 98;
 1843, 127; 1844, 141; 1845, 162; 1846, 192; 1847, 212; 1848, 251; 1849, 308;
 1850, 366; 1851, 416; 1852, 507; 1853, 567.
 Ives, Rev. C. S., resolutions on death of, 345.

J.

- Jackson Lodge, No. 35, communication from, 275.
 Jews, report from Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in reference to, 618.
 Johnson, Moses, Grand Secretary, reports of, 173, 187.
 Jones, Anson, M. W. Grand Master, address of, 21.
 reception of, as Representative of M. W. Grand Lodge of New York, 166.

K.

- Kelsy, Bro. H. B., report of Committee on death of, 297.
 Kossuth, Bro. Louis, closing remarks on visiting Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, 618.

L.

- Lecturer, Grand, report of Committee on payment of, 193.
 W. D. Smith, reports of, 204, 231.
 Wm. M. Taylor, reports of, 272, 320.
 S. H. Darden, report of, 385.
 H. D. Woodsworth, report of, 477.
 Deputy Wm. D. Goff, report of, 389.
 Peter W. Gray, report of, 575.
 Letters between M. W. Grand Master Wm. Stedman and R. W. Grand Secretary A. S.
 Ruthven, on publication of Proceedings, 3.
 of George Washington, 438.
 of M. W. Grand Master John Sayles, recommending Bro. J. C. Gordy to
 subordinate Lodges, 582.
 List of expulsions, &c. published by Grand Lodge of Maryland, 586.
 Lockhart Lodge, No. 57, communication from, 392.
 Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, 265.
 Lottery, resolution in reference to, 114.
 Louisiana, Grand Lodge of, communication from, 247.
 difficulties with, 628.

M.

- Making Masons at sight in England, 463.
 Marshall Lodge, report of Committee on loaning funds to, 568.
 Maryland, Grand Lodge of, list of expulsions, &c. published by, 586.
 Matagorda Lodge, communication in relation to, 159.
 communication from Brethren of, 269.
 report of special Committee on communication from, 271.
 McFarlane Lodge, report of Committee on surrender of Charter, 156.
 Members, original of Grand Lodge, 20.
 Missionary Charity Fund, report of Committee on, 467.
 Montgomery Lodge, report of Committee on proceedings of, 184.
 Montrose, M. A., report of Committee on petition of, 214, 223.

N.

- Neill, Andrew, Deputy Grand Master, reports of, 483, 539.
 New Salem Lodge, communication from, 491.
 New York, Grand Lodge of, communication from, 265.
 list of Grand Officers, 265.
 Lodges under jurisdiction, 265.
 report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence in reference to, 367, 625.
 Nichols, E. B., Grand Treasurer, report of, 487.

O.

- Ode, Masonic, sung on the union of St. John's Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York, 427.
 Old charges from the Grand Lodge of England, 254.
 Oregon, Grand Lodge of, organization, 600.
 Organization of Grand Lodge of Texas, 20.
 Origin and history of Masonry, by Bro. Hoit, of Alabama, 449.
 R. W. Edward Fontaine, Grand Chaplain, 520.
 Original members of Grand Lodge of Texas, 20.

P.

- Panama Union Lodge, report of Committee on, 467.
 appeal to Masons of, 469.
 communications from, 390, 466.
 Past Masters, laws in England regarding, 369.
 resolutions recommended by Committee on Foreign Correspondence, 371.
 opinions of M. W. W. R. Smith, of Wisconsin, on, 461.
 Past Master's Degree, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence thereon, 285, 333.
 Patterson, Jno. T., report of Committee in case of, 158.
 Patrick, Geo. M., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 315.
 Petition from Palestine Lodge, 560.
 Physical qualifications of candidates, report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence thereon, 239, 281, 329.
 report of select Committee, 304.
 report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Florida thereon, 444.
 Power of Grand Masters to make Masons at sight, 462.
 Powers and privileges of Grand Masters as understood by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 603.
 Preface, 5.
 Procession of Grand Lodge in Washington, 180.

R.

- Reception of Bro. Anson Jones as Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New York, 166.
 Reception of the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas by the Grand Lodge of New York, 175.
 Recommendation of Committee on Foreign Correspondence to compile the records of the Grand Lodge of Texas, 334.

Regalia, report of special Committee on, 306.

Reminiscences of Free Masonry in Texas, 6.

Report of Committee on Domestic Correspondence, 31, 91, 194, 296, 514.

of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, 83, 91, 136, 155, 168, 209, 248, 277, 327, 361, 376, 420, 465, 563, 583.

of Committee on Credentials, 476, 537, 544, 548, 549, 552, 558.

of Committee on By-laws, 32, 60, 69, 128, 133, 136, 164, 196, 210, 215, 228, 245, 349, 398, 400, 411, 415, 498, 503, 509, 515, 576, 577.

of Committee on Petitions, 58, 61, 138, 139, 190, 203, 325, 352, 356, 358, 361, 394, 409, 410, 417, 484, 490, 498, 513, 514, 541, 544, 558, 563, 571.

of Committee on Returns of Lodges U. D., 209, 245, 270, 290, 301, 323, 393, 400, 410, 482, 484, 490, 493, 496, 502, 550, 554.

of Committee on Returns of Chartered Lodges, 137, 189, 196, 207, 214, 245, 295, 303, 306, 324, 348, 365, 372, 394, 398, 405, 408, 483, 492, 494, 509, 538, 545, 554, 561, 578.

of Committee on Finance, 65, 82, 95, 101, 125, 128, 136, 195, 210, 213, 230, 294, 309, 362, 374, 402, 405, 511, 572.

of Committee on Grievances and Appeals, 299, 350, 359, 411, 499, 508, 545, 552, 558, 566.

of Committee on Grand Officers' Reports, 504, 514, 569.

of Committee on subordinate Lodges, 117, 128, 137, 191, 209, 210, 225, 227, 245, 249, 357, 406.

of Committee on Constitutional Amendments, 193, 516, 549, 562, 571.

of Committee on Case of Jno. T. Patterson, 158.

of special Committee on report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence, 235, 303.

of special Committee on communication from Matagorda Lodge, 271.

Grand Lodge regalia, 306.

correspondence relating to New York difficulties, 367.

of Committee on death of Bro. H. B. Kelsy, 297.

on surrender of Charter of McFarlane Lodge, 156.

on proceedings of Montgomery Lodge, 184.

on petition of M. A. Montrose, 214, 223.

on Missionary Charity Fund at Panama, 467.

on furnishing jewels, 35.

on Bro. G. K. Teulon's communication, 157.

on Act of Incorporation, 154.

on case of S. G. Haynie, 83.

on communication and petition of Temple Lodge, 59.

on annual report of Deputy Grand Secretary Bro. G. K. Teulon.

in reference to charges against Bro. Call and Bro. Fisher, 92.

on Proceedings of Washington Lodge, 181.

Montgomery Lodge, 184.

on payment of Grand Secretary, 194.

opposing a General Grand Lodge, 195.

on Foreign Correspondence in reference to, 236, 277.

on subject of education, 238.

in reference to certificates, 237.

to a belief in the Bible,
239.

on balloting for members, 240.

in case of Alex. Ewing, 276.

on jurisdiction of subordinate Lodges, 292.

on petition of Munson Bankroft, 307.

on death of Bro. C. S. Ives and Bro. A. Butler, 345.

on address of Grand Master R. M. Patrick, 346.

T. J. Hardeman, 399.

W. B. Ochiltree, 517.

John Sayles, 555.

on procuring a block of marble for Washington Monument,
359, 501.

in reference to affiliation, 395.

- Report of Committee on proposed amendments to Constitution, 404.
 on forms for Dispensations and Returns, 415.
 on distribution of funds, 418.
 on European Correspondence, 465.
 on Missionary Charity Fund, 467.
 on Union Lodge, Panama, 467.
 on revision of Masonic Districts, 506.
 on Constitutional Amendments, 516, 549.
 on communication from Eagle Lodge, 576.
 from Bro. G. K. Teulon, 151.
 District Deputy Grand Masters, 150, 151, 272, 341, 382, 389, 396, 474,
 479, 495, 502, 533, 542, 548, 557, 574, 631.
 Deputy Grand Master A. S. Ruthven, 185.
 Andrew Neill, 489, 539.
 of Grand Secretary G. K. Teulon, 118.
 of Special Masonic Delegate, 122.
 of Grand Secretary Moses Johnson, 173, 187.
 A. S. Ruthven, 219, 275, 326, 389, 485, 564.
 of Grand Treasurer J. C. Tannehill, 254.
 E. B. Nichols, 487.
 of Grand Lecturer W. D. Smith, 204, 231.
 Wm. M. Taylor, 272, 320.
 S. H. Darden, 385.
 H. D. Woodsworth, 477.
 of Deputy Grand Lecturer W. D. Goff, 389.
 P. W. Gray, 575.
 of Grand Orator George Fisher, 292.
 Remarks of G. M. Babcock, of Connecticut, on the Grand Lodge of New York, 421.
 Reply of Bro. Anson Jones, as Representative of M. W. Grand Lodge of New York,
 to Grand Master's address, 167.
 Reports from Superintendent of Educational Fund, 396, 519, 546.
 Resignation of W. T. Gray, Grand Secretary, 12.
 Resolutions, appointing Bro. Jas. Wyld Representative near the Grand Lodge of
 England, 209.
 appointing a Superintendent of Educational Fund, 249.
 appointing Bro. G. K. Teulon Special Delegate, 172.
 revoking certain Charters, 135.
 on form of Diplomas to be adopted, 170.
 from Grand Chapter, 305.
 touching Constitutional questions, 487.
 to form a new Grand Lodge of Texas, 228.
 creating Richard L. Wilson an honorary member of the Grand Lodge, 230.
 constituting original members, 9.
 on uniformity of work, 294.
 in reference to work and lectures, 302.
 to Travellers' Home Lodge, 353.
 to Teutonia Lodge, 355.
 Resolutions on reinstating an expelled or suspended member, 505.
 withdrawing Dispensation from Hardeman Lodge, 516.
 Royal Arch Chapter, communication from, 112.
 Rules in reference to filling vacancies, 330.
 Ruthven, A. S., Deputy Grand Master, report of, 185.
 M. W. Grand Master, address of, 199.
 R. W. Grand Secretary, report of, 219, 275, 326, 389, 485, 564.
 letter to M. W. Grand Master Stedman, 3.

S.

- Sayles, John, M. W. Grand Master, address of, 529.
 Scotland, Grand Lodge of, communication to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 630.
 Secretary, Grand, annual report of, 118, 187, 219, 275, 326, 389, 485, 564.
 report of on Foreign Correspondence, 173.
 Side Degrees, address of Grand Master of Missouri on, 453.

Smith, W. D., Grand Lecturer, report of, 204, 231.
 Special Masonic Delegate, report of, 122.
 Spiller, Joel M., report of Committee of Grand Lodge of Indiana in reference to, 330.
 Stedman, Wm., M. W. Grand Master, letter from to A. S. Ruthven, 3.

T.

Tannehill, J. C., Grand Secretary, report of, 254.
 Taylor, E. W., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 216.
 Superintendent Educational Fund, reports from, 396, 519, 546.
 Taylor, Wm. M., Grand Lecturer, report of, 272, 320.
 Temple Lodge, communication from, 38.
 Tennessee, Constitution of Grand Lodge adopted, 12.
 Terms of union between St. John's Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York, 426.
 Teulon, G. K., reports from, 118, 122.
 communication from Boston, 151.
 death of in India, 243.
 Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, resolutions in reference to, 355.
 Travellers' Home Lodge, resolutions in reference to, 353.
 Treasurer, Grand, reports of, 254, 487.

V.

Visitation of Grand Lodge to Holland Lodge, May, 1833, 21.

W.

Ward, Thos. W., report of Committee on petition of, 32.
 Washington, Geo., letters from, 438, 439.
 eulogium on, by M. W. Robert G. Scott, of Virginia, 346.
 C. G. Wintersmith, of Kentucky, 608.
 Oscar Coles, of New York, 624.
 dates of initiation, passing and raising of, 608, 624.
 Washington Lodge, report of Committee on proceeding of, 181.
 report of Committee on action of, in offering a reward, 556.
 correspondence with Grand Master Sayles, 579.
 proceedings of, in reference to reward offered, 580.
 Washington Monument, ceremonies of laying corner-stone, 312.
 Washington National Monument Office, circular from, 339.
 Webb, Jas., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 129.
 Widows of Masons, claims of, 446.
 Wilson, Richard L., resolutions creating him an honorary member of the Grand Lodge, 230.
 Woodsworth, H. D., Grand Lecturer, report of, 477.

END OF VOL. I.

Smith, W. D., Grand Lecturer, report of, 204, 231.
 Special Masonic Delegate, report of, 122.
 Spiller, Joel M., report of Committee of Grand Lodge of Indiana in reference to, 330.
 Stedman, Wm., M. W. Grand Master, letter from to A. S. Ruthven, 3.

T.

Tannehill, J. C., Grand Secretary, report of, 254.
 Taylor, E. W., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 216.
 Superintendent Educational Fund, reports from, 396, 519, 546.
 Taylor, Wm. M., Grand Lecturer, report of, 272, 320.
 Temple Lodge, communication from, 38.
 Tennessee, Constitution of Grand Lodge adopted, 12.
 Terms of union between St. John's Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of New York, 426.
 Teulon, G. K., reports from, 118, 122.
 communication from Boston, 151.
 death of in India, 243.
 Teutonia Lodge, No. 47, resolutions in reference to, 355.
 Travellers' Home Lodge, resolutions in reference to, 353.
 Treasurer, Grand, reports of, 254, 487.

V.

Visitation of Grand Lodge to Holland Lodge, May, 1838, 21.

W.

Ward, Thos. W., report of Committee on petition of, 32.
 Washington, Geo., letters from, 438, 439.
 eulogium on, by M. W. Robert G. Scott, of Virginia, 346.
 C. G. Wintersmith, of Kentucky, 608.
 Oscar Coles, of New York, 624.
 dates of initiation, passing and raising of, 608, 624.
 Washington Lodge, report of Committee on proceeding of, 181.
 report of Committee on action of, in offering a reward, 556.
 correspondence with Grand Master Sayles, 579.
 proceedings of, in reference to reward offered, 580.
 Washington Monument, ceremonies of laying corner-stone, 312.
 Washington National Monument Office, circular from, 339.
 Webb, Jas., M. W. Grand Master, address of, 129.
 Widows of Masons, claims of, 446.
 Wilson, Richard L., resolutions creating him an honorary member of the Grand Lodge, 230.
 Woodsworth, H. D., Grand Lecturer, report of, 477.

END OF VOL. I.

