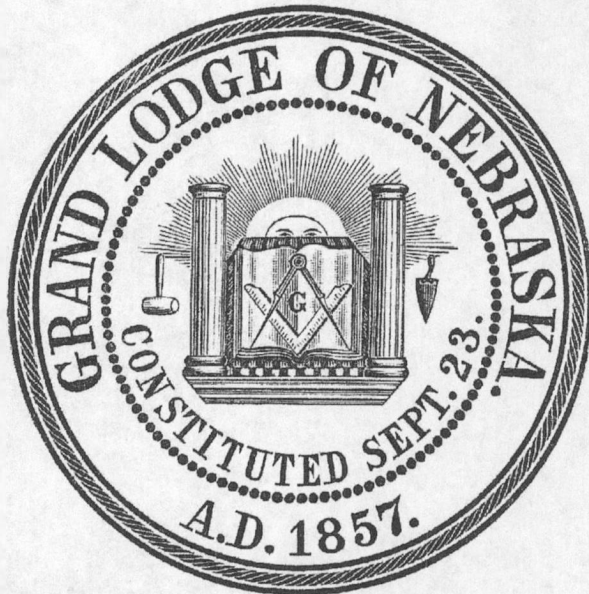


1857 - 1868
REPRINTED 1868
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Free & Accepted Masons
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 1857-1868 / A.L. 5857-5868

This volume digitized by



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

MASONIC DIGITAL ARCHIVES PROJECT



A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

OF THE

MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

AT ITS

SEVERAL GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS

FROM A. L. 5857 TO A. L. 5868.



REVISED, COLLATED AND REPRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GRAND LODGE.
1867.

PHOTOGRAPHS

GRAND LODGE OF IBERASKA

OF THE

OF THE STATE AND TERRITORIES OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

LUSE & GRIGGS,
PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS,
DAVENPORT, IOWA.

FROM A. L. 3281 TO A. L. 3282

BEFORE THE GRAND LODGE OF THE GRAND LODGE

1871

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON
COLLATION AND REVISION.

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

Your committee appointed at the Annual Communication of 1866, and continued at the session of 1867, for the purpose of revising and collating the Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand □, and all amendments thereto, having carefully examined, revised, corrected and collated the Proceedings, Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations thereof, from its organization up to and including the Proceedings of the session of 1867, beg leave, very respectfully, to offer this volume as the result of their labors; and while your committee acknowledge that there are still many imperfections in the work, yet we feel assured it will meet a want long felt by the brethren and □ of this jurisdiction.

J. N. WISE, Ch'n, }
GEO. C. BETTS, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

LIST OF
STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE GRAND LODGE.

1.	ON ACCOUNTS.....	3	Members.
2.	“ CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS.....	3	“
3.	“ MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.....	3	“
4.	“ WAYS AND MEANS.....	3	“
5.	“ CHARITY.....	3	“
6.	“ GRIEVANCES.....	3	“
7.	“ UNFINISHED BUSINESS.....	3	“
8.	“ PAY ROLL.....	3	“
9.	“ SUBORDINATE RETURNS.....	3	“
10.	“ PRINTING.....	3	“
11.	“ ORPHANS' SCHOOL—1 member from each subordinate Lodge—Grand Master Chairman.		
12.	“ TRUSTEES OF ORPHANS' EDUCATIONAL FUND..	3	“

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.
2. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.
3. OPENING OF GRAND LODGE.
4. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.
5. READING AND REFERRING RESOLUTIONS, PETITIONS AND OTHER SUBJECT MATTER TO STANDING COMMITTEES.
6. ANNUAL ADDRESS AND REPORT OF M. . W. . GRAND MASTER.
7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.
10. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.
11. OTHER BUSINESS GENERALLY.

MASONIC CONVENTION
OF THE
TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA,
HELD AT OMAHA CITY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1857.

Brother DAVID LINDLEY, Nebraska City, *President*.

Brother GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Omaha City, *Secretary*.

OMAHA CITY, N. T., Wednesday, September 23, 1857.

In accordance with the previous agreement and appointment of the Masters and Wardens of the several of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska, viz: Nebraska No. 184, of Bellevue; Giddings' No. 156, of Nebraska City; and Capital No. 101, of Omaha City, a Convention was held this day, for the purpose of organizing a Grand for the Territory of Nebraska.

On motion of Brother L. L. Bowen, of Nebraska , Brother David Lindley, of Giddings' , was selected to preside, and Brother George Armstrong, of Capital , chosen Secretary.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to report this afternoon at 2 o'clock, what action is necessary to carry out the design of this Convention, namely: the formation of a Grand for the Territory of Nebraska.

Brothers Robert C. Jordan, of Capital , L. L. Bowen, of Nebraska , and H. N. Cornell, of Giddings' , were appointed said committee.

The Convention then adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the appointed hour the Convention reassembled.

The committee on business made the following

REPORT.

The committee appointed to report what action is necessary to carry out the design of this Convention, respectfully offer the following:

Resolved, That we deem it highly expedient to organize a Grand for this Territory, and that the following order of proceeding be observed to that end:

1. That a of Master Masons be opened in due form, the Master of the oldest present presiding;
2. That the charters of the represented, and the credentials of the representatives, be presented and acted upon;
3. The election of officers; and
4. The installation of the officers elect.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN, }
L. L. BOWEN, } Committee.
H. N. CORNELL, }

The report of the committee was unanimously adopted, whereupon a of Master Masons was duly opened; Brother David Lindley, of Giddings' , presiding (Brother L. B. Kinney, Master of Nebraska , waiving his right); Brother R. C. Jordan, of Capital , acting as Senior Warden; and Brother L. L. Bowen, of Nebraska , as Junior Warden.

Prayer by Rev. Brother J. M. Chivington.

On motion, a committee of three, consisting of Brothers Bowen, Jordan and Cornell, was appointed to examine the charters of claiming to be represented in this Convention, and the credentials of the representatives under the same; which committee, after conferring together, made the following

REPORT.

The committee appointed to examine the charters of the claiming to be represented in this Convention, and the credentials of the representatives under the same, have had the subject under advisement, and respectfully beg leave to report the following as duly chartered, and represented as follows, to-wit:

NEBRASKA , No. 184, at Bellevue, Sarpy County, chartered by the M. . W. . Grand of Illinois, October 3, A. D. 1855, and represented as follows: Brother L. B. Kinney, Worshipful Master; Brother L. L. Bowen, Senior Warden; and Brother John A. Nye, Junior Warden.

GIDDINGS' , No. 156, at Nebraska City, Otoe County, chartered May 28, A. D. 1856, by the M. . W. . Grand of Missouri, and represented as follows: Brother David Lindley, Worshipful Master; Brother H. N. Cornell, Senior Warden; Brother William Anderson, Junior Warden.

CAPITAL \square , No. 101, at Omaha City, Douglas County, chartered June 3, A. D. 1857, by the M. W. Grand \square of Iowa, and represented as follows: Brother George Armstrong, Worshipful Master; Brother Charles W. Hamilton, Senior Warden; Brother Robert C. Jordan, Junior Warden.

Your committee, therefore, beg leave to report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the brethren heretofore named are entitled to seats in the Grand \square here to be formed.

L. L. BOWEN,)
R. C. JORDAN, } Committee.
H. N. CORNELL, }

The report was adopted.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the following Grand Officers be now elected by ballot, viz: M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Senior Grand Warden, R. W. Junior Grand Warden, R. W. Grand Treasurer, and R. W. Grand Secretary.

Brothers Kinney and Cornell having been appointed tellers, the \square went into an election of Grand Officers with the following result:

R. C. JORDAN, Omaha City, Grand Master.
L. L. BOWEN, Bellevue, Deputy Grand Master.
DAVID LINDLEY, Nebraska City, Senior Grand Warden.
L. B. KINNEY, Bellevue, Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM ANDERSON, Nebraska City, Grand Treasurer.
GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Omaha City, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Officers were then regularly installed into their respective stations by Most Worshipful Brother I. A. W. Buck, of Illinois.

The following officers, appointed by the Grand Master, were also installed by Brother Buck:

H. N. CORNELL, Nebraska City, Grand Marshal.
J. M. CHIVINGTON, Omaha City, Grand Chaplain.
CHARLES W. HAMILTON, Omaha City, Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN A. NYE, Bellevue, Junior Grand Deacon.
J. P. MANNING, Omaha City, Grand Tyler.

THE GRAND \square OF NEBRASKA was then declared regularly organized.

DAVID LINDLEY, *President*.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Secretary*.

THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

Being now regularly constituted, the Grand Master returned his thanks for the honor conferred upon him in a few remarks.

On motion, a committee of three, composed of Brothers Bowen, Armstrong and Cornell, was appointed to report a Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Order for the government of this Grand , and Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate .

Said committee subsequently made a report, which was adopted. [See Appendix.]

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the several under the jurisdiction of this Grand be numbered anew, according to the age of their charters, beginning with number one.

Brother Cornell moved that the name of "Giddings' " be changed to "Western Star .

Carried.

The several subordinate were then declared to be as follows:

NEBRASKA , No. 1, at Bellevue.

WESTERN STAR , No. 2, at Nebraska City.

CAPITAL , No. 3, at Omaha City.

On motion, Brothers Bowen, Lindley and Armstrong were appointed a committee to draft, and procure the passage of, a suitable act of incorporation for this Grand , at the ensuing session of the General Assembly of Nebraska.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw on each of the under this jurisdiction for the sum of \$50, to be paid within thirty days, to meet the expenses of this Grand , if necessary.

It was also

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure the necessary printing for this Grand —such as the proceedings of this session, Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, blank charters and dispensations; also a seal and seal-press.

On motion, it was

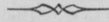
Ordered, That charters issue from this Grand to the several under its jurisdiction, and that said be authorized to surrender up the charters under

which they have heretofore been working, to the several Grand from which they issued.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the next session of this Grand be held at Nebraska City, on the first Wednesday in June, 1858.

The Grand was then called from labor until 7 o'clock this evening.



EVENING SESSION.

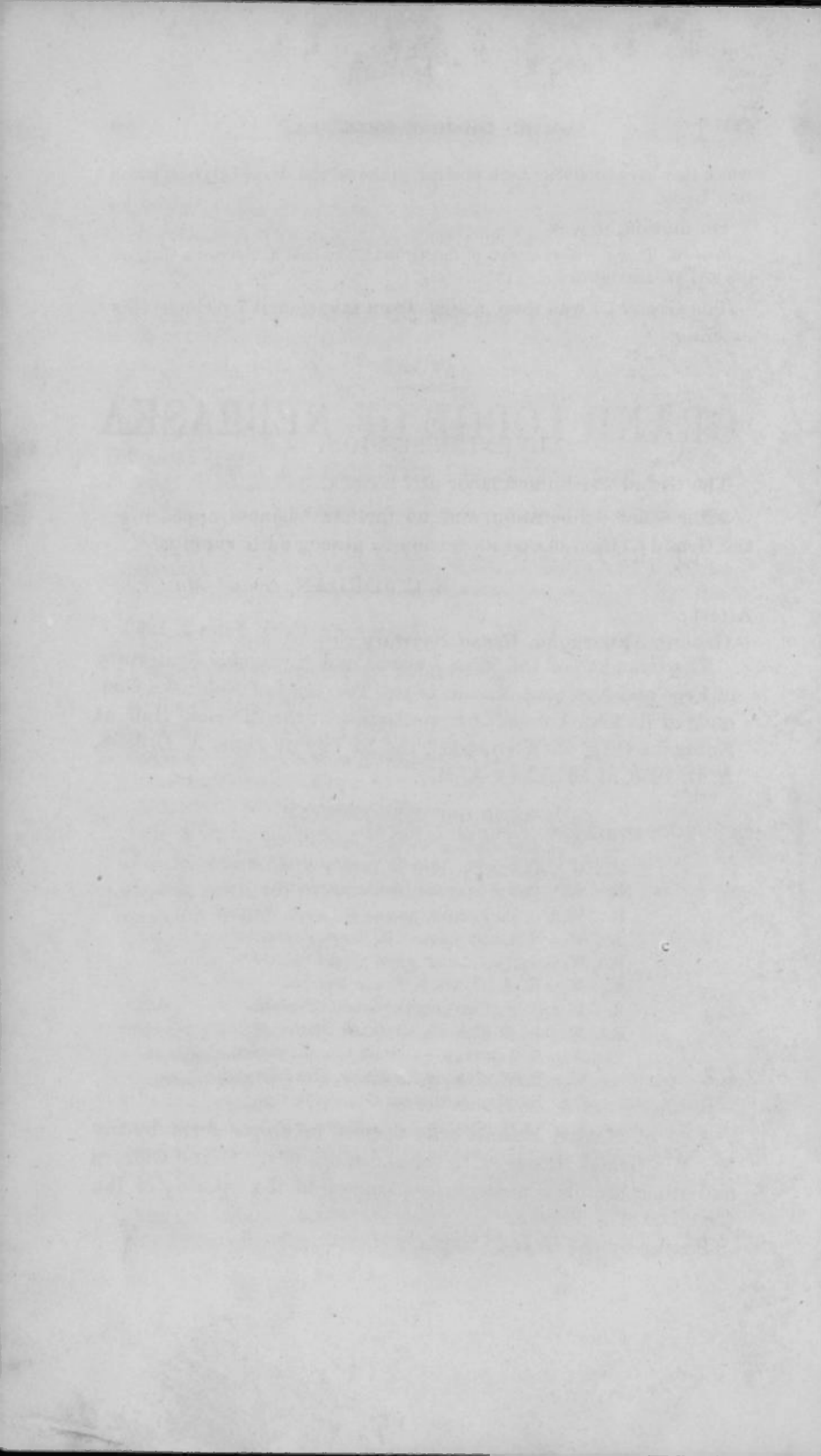
The Grand resumed labor at 7 o'clock.

After some deliberation, and no further business appearing the Grand then closed its session in peace and harmony.

R. C. JORDAN, *Grand Master*.

Attest:

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Secretary*.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, JUNE 2, A. L. 5858.

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

NEBRASKA CITY, June 2, 1858.

The Grand \square of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its first Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall at Nebraska City, on Wednesday, the 2d day of June, A. L. 5858, A. D. 1858, at 10 o'clock A. M.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. : W. : ROBERT C. JORDAN, Grand Master.
R. : W. : LEAVITT L. BOWEN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. : W. : DAVID LINDLEY, Senior Grand Warden.
R. : W. : C. D. KELLER, as Junior Grand Warden.
R. : W. : WILLIAM ANDERSON, Grand Treasurer.
R. : W. : GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Grand Secretary.
R. : W. : H. N. CORNELL, Grand Marshal.
R. : W. : J. M. CHIVINGTON, Grand Chaplain.
R. : W. : A. G. CLARKE, as Grand Orator.
W. : S. REDFIELD, as Senior Grand Deacon.
W. : R. W. FURNAS, as Junior Grand Deacon.
EDWARD HENRY, as Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. : W. : Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and other brethren present, preparatory to the opening of the Grand \square of Nebraska.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following named brethren a Committee on Credentials, viz: Brothers George Armstrong, A. G. Clarke and H. N. Cornell.

Brother Armstrong, from that committee, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The Committee on Credentials, having examined the returns of the subordinate □ under your jurisdiction, find the following □ represented by the delegates named. The number of votes to which each delegate is entitled is also given:

NEBRASKA □, No. 1—C. D. Keller, 2 votes; L. L. Bowen, 1 vote—3 votes.

WESTERN STAR □, No. 2—S. Redfield, 1 vote; John H. Maxon, 1 vote; Wm. P. Birchfeld, 1 vote—3 votes.

CAPITAL □, No. 3—George Armstrong, 1 vote; Albert G. Clarke, 1 vote; Wm. N. Byers, 1 vote—3 votes.

The committee also report, as entitled to seats in this Grand □, the Grand Officers named in the commencement of those proceedings.

GEO. ARMSTRONG,	} Committee.
A. G. CLARKE,	
H. N. CORNELL,	

The report was agreed to.

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

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following standing committee:

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers L. L. Bowen, George Armstrong and Wm. N. Byers.

Said committee subsequently made the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the documents relating to Plattsmouth □, submit that they have examined all the papers connected with the granting of said dispensation, and find them correct. In regard to the By-Laws presented for approval, your committee beg leave to report, that although there is much contained in them that might be considered as superfluous matter, yet there is nothing conflicting with the By-Laws of this Grand □.

Your committee further report, that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of Nemaha Valley □, at Brownville, and Temple □, at Omadi, and find them correct; and offer for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That charters issue to Nemaha Valley □, as No. 4; Temple □, as Omadi □, No. 5; and Plattsmouth □, as No. 6, and that the representatives of these □ be entitled to seats in this Grand □.

L. L. BOWEN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
WM. N. BYERS,

Credentials were presented from the above named □, entitling the following brethren to votes in this Grand □:

NEMAHA VALLEY □, No. 4—G. W. Bratton, 1 vote; Jesse Noel, 1 vote; R. W. Furnas, 1 vote—3 votes.

OMADI □, No. 5—M. G. Wilkinson, 3 votes.

PLATTSMOUTH □, No. 6—E. A. Donelan, 1 vote; J. W. Marshall, 1 vote; D. H. Wheeler, 1 vote—3 votes.

On motion of Brother Armstrong, the following resolution was adopted:

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

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Examination of Visitors—Brothers Lindley, Keller and Redfield.

On Credentials—Brothers Armstrong, Clarke and Cornell.

On Accounts—Brothers Furnas, Anderson and Armstrong.

On Pay-Roll—Brothers Armstrong, Furnas and Cornell.

On Returns of Subordinate □—Brothers Clarke, Wilkinson and Lindley.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Bowen, Armstrong and Byers.

On Foreign Communications—Brothers Clarke, Cornell and Wilkinson.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Bowen, Furnas and Cornell.

On Grievances—Brothers Donelan, Byers and Keller.

On Jurisprudence—Brothers Bowen, Clarke and Wilkinson.

The M. W. Grand Master presented and read the following

ADDRESS:

Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

We have assembled agreeably to a resolution passed at the organization of this body on the 23d of September last. The occasion is one of much interest to us all. The few zealous brethren that participated in the formation of this new Grand □, I observe, are present, with one or two exceptions, and to all appearances are ready and willing still to undertake any part in the noble and glorious work before us. The present is a most appropriate time, my brethren, to return sincere and heart-feeling thanks to the Great and Beneficent Author of our existence for His mercy and blessing, in thus permitting us to live and again assemble together as brethren. Let us beseech Him to guide us in all the transactions claiming our attention during this session, that peace and harmony

may characterize our labors, so that whatever work is done, it may result beneficially to us as individuals, and tend to advance the true interests of the masonic institution in the Territory.

It is not my purpose or intention to unnecessarily tax your time in delivering a lengthy address. But Section 5 of the By-Laws of this Grand requires me to communicate in writing a statement of my official acts during the recess of the Grand . In compliance with that law, I herewith tender the following report

On the 20th of October, of last year, I received a petition from G. W. Bratton, Jesse Noel, Chester S. Langdon, R. W. Furnas, and eleven other brethren residing in the city of Brownsville, Nemaha County, N. T., praying for a dispensation to empower them to assemble as a legal in said city. They being duly vouched for by Western Star , No. 2, I accordingly issued a dispensation in conformity with the prayer of the petitioners.

On the 18th of January last, I received a petition from E. G. Lamson, Albert W. Puett, Amos Lamson, Henry M. Hale, Thomas McDermott, Mahlon G. Wilkinson, Jacob H. Hallack, and John C. Turk, all residing in Omadi and vicinity, Dakota County, N. T., praying for a dispensation to empower them to assemble as a legal in Omadi. They being regularly vouched for by Capital , No. 3, I granted the prayer of the petitioners by issuing a dispensation.

On the same day I received a petition from E. A. Donelan, D. H. Wheeler, J. W. Marshall, W. M. Slaughter, J. C. Cummins, and other brethren (making up the requisite number), residents of Plattsmouth, Cass County, praying for a warrant of dispensation to empower them to assemble in the city of Plattsmouth as a legal . The above petitioners being duly vouched for by Nebraska , No. 1, in conformity with their prayer I granted them a dispensation.

All the papers connected with the foregoing are herewith presented for examination, and are designated as documents "A," "B," and "C." Accompanying each petition was the required dispensation fee of \$50, and reference is made to schedule marked "D" for a detailed account of the disposal of the amount.

Early in February last, I observed, in reading the proceedings of the Grand of Illinois, that definite and decisive action had been taken by that body relative to receiving as visitors or holding masonic intercourse with persons hailing from the Grand of New York, of which the M. W. John L. Lewis, Jr., is Grand Master, without a certificate as to the legality of the , and the making or healing of the brother proposing to visit. Deeming the matter of sufficient importance to need attention, I issued an edict forbidding the in the Territory from holding masonic intercourse, or receiving as visitors, any one hailing from the Grand of New York, who was not in possession of the required Grand certificate. As the time stated in the edict expires with this session, I would recommend to the Grand to consider the matter in question, and take such action as may be necessary in the premises.

The foregoing, in addition to some correspondence with brethren in the Territory and States, constitutes all that may be called official acts performed by me since the last meeting of the Grand . No occasion has presented itself requiring me to visit the under our jurisdiction. So far as my information extends, I am pleased to learn that all the have been prospering, and are in a healthy

condition. Harmony, the great essential to the well-being of a masonic , reigns supreme, and brotherly love prevails throughout the entire jurisdiction.

I call the attention of the Grand to the fact that in the adoption of our Constitution and By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, governing subordinate , &c., at the last meeting, there was not sufficient time taken to consider well the application of some of those laws and regulations to our situation. I refer to one in particular (By-Laws, Sec. XIX.), relating to Grand dues. The amount named therein is, in my opinion, a burthensome tax upon the , calculated to do injury, particularly during the present prevailing difficulties in monetary affairs; and it may be well to examine into the subject, and make such alterations as are deemed just and expedient.

In my correspondence with different brethren during the past year, I have been somewhat astonished to learn the various views entertained among them, relative to subjects connected with the order, which I had supposed had been settled by long-established usage and masonic law, and which did not admit of any doubt or diversity of opinion. I take this opportunity to say to all, that the best means of gaining the desired information is to subscribe for some of the well-conducted masonic periodicals of the day, of which there is seldom a number issued but contains some matter of interest and information well worth the year's subscription.

Of the different subjects at present claiming the attention of the different Grand of the United States, are uniformity of work and non-affiliated members; and a few words relative thereto cannot be inapplicable to our present circumstances. We are aware that the members of the fraternity in our jurisdiction hail from nearly every State in the Union, and unfortunately there exists some important variations in the work. A uniform system of work is one of the most desirable objects to be attained; and, in our present juvenile state, I imagine it can be accomplished. I propose that an exhibit of the work of all the be made at this session, and a careful examination made into the merits of the work so exhibited, corrections made, and a uniform mode adopted, and made obligatory on all now in existence, and all future to adopt the same before permission is granted to assemble and confer degrees. By adopting this or some other judicious remedy, we may, and I trust will, avoid the difficulties the older Grand have had to encounter, and in some instances have abandoned without hope of securing a permanent and uniform system of lectures.

The subject of non-affiliated members has, perhaps, received more attention from masonic legislation, and the devising of plans to remedy the evil, than any other matter presented to the Grand of the States. I have deemed it my duty to direct your attention to it, from the fact of learning almost daily of persons calling themselves masons, who have been residing in our midst for a year, and frequently from the first settlement of the Territory, who have failed to connect themselves with any of the . I would recommend immediate and decisive action to be taken upon the subject. It is admitted by all to be a great evil, but all do not agree as to the best course to be pursued to remedy it. For my own part, I have ever held that the right to withdraw from membership is the privilege of any one wishing to do so; but when membership ceases, then all right

or claim, of the individual so withdrawing, to the charity fund, visiting of [] , masonic burial, or taking part in masonic festivals, ceases also.

I have observed, within the past year, in perusing some of the masonic periodicals, and reports of committees contained in the proceedings of sister Grand [] , a number of editorials and reports concerning the belief in the Divine Authenticity of the Holy Bible, as a fundamental requisite to the initiation of a candidate into the mysteries of masonry. And, strange as it may seem, in some cases a violent opposition is urged to such a requirement. We are all aware that mankind is naturally so constituted that differences of opinion in regard to most subjects of importance prevail. It is expected and looked for. But it is certainly a matter of wonder and regret, that any intelligent member of the masonic institution can, for a moment, assume the position that some denounce this wholesome requirement of some of the Grand [] as a *new test*, an *innovation*, and other harsh epithets, when the ritual of the order is so entirely adverse to such teachings. And we are almost led to believe that those taking such grounds, have failed to duly appreciate the excellent rules and maxims therein inculcated, and are inexcusably ignorant of the work handed down to us from time immemorial; or that the system of masonry is taught differently in some jurisdictions from what we had supposed. As we are but beginning in the world as a Grand [] , what say you, my brethren, to placing it upon record in language not to be mistaken, that we believe the Bible to be God's Holy Word, the Beacon of Light to guide us through the darkness and gloom we daily encounter in our pilgrimage to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns; and that we require a distinct avowal in such belief before initiation? If this great and good Book is of so much importance to a masonic [] that it cannot be legally opened for the transaction of business without it being present, then may it truly be said that it is the foundation stone upon which our beautiful structure rests.

In connection with the foregoing, I will further add that it is said of late years, "there is getting to be too much religion in the [] ." This remark is elicited, I presume, from the fact that almost all the Grand [] of which I have any knowledge, have taken prompt and stringent measures to punish a combined system of immorality that threatened a total destruction of the institution, unless such means were adopted as would effectually put a stop to it. Gambling, profanity, intemperance, and debauchery, in general, prevailed to an alarming extent among the members; and it was not unusual to see those vested with power to preside and teach in the [] , become leaders in some bachanalian revelry. Certainly, brethren, a strange piece of inconsistency when we reflect upon it, that our monitors and craftsmen are open to the inspection of the world, containing lectures, prayers, and charges of great pretensions to morality and instructiveness, and see the actions of many members so directly contrary to these teachings. This subject at present is claiming the attention of nearly every Grand [] in the United States; and although I must say, so far as my acquaintance extends among the fraternity in our jurisdiction, there are but few cases existing among the affiliated members of the order in the Territory that I can bring to mind, that could be classed among the immoral above alluded to; yet it would no doubt be proper to make a suitable expression of the opinion of this Grand body relative to the vices spoken of.

The Grand of Ohio, through the Honorable Past Grand Master and highly distinguished Mason, William B. Thrall, of Columbus, has presented to this Grand a printed copy of their proceedings for the first forty years of its existence (1808 to 1847). As this is a valuable work, containing much interesting matter, some suitable expression should be made of the high regard we entertain for that enlightened body, and the value we attach to the work they have presented us with. To the Grand of Ohio and the above-named eminent brother, we are indebted for the first recognition and welcome of the Grand of Nebraska into the family of Grand , and the flattering notice that appears in the printed proceedings of that Grand . In imitation of the foregoing, I would suggest the propriety to taking steps to preserve everything connected with the introduction of masonry into this Territory. From our own love to examine and overhaul the musty records of , in existence a half century and more, we may safely infer that years hence it will be interesting to brethren to refer to the proceedings of our day and generation. There are several among us who can give a correct history of the organization of the three that were instrumental in forming this Grand , and it should be secured in time.

In conclusion, brethren, I feel it a duty incumbent on me to tender you my humble and sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred on me in elevating me to the exalted position I have occupied during the past year. And for the uniform kindness extended to me on all occasions, I will ever cherish a grateful remembrance. If my time had not been occupied with my private business to such a degree as positively to forbid my visiting all the officially, I would have been able to present a report more satisfactory to myself at least. As it is, I have, by corresponding with brethren of the different , communicated as far as possible all the knowledge upon masonic subjects sought and asked for, and hope that my humble exertions may meet your approbation. If I have erred, it has been entirely unintentional on my part, and I trust it will be viewed in such a light. In your selection of officers for the ensuing year, allow me to suggest to you the propriety of choosing for the principal offices, brethren who can devote time to visiting and instructing the ; this I have not been able to do, and could not promise to do during the next year. We have among us members of many years' standing as masons, and some that have had years of experience in other Grand , that will no doubt accept these positions, and labor diligently until our present youthful organization gains age, strength and experience sufficient to admit of their retiring from the field of active work. Such are the hands into which the leading offices of the Grand should be distributed. To us who have been instrumental in securing the organization of this Grand body, it should be peculiarly gratifying to see the older and more experienced brethren at the helm. Much remains to be done to place it in the proud position it should some day occupy as a useful and influential corporation, protecting and caring for the widow and orphan, soothing the unhappy, and dispensing charity to all the needy within its reach, thus fulfilling the instructions of our Heavenly Father, the Supreme Grand Master of that Grand where we all hope to arrive after completing our labors on earth. And may the blessing of our kind and benevolent Heavenly Father rest upon us and all regular masons,

may brotherly love prevail throughout the jurisdiction, and every moral and social virtue cement us.

R. C. JORDAN, *Grand Master*.

On motion of Brother Cornell, it was

Resolved, That the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Cornell, Bowen, and Furnas were named said committee.

Said committee made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The select committee to whom was referred the M. W. Grand Master's Annual Address, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein contained shall be referred, beg leave to report, that,

So much as relates to the dispensations granted, be referred to the standing committee on Charters and Dispensations ;

So much as relates to money received, to standing committee on Accounts ;

So much as relates to Grand Master's edict on subject of New York masons, to the standing committee on Foreign Correspondence ;

So much as relates to change of By-Laws of this Grand \square , to the standing committee on Masonic Jurisprudence ;

So much as relates to non-affiliated masons, to a select committee of three ;

So much as relates to uniformity of work, to a select committee of three ;

So much as relates to belief in holy writings, to a select committee of three.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. N. CORNELL, }
L. L. BOWEN, } Committee.
R. W. FURNAS, }

Brother Bowen offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be allowed for his services the past year the sum of fifty dollars ; he being satisfied to receive that amount, although by the By-Laws he is entitled to the sum of one hundred and fifty.

The following select committees were announced by the M. W. Grand Master :

On Uniformity of Work—Brothers Cornell, Maxon, and Keller.

On Non-affiliating Masons—Brothers Bratton, Donelan, and Noel.

On Bible—Brothers Clarke, Chivington, and Byers.

On motion of Brother Bowen, it was

Resolved, That this Grand \square hold its next annual communication at Bellevue, on the second Tuesday of June, 1859.

The Grand \square called off until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the appointed hour the Grand \square resumed labor.
 The following reports were then read and adopted:

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

I hereby submit a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the treasury department of the Grand \square for the last fiscal year.

RECEIPTS.

1858.			
June 2,	Received of Grand Secretary, dues from subordinate \square	\$368 25	
	Received of Grand Master and Grand Secretary, balance on dispensations.....	51 85	
			\$420 10

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Grand Secretary's compensation.....	\$ 50 00
Balance in treasury.....	370 10
	\$420 10

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. ANDERSON, *Grand Treasurer.*

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, June 2, 1858.*

NAME OF \square .	NO.	NAME OF TOWN OR CITY.	NAME OF COUNTY.	AMOUNT OF DUES.
Nebraska.....	1	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	\$ 62 50
Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	62 00
Capital.....	3	Omaha City.....	Douglas.....	152 50
Nemaha Valley.....	H. D.	Brownville.....	Nemaha.....	46 25
Temple.....	U. D.	Omaha.....	Dakota.....	38 50
Plattsmouth.....	U. D.	Plattsmouth.....	Cass.....	6 50

Total amount received and paid to Treasurer..... \$368 25

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Secretary.*

STATEMENT of Fees Received for Dispensations during the recess of the Grand \square , and an Account of Disbursements:

RECEIPTS.

1857.—Oct. 20,	For dispensation from Nemaha Valley \square	\$50 00
1858.—Jan. 18,	“ “ “ “ Temple \square	50 00
“ “ “ “	“ “ “ “ Plattsmouth \square	50 00
		\$150 00

DISBURSEMENTS.

George Armstrong, Grand Secretary, for printing, &c.....	\$80 00
C. C. Woolworth, record book and letter paper.....	10 75
W. W. Wyman, postage bill.....	5 40
“ printing letter heads.....	2 00
George Armstrong, Grand Secretary.....	51 85
	\$150 00 \$150 00

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Secretary.*

Brother Furnas, as chairman of the standing committee on Accounts, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, have had the same under consideration, and report the same correct, as by them reported to this body. Also

The same committee have examined certain papers of the Grand Master, marked "Schedule D," and find them correct.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, Chairman.

On motion, the report of the committee on Accounts, and the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were adopted.

Brother Bowen, as chairman of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The standing committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred so much of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address as relates to amendment of the By-Laws, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report the following :

Resolved, That section nineteen of the By-Laws be amended as follows: Strike out *five* and insert *three* where the same occurs; and strike out after the words *one dollar* the words *and fifty cents*, so that hereafter the Grand dues shall be three dollars for each initiation and one dollar for each member.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to refund to the respective subordinate , of the dues received at this session, the sum of two dollars upon each initiation, and fifty cents upon each membership.

Respectfully submitted.

L. L. BOWEN,	} Committee.
A. G. CLARKE.	
M. G. WILKINSON,	

Brother Bratton, from the select committee on non-affiliated masons, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on non-affiliated masons, submit the following:

Resolved, That the jurisdiction of each extends over the non-affiliated as well as the affiliated mason, and that they are equally amenable for unmaasonic conduct.

Resolved, That a non-affiliated mason who shall, for the space of six months, reside in any county wherein is a working , without making application for

membership therein, shall forfeit the privilege of visiting said □. And if he still fails, or refuses, to make application as aforesaid, for the space of twelve months, he shall then forfeit all claims to masonic rights or benefits.

G. W. BRATTON, }
E. A. DONELAN, } Committee.
JESSE NOEL, }

Brother Clarke, from the select committee on Bible, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address relative to a belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, as a requirement from candidates, beg leave to report that they have had the same under advisement, and submit the following:

Whereas, The superstructure of Freemasonry rests upon the truths contained in the Holy Bible, and the history of its origin is contained in those pages ; and has been recognized for ages as the foundation stone of the order, and from time immemorial as one of the *ancient landmarks*, either in form of the Old or New Testament, or both ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand □, that no man can become a mason unless he can avow a belief in the principles therein contained ; and it is also the sense of this Grand □, that the demand for such belief does not conflict with the universality of Freemasonry, but in every land and with every nation where Masonry exists the Holy Writings are respected, and some form of belief in them required from candidates for admission to the mysteries of the order.

Resolved, That the Grand □ of Nebraska will guard the ancient landmarks, and enforce respect for them by every means in her power.

A. G. CLARKE, }
J. M. CHIVINGTON, } Committee.
WM. N. BYERS, }

Brother Clarke, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address relative to the breach in the M. . W. . Grand □ of New York, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That in the month of June, 1849, a dispute arose in the M. . W. . Grand □, founded on the following facts: Under the laws of that Grand body, all Past Masters were entitled to seats; but the rapid increase of such members induced the Grand body to amend its laws so as to exclude such members in future. This movement produced a dissension, favored almost exclusively by the Past Masters of New York city, who seceded from the Grand □ of New York, and organized a revolutionary body known as the Phillips Grand □. The M. . W. . Grand □ of New York is still in existence, and be it therefore

Resolved, That this Grand recognizes but one Grand of the State of New York, and over that body Brother John L. Lewis presides as M. . W. . Grand Master.

A. G. CLARKE, Chairman.

Brother Bowen, from the committee appointed to procure an act of incorporation for this Grand body, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the duty of procuring a charter for the Grand of Nebraska, report that they have performed the duty imposed upon them, and present the accompanying act as one having been passed at the last session of the Territorial General Assembly.

L. L. BOWEN, Chairman.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NEBRASKA.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Nebraska*, That Robert C. Jordan, Leavitt L. Bowen, David Lindley, Lathrop B. Kinney, William Anderson, and George Armstrong, officers of the Grand of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, and their successors in office, be and are hereby incorporated by the name of "the Grand of Nebraska," and by which name they shall be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, in all courts, the same as natural persons, and with power to hold and convey real and personal property, and to do any and all other things usually done by corporations.

SEC. 2. That the said corporators, and their successors of the Grand of Nebraska, shall have power to hold, in its name, property, as trustees for any subordinate of this Territory.

I, John B. Motley, Acting Secretary of Nebraska Territory, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original act on file in the office of the Secretary of Nebraska.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name and affix the great seal of the Territory, at Omaha City, this 1st day of June, A. D. 1858.

[L. s.]

JOHN B. MOTLEY, Acting Secretary.

On motion of Brother Bowen, it was

Resolved, That the Grand now proceed to the election of Grand officers to serve for the ensuing year.

Brothers Wilkinson and Marshall were appointed tellers, and the following brethren were elected Grand Officers :

ROBERT C. JORDAN, M. . W. . Grand Master.

LEAVITT L. BOWEN, R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master.

DAVID LINDLEY, R. . W. . Senior Grand Warden.

M. G. WILKINSON, R. . W. . Junior Grand Warden.

JOHN H. MAXON, R. . W. . Grand Treasurer.

R. W. FURNAS, R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

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

J. M. CHIVINGTON, W. : Grand Chaplain.
 A. G. CLARKE, W. : Grand Orator.
 GEO. ARMSTRONG, W. : Grand Lecturer.
 H. N. CORNELL, W. : Grand Marshal.
 W. N. BYERS, W. : Senior Grand Deacon.
 C. D. KELLER, W. : Junior Grand Deacon.
 G. W. BRATTON, W. : Grand Steward.
 D. H. WHEELER, W. : Grand Sword Beargr.
 E. A. DONELAN, } W. : Grand Pursuivants.
 JESSE NOEL, }
 EDWARD HENRY, as Grand Tyler.

Brother Bowen asked and obtained leave of absence during the remainder of this session.

The committee on Pay Roll reported the following, which was adopted:

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand \square of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held in Nebraska City, in the year 1858.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.
R. C. Jordan, M. W. Grand Master.....	Omaha	50	\$4 00	\$1 50	\$ 7 50
L. L. Bowen, Deputy Grand Master.....	Bellevue	40	4 80	1 50	6 30
David Lindley, Senior Grand Warden.....	Nebraska City.....	..	..	1 50	1 50
Wm. Anderson, Grand Treasurer.....	" .....	..	..	1 50	1 50
Geo. Armstrong, Grand Secretary.....	Omaha	50	6 00	1 50	7 50
H. N. Cornell, Grand Marshal.....	Nebraska City.....	..	..	1 50	1 50
J. M. Chivington, Grand Chaplain.....	" .....	..	..	1 50	1 50
A. G. Clarke, Grand Orator.....	Omaha	50	6 00	1 50	7 50
R. W. Furnas, Grand Junior Deacon.....	Brownville.....	..	..	1 50	1 50
E. Henry, Grand Tyler.....	Nebraska City.....	..	..	1 50	1 50
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$37 80

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF \square .	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
1.	Nebraska \square	Bellevue.....	40	\$ 4 80	\$1 50	\$ 6 30	C. D. Keller.....
2.	Western Star \square	Nebraska City.....	..	..	1 50	1 50	S. Redfield.....
3.	Capital \square	Omaha	50	6 00	1 50	7 50	W. N. Byers.....
4.	Nemaha Valley \square	Brownville	27	3 24	1 50	4 74	G. W. Bratton.....
5.	Omadi \square	Omadi.....	140	16 80	1 50	18 30	M. G. Wilkinson.....
6.	Plattsmouth \square	Plattsmouth.....	30	3 60	1 50	5 10	E. A. Donelan.....
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$43 44	.....

Brother Wilkinson offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure suitable jewels for this Grand \square .

Brother Armstrong presented sundry communications, which were referred to committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Grand called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock this evening.



EVENING SESSION.

At the appointed hour the Grand was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion of Brother Armstrong, it was

Resolved, That it is improper for an individual mason to examine a traveling brother, for the purpose of vouching for him so as to admit him in a , without being appointed by the Worshipful Master or presiding officer for that purpose; nor shall any voucher be taken so as to admit a visiting brother, founded on such examination, nor the avouchment of any brother unless he has previously been in open with such brother proposing to visit.

On motion of Brother Armstrong, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have 300 copies of the proceedings of this Grand printed, and forward three copies to each subordinate , one copy to each Grand with which this Grand is in communication, and one copy to each of the Grand Officers of this body.

On motion of Brother Armstrong, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed suitable blanks for the use of this Grand .

On motion of Brother Armstrong, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand be tendered to the M. . W. . Grand of Ohio for the copy of the proceedings of that Grand body from 1808 to 1847, received through the M. . W. . Past Grand Master, William B. Thrall.

Brother Clarke, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the special communication from the Grand Secretary of the M. . W. . Grand of Virginia, report the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand has heard with feelings of pride and gratification of the efforts of the masonic fraternity to purchase the home and grave of WASHINGTON, and thus once more bring him, as it were, into the circle of our mystic tie; and we recommend to each of the subordinate to forward to Brother

John Dove, R. . W. . Grand Secretary of the M. . W. . Grand \square of Virginia, such sums of money as they may feel themselves able to give to further so noble an undertaking.

A. G. CLARKE, Chairman.

The Grand Orator delivered the following
ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand \square :

We have assembled here for the first time since our organization to legislate upon the government of subordinate \square ; to adopt rules for our own guidance, and to do all things seemly to be done. Under our jurisdiction come all the \square of Nebraska, and in our hands are placed the mallet and the trowel, so to hew and smooth the rough surface that it shall be the work of masters. With us rests, in a measure, the future of masonry in this young Territory, and it is our duty so to guide our actions by the square, the level and the plumb, that nothing shall be done by us calculated to injure the workings of masonic discipline, to impair the vigor of masonic strength, or to throw obstacles in the way of masonic progress.

And what spirit is it that has brought us here together, and caused us to forget for a time the strifes and contentions of our daily life? You of the Old Mission, where but a few years since the sound of the bell at matin and at eventide fell only on the ears of aliens; you from the land of the Dakotah; you from the Great Platte; you from the Capital and the Western Star; what spirit has fallen upon each and all of you, that you consent to lay aside your private quarrels, and come together here in amity and peace? Some of you are marked men, and have been known in other places and at other times to wage a warfare fierce and unrelenting against those whom you considered as your enemies. In legislative halls you have been seen in protracted contests; on the forum you have been bitter and severe; but you now forget all animosities, and meet and act as friends and brothers should. What spirit has worked this change among you?

It is the same spirit that fell upon the troubled waves of Galilee, saying, "Peace, be still!" It is the voice which said, "Love ye one another!" It is the spirit of Freemasonry working upon the better nature of man, and bidding him do good unto his fellows. No mockish sentiment of friendship or love, but a voluntary and sincere desire to do and labor for the common good. It is the same spirit which actuated our brethren who have been called from their labors here, to eternal rest.

All honor to their memories. Honor to him who planted the masonic emblems on the icebergs of the northern sea; and who with this banner fluttering over him in the chill wind of eternal winter, with his little band of comrades, laid himself down to die. His life was spared only that he might die among his kindred, but

"On fame leaf and angel leaf, on monument and urn,
The sad of earth, the glad of heaven, history in full shall learn,
And on fame leaf and angel leaf the name of Kane shall burn."

We have recently seen the fraternity of Virginia called together to do honor to the memory of Washington, by the erection of a stately monument to his memory. But the hand which wielded the mallet, and brought into glorious light the master piece of art, assisted not at the final ceremonies. No longer rings his chisel on the marble block. Cold as the stone he hewed, is that manly form. Pale as the marble of the monument, lies that friendly face. The craftsmen mourn the loss of a master workman, and the nation mourned the loss of a great man gone, when Thomas Crawford died. All over the land his requiem is sung, and beyond the sea, in the land of ideal genius, his bier was sprinkled with Roman tears, and his epithalamium spoken by a foreign tongue. It is by examples such as these that we should profit. By memories like these we should be swayed—for so ran the record of their lives that

"Though we may not sunder the veil apart
That hides from our vision the gates of day,
We only know that their barks no more
May sail with us on life's stormy sea.
Yet somehow I know, on that unseen shore,
They watch and wait and beckon for me."

There cannot, surely, be much of evil in an institution which numbers among its followers great divines. Not much of trifling or folly when statesmen take pride in being members of the order. Not much of bombast and braggadocio, when warriors enroll themselves under our banner. These, all, revere the institution, and acknowledge its claims to great antiquity. How remote the origin, none pretend to divine. Masonic tradition loves a very ancient ancestry, and the legend runs like this :

From out the darkness of the mystic East, the land of ancient sciences and the birth-place of the human race, comes to us the first record of this our chosen order. When first the morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy; when this round world went rolling on its way; then did our great Grand Master look down with mild benignity upon His handiwork and say that it was "Good." Before were laid the foundations of the pyramids, and before the Egyptian sphynx became a thing of mystery, even then did masonry exist. On the pedestal upon which stood the statue of old Memnon, are inscribed the peculiar signs of our order. In the subterranean caverns of old Egypt, its mysteries were taught, and on the deserts of Asia were its laws revered.

Not long since, some enemy to masonry traced its origin back to the old Druids, and exhibited the ancestral list in triumph, supposing that by tracing it to such a source he had struck a death-blow to the science. But masonry was in full vigor long before the Druids' time, and has grown in strength since they have passed away. The men who left the clumsy ruins of Stonehenge and Salisbury Plains were no members of our craft. The *Master's mark* is not upon their work.


It was reserved for the land of Palestine to become the theater of masonic union, and for Solomon, the son of David, to found the order in all its strength and beauty. David the shepherd, King of Israel, waxed old in years and the frosts of age silvered his head. He had been a warrior in his youth, a poet in his manhood, and in his ripe old age he was a God-fearing man, who loved his

neighbor like himself. Feeling sensible of his approaching dissolution, he gave the scepter of Israel to Solomon his son, and left to him a legacy, to build to the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob, an holy temple ; to prepare a fit receptacle for the ark of the covenant, and to make strong and beautiful an altar where the faithful might offer up their sacrifices to the only true and living God.

Solomon, in order to better obey the dying command of his father, summoned all the workmen of the land, and sent to adjoining countries for skillful artists. In answer to his call came Hiram the King of Tyre and Hiram Abiff—workmen of perfect practice and cunning in every device of curious work. With them came a host of workmen, so that when a counting was had, there were found to be 70,000 Entered Apprentices, 80,000 Fellow Crafts, and 3,300 Master Masons.

The site chosen for the temple was on the brow of the hill called Mount Moriah, where, years before, Abraham had erected an altar in thankfulness to God that his hand was stayed from taking the life of his son Isaac, and on the spot where David had erected an altar on the threshing floor of Arannah the Jebusite. The timbers for its construction were hewed and squared in the mountains of Lebanon. The stones were cut at the quarries. The brazen columns were cast in the clay ground between Succoth and Zeredatha. And so well directed were the labors of this immense concourse, and so perfectly fitted in every part were the materials of the temple, that when it was put together, there was not heard the sound of mallet, nor of chisel, nor of any tool of iron.

The temple was completed, and glittered on the brow of Mount Moriah like the jewel on a kingly crown. The work of the craftsmen was accomplished, and, with one last look at the beauty of the structure, they departed to other countries in search of employment.

Venturous servants of Hiram the King of Tyre, filled by the love of adventure, hoisted their sails and put to sea. They journeyed westward, along the shores of the Mediterranean, to where the pillars of Hercules guard its frowning portals, and through the straits of Gibraltar to the open sea beyond. During many long and weary years they journeyed, and into many strange countries and climes they strayed. Under every sky and in every land find we traces of their work. Upon the colossal temples of India are sculptured our peculiar signs. In the deep shade of the tangled forests of Central America, upon the heathen temples there, are seen the emblems of Freemasonry. Builded so long ago were they, that their makers are forgotten and their objects unknown, and the bold explorer stands astonished to find there, sculptured on arch and column, in transept and in nave, the same symbols which are used in masonic  at the present day.

Authentic history informs us that the grand old monasteries, cathedrals and abbeys of England and the continent, were the work of these men. They were superintended and directed by men who were banded together, and traveled from place to place, working wherever they found employment. These were the operative Freemasons of that time. An ancient work says: "They spoke a foreign tongue, and worked with such precision and dispatch as to be a wonder to the ignorant peasantry. In case of a difficulty with the townspeople, these workmen were as one man, and could distinguish one another in the dark as well as in the light." They probably admitted some of the Englishmen to a

knowledge of their mysteries, for a charter was granted by Athelstone the Saxon, authorizing the masons to meet annually at York, and in the year 926 a Grand \square was formed at that place. The appellation "Ancient York Masons," was derived from this memorable convention, held nine hundred years ago.

The dynasty of Solomon continued not long in power. The temple erected with so much labor and expense was destroyed by the Assyrians. It was again rebuilt, and again destroyed, and this time so completely that not one stone was left upon another, and the foundations thereof were leveled with the ground. But Palestine was still the Holy Land, and when Mahomet's star arose, there was no more fitting place for him to plant his standard than under the shadow of Judea's walls. The christian looked with rage and jealousy upon the intruder, for all the memories of his religion lay here in this land of Hebrew power, and Jerusalem was now to him made thrice more holy by the suffering of Christ. The christian donned his armor and went to Palestine to wrench the holy sepulcher from the invader's hand. Crusade after crusade ensued, and in sanguinary battles, and by the hot breath of the tropics, the christian crusaders found their death. The soil was red with the blood of the contestants, and the knotted turban and the waving crest rolled together on the desert plain. The struggle was not of long duration. The tropical sun finished the work undone by the scimitar. With battered helmet and with broken lance returned the remnant of those brave crusaders. Where they had gone out with streaming pennant and with martial pomp, came they back with trailing banners and enfeebled limbs. Many a brave knight who had borne himself right gallantly upon the tented field, languished upon the heated desert, and as his soul escaped the bonds of his iron corselet, his last thought was for the vows he had undertaken, and thankfulness to God that death had found him with his armor on. Perhaps there was a sigh forced from him for one who was waiting in her bower, in another and a fairer land, the coming of her here; but would not the minstrel and the troubadour recount the story of his life in romance and in poesy that would live for ages? Death to him was pleasant. So ended the glory of these temple knights. The struggle for the holy sepulcher was over, and Jerusalem became a place of pilgrimage for tourists. No longer is heard at the quarries the sound of the gavel, nor the song of the craftsmen going to their labors; on the dark rind of Lebanon' cedar no workman rings his axe; the stones that were fitted for the builder's use have crumbled into dust; the timbers fashioned by a cunning hand have mouldered years ago; the house of Israel has fallen from its grandeur, but the memory of its old glory is not forgotten; its people still are waiting the coming of a deliverer who shall lead them forth to victory, and, gathering together the scattered tribes of Israel, give battle to all who dare oppose their march towards the empire of the world. Proud dreamers are they of the house of Israel, and visions that might have haunted the sleep of David, poet-king of all their tribes, still linger in the memories of the despised race of Jews. Gone are the belted knights who fought so nobly for the city of their faith; gone are the gleaming falchion and the waving crest and the tried lance in rest; no longer is the gavel used to break off the corners of rough stone; no longer is the trowel used to spread the rough cement; gone are all these operative implements of

our order; but in place of all this, and upon a broader and firmer basis, has sprung up a *spiritual* masonry which will live forever, for its essence is eternal. It is a shadowing forth of the ancient institution; and when the escutcheons of heraldic pride shall have been long forgotten from among the things that were; when all the vain devices of worldly grandeur shall have mouldered; yea, and the clustering ivy shall have ceased to cling around the last silent memento of heraldic pride, or to the handiwork of our ancient brothers, even then the true masonic spirit will still be found, like the knight of the olden time, with vizor down and lance in rest, prepared to meet the assaults of the evil that is in the world.

Not from the hand of beauty looks it for reward. Under no lady's latticed bower sings it knightly lay. Not with earthly flowers is its coronal of victory entwined, and with no worldly jewels decked; for it looks forward far beyond the tented fields of time to an unfading chaplet from the groves of Paradise, to that better land where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary shall find rest.

The institution which is reared upon this structure spreads over all the earth. Travelers tell us of a lichen or moss which grows far up the mountain side in the region of perpetual snow. No change of season affects it. Summer and winter, spring time or autumn, seed time and harvest it knows not of. It is above the reach of influences that affect plants of ordinary growth. Its plain but beautiful flower greets the eye of the traveler, and gladdens him with thoughts of other lands. Like the flower of the mountain is the order we revere. It changes not with the climate, but in season and out of season, in every land, it is the same. The Hebrew brother, borne back by sacred and masonic history, can stand with king Solomon in the newly finished temple, and as the fire comes down from heaven and the glory of the Lord upon the house, he may bow himself in worship and praise to God, and say, "For He is good, for His mercy endureth forever." The follower of the prophet, his face devoutly turned towards Mecca's holy shrine, asked, in Allah's name, admission, and received it. The Indian of the continent, with his simple faith in the Great Spirit and the happy hunting grounds beyond the grave,

"Beyond the purple clouds of sunset,
In the islands of the blessed,
In the kingdom of Fonema,
In the land of the hereafter,"

knocks at our portals for admission, and is not denied. The follower of Christ, his soul glowing with love for Him who died on Calvary—trusting for redemption in the merits of a risen and ascended Lord—is welcome at our altars. Who shall say, then, that the faith of masonry is not universal? Hebrew and Assyrian, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Mahomedan, can kneel at the altar of Freemasonry, and in the perfect equality of truth and virtue, vow allegiance to its trusts.

But masonry no longer excludes from its ranks all who are not operative workmen, but receives into its fold the man of lawful age and good repute, no matter what his calling. We are workmen upon a temple of spiritual masonry, and let us see to it that our work is not neglected. Let us so lay the foundation

of the structure that it will never weaken or totter; but, growing stronger by the labors of our successors, in due time become a fitting structure—perfect in all its parts. And as our ancient brethren, operative masons, left the East in search of work, and have left behind them such perfect specimens of their skill, so let us—who have journeyed so far towards the setting sun—so guard the western portal of our temple that neither discord nor malice shall enter there, and no good thing escape it; and let us, like our brethren of old, return with tidings to the East, and let those tidings be, that Strength is still with us in the West, so that the Wisdom of the East and the Beauty of the South, in looking at our work, shall say, “Hail, Rabboni, thy work is exceeding good.”

A. G. CLARKE, *Grand Orator.*

Brother Wilkinson offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That our thanks are due to our R. W. Grand Orator, A. G. Clarke, for his eloquent and instructive address delivered before this Grand , and that the Grand Secretary be directed to procure a copy and insert it in the proceedings of this Communication.

Brother Bratton asked, if by suicide, or other unnatural manner, a Master Mason comes to his death, is the decedent entitled to masonic burial?

Decided by the M. W. Grand Master, that Masters of had a perfect right to act discretionary.

Brother Clarke, for the committee, made the following

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

The committee on Foreign Correspondence regret that they have not had more time to prepare an extended report, and thereby be enabled to do justice to the consideration of those questions of masonic policy and jurisprudence which are continually arising throughout our wide-spread domain.

We congratulate the craft, wheresoever dispersed, upon the prosperity of our institution, and at the same time caution them against throwing too widely apart the doors of masonry. Freemasonry is now *in fashion*, and numbers are seeking admission merely because of its seeming popularity. We would suggest that the ancient tests applied to applicants be not forgotten or in any particular relinquished; but let all care be taken at the portals that our noble institution be kept pure and without reproach.

A question of great importance is now being agitated by the various Grand , and that is, whether or not an avowal of a belief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Bible should be required of a candidate prior to his initiation, and whether or not such belief shall be made the test of his moral fitness to become a mason? Your committee do not propose to enter into an extended argument of the question. The facts are these:

1. We claim for the institution of masonry an origin anterior to the New Testament, and if this is the truth, then any test founded thereon would be an innovation.

2. Masonry regards no man for his peculiar religious opinions, provided he be a good man and true, and obeys the moral law.

It would manifestly be a bad precedent to establish, to require such an avowal, except from one who is known to be a scoffer at our holy religion, for in that case the only standard by which he can be tried is by the principles contained in the Holy Bible.

Every nation has its inspired works, and of course it would be useless to require of the Mahomedan a belief in the Bible, or of the Jew a belief in the New Testament. Let every nation try the moral fitness of its applicants by its own peculiar tests, and after they have been thus tried and admitted, no mason can then dispute the authority of the tribunal by which their moral fitness was tested.

On the subject of non-affiliated brethren, those who reside within the jurisdiction of [] , taking part in [] proceedings and sharing its benefits, your committee would recommend the adoption of some stringent remedy for so great an evil. It too often happens that such brethren become mere hangers-on, and while they insist most strenuously upon their rights and privileges as masons, they neglect to give support to any [] .

The M. . W. . Grand [] of Nebraska, since its foundation in 1857, has been recognized by the Grand [] of the following States, they communicating with your honorable body by interchange of printed proceedings and by letters, viz: Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia.

ALABAMA.

The Annual Communication of the M. . W. . Grand [] of this State for the year 1857, was held at the city of Montgomery, Dec. 7th, M. . W. . J. McCaleb Wiley, Grand Master, presiding. The Grand Master in his address mourns the loss of their late R. . W. . Grand Secretary, Armand W. Pfister, by an earnest and feeling tribute to his memory. In relation to the government of subordinate [] , he says :

Another matter that I conceive to be of vital importance to the order, and intimately connected with the foregoing, is the absolute necessity of electing to the office of W. . M. . a brother of "good repute;" one who "is well tried, true and trusty;" who is "able to read and expound the law;" in short, one who is every way worthy to "preside o'er the sons of light;" and when you shall have found such an one, retain him in office, for it is my experience that those old [] that have had the fewest masters are generally the most harmonious, prosperous and intelligent.

The favorable consideration of the Grand [] is solicited to a circular from the M. . W. . Grand [] of Maine, relative the formation of a General Grand [] .

In the opinion of your committee there exists no necessity for such a body, and its formation would only be the means of rendering more and more complicated the machinery of masonic government. Such an organization, founded at this late day, would prove a most fruitful source of discord, as your committee are convinced. Many Grand [] would not enter into the arrangement, and the effect of its organization would be destroyed at once.

CONNECTICUT.

The M. : W. : Grand \square of Connecticut held its Annual Communication at Hartford, on the 8th of May, 1857, M. : W. : Grand Master William L. Brewer presiding. The address of the Grand Master is brief, but full of useful suggestions. In speaking of the objects of a masonic \square , he says :

When a \square is driven with work to that degree that allows of scarcely anything else, it is evident that some of the chief benefits of our order are lost sight of. Another evil consists in the *rapidity* with which the several degrees are conferred. In many cases candidates are hastened so rapidly from one department to another of our mystic temple, that they have neither the time nor opportunity to appreciate or even discover the furniture with which they are adorned. Candidates are hurried from one degree to another without any reference to their proficiency. To this I think we may trace the existence of so many careless and indifferent masons. The less instruction the young mason receives, the fainter will be his perceptions of the beauty and importance of the great principles which lie at the foundation of the masonic institution. The letter and spirit of our ancient regulations required every candidate to be thoroughly instructed in one degree before he is allowed to take another. The question, "Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degree?" should not be a mere formula.

The appendix to the published proceedings of this Grand body contains an interesting synopsis of the proceedings of the Universal Masonic Congress, which assembled at the Orient of Paris in June, 1855.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence endorses fully the M. : W. : Grand \square of Canada as a legal and legitimate body.

DELAWARE.

The M. : W. : Grand \square of Delaware assembled at Wilmington, June 27th, 1857, M. : W. : Joseph Teas, Grand Master *pro tem.*, presiding. The proceedings of this Grand \square , as published, are exclusively of a business nature. No address by the Grand Master, and no report from a committee on Foreign Correspondence.

GEORGIA.

The Grand \square of this State held its Annual Communication at Macon, on the 27th October, 1857, M. : W. : Grand Master William L. Rockwell presiding. The Grand Master's annual address contains many valuable suggestions, and some important dicta in masonic jurisprudence. He says :

On the 25th, I had occasion to instruct Darley \square , as to the effect of the withdrawal of objections (after an unfavorable ballot declared final) at a subsequent meeting; and the power of a \square to reconsider its *minutes*, in order to change the result of the ballot. I regret to see that a notion obtains in this jurisdiction, that on a reconsideration of the minutes of a meeting, the \square may proceed to reverse the action which has been recorded. In my replies to several communications which I have received on this subject, I found it necessary to remind the \square that their minutes record what has been done, whether right or wrong, and a reconsideration is inadmissible, except to correct a mistake in the *record* of that action. If the \square wish to undo what has been done, or correct their *action* (not the *record* of it), a proceeding must be initiated for that purpose.

On the 31st I instructed the Master of Fairburn \square , that the statement of a brother on trial, in his own favor, may be received as evidence, and referred him to Mackey's "Principles of Masonic Law," a book which I take occasion to advise every Master of a \square to consult in the government of his \square .

I also replied to the inquiry of a brother, asking when a Royal Arch Mason

was entitled to the Master's seat in the □, by informing him that it was indispensably necessary that he should be elected thereto in the mode prescribed by the By-Laws, or to some office in the Grand □ which might entitle him to that privilege.

The report of the R. : W. : Deputy Grand Master Lawrence states that he has, during the past year, made the following decisions :

Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts cannot be admitted into funeral processions; cannot participate in the burial ceremony. It is only as Master Masons we bury and are buried. The (so-called) higher degrees are not known at or near the grave. Hence the *only* appropriate dress for a funeral occasion is the usual □ attire.

A petition once received and referred cannot be withdrawn with any advantage to the petitioner.

With regard to the right of withdrawing a petition once received and referred, we question the justness of Brother Lawrence's decision. Cannot the brother who recommends a petition withdraw it at any time before ballot is had? Such *should* be the courtesy of masonic intercourse, that any brother should have the privilege of saving a friend from the disgrace of open rejection.

IOWA.

The Annual Communication of the M. : W. : Grand □ of Iowa was holden at Iowa City, on the 2d of June, 1857, M. : W. : Grand Master John F. Sanford presiding.

In his address the M. : W. : Grand Master recapitulates his labors for the preceding year, announces the death of Past Senior Grand Warden Thomas Williams, and also touchingly alludes to his private and domestic calamities, in the loss of her who, for many years, had been his companion.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence reiterate the recognition of the M. : W. : Grand □ of Canada, and notice a protest which they had received from the "Provisional Grand □ of Canada West," and say :

Having in good faith hailed the Grand □ of Canada as a sovereign among us, we invite her to the customary fraternal correspondence, which we shall ever be ready to extend on our part, as heretofore.

They very justly remark, in speaking of the qualifications of Grand Master :

He should be a man, as St. Paul says of him who desireth the office of a bishop, "blameless, patient, one that ruleth well his own house, not a novice, of good report of them which are without, holding the mystery of our faith in a pure conscience."

The world is not so far wrong, although the contrary doctrine is always preached, when it judges our precepts by our practice, in the selection of our rulers. A Grand Master should not only be a good man, but should be known to the world as a man above reproach. However fair may be his character, unless he is known beyond the walls of our □ halls, he will be unable by his acts to speak for the institution.

MARYLAND.

The Annual Communication of the M. : W. : Grand □ of Maryland was holden Nov. 16-19, 1857. The Grand □ was opened by the M. : W. : Grand Master, James A. McKinney, and his address contains a feeling tribute of respect to the memory of the late lamented Dr. E. K. Kane, whose vacant chair reminded

them that he, who one year ago was in their midst, had passed into eternity, no more to be seen among men.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present an able report. The following is an extract :

A grand and noble institution is that of masonry, in the beautiful features that it presents, and in the fair proportion in which those features are developed. Its foundation stone is *Charity—Universal Love*; and the superstructure is an edifice built up of living stones wrought in the quarries of truth, and placed in their position by the hands of affection. Surely such an institution must be the highest that humanity can erect. There is no marvel, then, that it should have passed unharmed in its essential character through the vicissitudes of contentious and warring ages.

MINNESOTA.

The M. . W. . Grand of this Territory met at the city of St. Paul, on the 5th day of January, 1858.

Our brethren who are guarding the Northwest, though masonically in the the place of darkness, by their published proceedings show them not to be in want of further light. Their work is good and square work.

The address of the M. . W. . Grand Master, A. T. C. Pierson, is a spirited and able document, and the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is an extended and well-written synopsis of the proceedings of the different Grand with which they were in correspondence. Speaking of themselves, they say :

This being a young Grand body, far to the north—though *not quite* up to that point “where neither sun nor moon, at its meridian height, can dart a ray,”—we are naturally anxious to get from our elder sisters all the light and knowledge which they can dispense, and hope that they will be particular to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Masonry is yet in its season of vigorous youth in this young Territory, and we congratulate the craft of Minnesota upon the manifest spirit and strength with which every part of their proceedings appears to be characterized.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The M. . W. . Grand of North Carolina held its Annual Communication for 1857 at Raleigh, on the 7th of December.

M. . W. . Grand Master Pleasant A. Holt, in his annual address, comments upon with spirit, and reprehends with justice, some of the evils observable in subordinate . He says :

We find another indication to which I would direct your attention. It is a sort of Young Americanism that is becoming incorporated into the practical workings of subordinate , a method of making masons according to the principles of manifest destiny, as well as a hastiness of proceduro, as if it was necessary that everything should be controlled by the same laws which govern locomotion through the influences of steam or the transmission of intelligence by the operations of the telegraph. This is wrong in theory and dangerous in its practice. Masonry, it is true, in its practical application, is, to some extent, a progressive institution; its usages become modified to meet the customs and wants of the time. But to endeavor to incorporate into it any of the character and principles of modern institutions, not only detract from its beauty, but inflict a fatal wound upon its vitality. It is pre-eminently conservative in its character,

has descended unimpaired by the revolutions of centuries, and old-fogyish though its deriders may term it, yet the mirror is tarnished, and it is no longer Ancient Craft Masonry, whenever an innovation is incorporated.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made an able and well-digested report. At its conclusion are the following beautiful and truly masonic sentences:

Our *principles* are based upon foundations which cannot be moved by the violence of open enemies or the treachery of false friends. It remains, then, for those who cherish the symbols and rites which illustrate the principles of masonry, to show to the world the fruits of their labors in noble examples and worthy deeds. May it be the exalted purpose of all who have shared the toils and honor of beautifying the walls of our ancient temple, to guard well her land-marks and transmit in all their purity, the privilege we have inherited, to those who shall succeed us when we have been called from our earthly labors. May we all, under the direction of our Divine Master, so fulfill the appropriate duties of life, and finish the work here assigned us, that when our earthly tabernacle shall be dissolved, we may hear the cordial greeting of our Supreme Grand Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

SOUTH CAROLINA.

We have before us the proceedings of the M. : W. : Grand \square of South Carolina, from January 19th, 1857, to March 3d, 1858. At the Quarterly Communication held at Charleston on the 1st December, 1857, M. : W. : Brother A. Price, Grand Master, presided. The report of the R. : W. : Grand Secretary, Brother A. G. Mackey, is a learned, able and lengthy document. In speaking of masonic colleges and institutions of that character, he says :

The Grand Master of the Grand \square of Missouri, in a very excellent and practical address to that body, expressed great dissatisfaction at the condition of the Masonic College in that State, which he finds to be exceedingly unpopular with the subordinate \square s, and which he confesses cannot, in his opinion, succeed as an educational experiment.

I have long entertained the opinion that colleges were only capable of becoming dead weights upon the Grand \square , which unhappily undertake to establish them. Kentucky has long since found this to be the case, and will never forget the lesson it has derived from the fate of Funk Seminary. Missouri is now coming to the same conclusion, and entangled as she is with cords that tie her to a failing institution, she has at length determined to free herself by boldly cutting the knot. A resolution was accordingly adopted, by a large majority, directing the board of curators of the college to receive proposals for the disposal of the college grounds, buildings and furniture, to such association or college as would carry on the college.

It is well for the Grand \square of Nebraska to take warnings from such examples.

The address also contains spirited remarks upon the subject of over-much legislation in masonic \square s, and especially in Grand \square s. The political machinery by which subordinate \square s are governed should be of the least complicated description. We see by the reports of some of our sister Grand \square s, that they have for their guidance a Constitution and code of By-Laws amply sufficient in extent for the government of a State. We believe this to be all wrong. A few plain rules, laid down rather as principles than as laws, should be sufficient.

Concerning the necessity for a belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, Brother Mackey says :

Believing, as I do, in the authenticity of both the Old and New Testaments, I do not, and cannot, deny the principle that a belief in the historical character

of these documents is necessary to the full appreciation of the mysteries of Masonry, as they are set forth in the ritual of all christian countries. This cannot be denied by any one, who will, for a moment, remember of the furniture of every well-regulated \square . Unless a candidate assents to the historical accuracy of everything, at least, that relates to those events on which our traditions and ceremonies are founded, he can neither rightly understand our art nor give that faith to our legendary ritual, which can alone secure his continual attachment to our order. No man, therefore, who denies the great historical facts laid down in the Bible can become a conscientious disciple of Solomon and Hiram. In so far, therefore, the views of the candidate must coincide with the views that we teach, and which views are, of course, derived from the Holy Scriptures, which we all acknowledge to be our "moral, spiritual and masonic trestle-board."

And concerning the division of masonry in Canada, he very justly remarks :

And, at once, I do not hesitate to say that, in my opinion, supreme authority is vested in the Grand \square which was organized in 1855, at the city of Hamilton, and of which Brother William M. Wilson is now the Grand Master.

It was organized in accordance with all the principles of masonic law which have been just laid down. Canada was an open and unoccupied territory. No Grand \square was there, exercising exclusive jurisdiction. A convention of \square was organized. The old warrants were surrendered, and new ones taken out. If these proceedings were illegal and irregular, then there is not a Grand \square in the United States, or in the world, which can lay any claim to legality or regularity. In self-defense, as well as in accordance with all the principles of masonic law, we are bound to recognize the Grand \square of Canada.

NEW JERSEY.

The Annual Communication of the M. . W. . Grand \square of New Jersey was held at Trenton, January 13, 1858. The M. . W. . Grand Master, Joseph Trimble, in his annual address, states that he has granted ten dispensations to make masons at sight. A special committee to whom was referred the consideration of the matters at variance between the two Grand \square of Canada, after an able, just and convincing argument, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand \square of New Jersey believe the Grand \square of Canada, of which the M. . W. . William M. Wilson is Grand Master, and R. . W. . Thomas Bird Harris is Grand Secretary, to have been organized in accordance with the usages and customs of ancient Freemasonry, and recognize her as a legally constituted body, and extend to her the fraternal hand of welcome.

Resolved, That we hail the Grand \square of Canada as a sister Grand \square , entitled to all rights and privileges of communication and correspondence by which the fraternity of Grand \square are bound together.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to communicate, under the seal of this Grand \square , the action of this Grand \square , and transmit to the Grand Secretary of the Grand \square of Canada, a printed copy of the proceedings of this Communication.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence briefly review the proceedings of other Grand \square with which they are in communication.

OHIO.

The fraternity of Ohio convened at Massilon, October 20, 1857, when the M. . W. . Grand \square was opened in due and ancient form by the R. . W. . D. Brock, Deputy Grand Master. The Grand Master being absent from the State, his address was read by the R. . W. . Deputy. It contains many

valuable suggestions, and as it should be the desire of every mason to use strictly masonic language, the following will not be out of place:

Since the appointment of District Deputies, I have heard but little complaint of "itinerant lecturers," and hope we shall have less trouble in future from that cause; and when our masonic journalists shall cease to use the word "regalia" (introduced, I presume, by those itinerant lights), and fall back on the simple but masonic term "clothing," their teaching will soon be forgotten and their innovations discarded. No good mason ought to encourage an editor who will persist in stealing even a simple word from Odd Fellowship, to whom "regalia" of right belongs.

The M. . W. . Grand of Nebraska is indebted to the brethren of Ohio for a copy of the proceedings of their Grand from the time of its organization, in the year 1808, to the close of the year 1847, making a handsome volume, and invaluable for the purpose of masonic reference. To this Grand Body we are also indebted for the first recognition of the M. . W. . Grand of Nebraska. The following is a copy from the minutes of October 23:

Brother Thrall, Past Grand Master, announced the recent organization of a new Grand of Free and Accepted Masons in the Territory of Nebraska (most of the Grand Officers formerly of Ohio); and offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we greet with fraternal salutation our brethren of the Grand of Nebraska, and bid them God speed in their mission of charity and beneficence, while with freedom, fervency and zeal they *look well to the West!*

The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report, perhaps the most able and elaborate of any which have come under our notice. They thus refer to the organization of the Grand of Nebraska:

NEBRASKA.—After having completed their notices of the proceedings of the Grand of the several States, the committee received unofficial but authentic information of the formation of the Grand of Nebraska. The organization of that body was effected at Omaha City, on the 16th of September last; M. . W. . Brother R. C. Jordan, Omaha, Grand Master, and R. . W. . George Armstrong, Omaha, Grand Secretary. In extending to our brethren of Nebraska Territory the right hand of fellowship, and our heart-warm welcome, we are but greeting the brethren of our own household; as your committee are gratified to observe several names of brethren familiar to masonry in Ohio, occupying prominent positions in the newly-organized Grand . Let them illustrate the tenets of our profession, and keep in view the cardinal virtues, and masonry will flourish like a rose, in their care, upon the beautiful prairies.

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence decide:

That it is not competent for a Warden to resign during his term of office. In case of his absence from the , the Junior Warden succeeds to his station, and the Master supplies the South *pro tempore*.

The taking a dimit does not sever the membership of the brother receiving it, unless he remove from the jurisdiction of the ; but such dimit is in the nature of a letter commendatory of the brother to whom it is issued, for his admission to another ; nor does it disqualify him from holding office in the granting it.

TENNESSEE.

The M. . W. . Grand of Tennessee convened at Nashville on the 5th day of October, 1857. M. . W. . Thomas McCullough presided, and his annual address is full of instructive hints and masonic admonition. Rev. A. J. Baird

delivered an address before the Grand □, which is characterized by earnestness, kind feelings and eloquence. We make the following extracts:

The sacred history of the man of Uz tells us, that when the sons of God presented themselves before the Lord, Satan also presented himself. He may have sung sweet and holy songs—bowed low and reverentially—gave all signs of devotion, deep and contrite, and took upon himself the solemn vow of loyalty to the supreme I AM—and high regard for the fraternal bond—yet, within that dark spirit, what thought, motive or purpose good to aught beneath the throne? Though much to men there seemed, yet, within the focal span of that full-orbed, piercing eye of God, he was Satan still. How vain the effort to deceive Omniscience, or those who share the emanations of His wisdom.

Position cannot make a mason, nor is rank or intelligence masonry. Though by application, long and earnest, you may possess yourself of the secrets of mountain, ocean, earth and sky, yet without charity you cannot dry one orphan's tear or soothe the widow's woe. The sigh of the sorrowing, like the note of an unstrung harp, chimes not with the idle sound of the tinkling cymbal.

Wealth may buy, from the unfaithful, signs, words, grips, tinselry and honors, but it never bought a virtuous heart. It may purchase a cloak for the hypocrite, but the badge of a true and upright mason is as Solomon's virtuous woman, its "price above rubies." Influences of evil may often gain what blessings seem, but they never conduct the pilgrim enquirer for light to the pure fountains of honest integrity. Kindred sufferings—associations in hardship, war and carnage—or shares in softer scenes of halcyon youth, may bind the wayward heart in time, but there is an eternity in the strong tie of disinterested brotherly love.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence consists chiefly of well selected extracts from the printed proceedings of the various Grand □.

VERMONT.

The committee have examined the published proceedings of the M. : W. : Grand □ of this State, held in Burlington, on the 15th day of January, 1858. A portion of the address of the Grand Master, P. C. Tucker, is occupied by argument in the case of Abraham Platt. It seems that Platt was in business at Burlington, Vt., and also at Ogdensburgh, N. Y. He applied for admission to a □ in the former place, and was rejected. He then made application to the Ogdensburgh □, and was made a mason, but was not recognized as such by the Vermont masons. The Grand □ of New York took the matter in hand, and passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the M. : W. : Grand Master of Vermont be respectfully informed, that after the most patient, searching and thorough investigation into the facts of this case, as presented to the committee on Grievances, and with every desire, on their part, to discountenance any act of a subordinate □ even having the semblance of discourtesy, or which would be calculated to bring these respective Grand □ into collision, your committee find that the □ of Ogdensburgh has acted in a perfectly constitutional and masonic manner as to the admission of Brother Platt, and they therefore request that the brother be recognized as a member in good standing by the Grand □ of Vermont.

Resolved, That Ogdensburgh □ be and she is hereby exonerated from all blame in relation to the initiation, passing and raising of Brother Platt.

The Grand Master of Vermont sums up the case in three propositions which would appear to be incontrovertible:

1st.—It was known to Ogdensburgh □ that Platt was located in business at Burlington, Vt., and that the establishment he had at Ogdensburgh was only a

branch of that business, and that his residence was, and had been, substantially, at Burlington.

2d.—Platt *suppressed* the fact that he had applied to the □ at Burlington and been rejected—the suppression of which fact was a fraud upon Ogdensburgh □. Had he told this simple truth, would Ogdensburgh □ have received his petition, he having stores in both places, and having treated Burlington as his residence by first making his petition there?

3d.—The 23d article of the regulations of the Grand □ of New York, as published in 1854, and then in force, made it the duty of the □ to which an application was made for admission, to *make inquiry* whether the petition had been elsewhere previously rejected by any other masonic body. No such inquiry was ever made by Ogdensburgh □, or its Master, and this was a clear, distinct and undoubted violation of the laws of the Grand □ of New York. None of these things were heeded by the committee. They were suppressed; Ogdensburgh □ is justified; and the Grand □ of Vermont, which had quietly examined all the testimony in the matter, without feeling and without prejudice, is attempted to be thrown into the wrong by a one-sided examination and report sanctioned by the Grand □ of New York.

We are then in this position: The Grand □ of New York, blinded by an improper report of one of its committees, passes off to the world Abraham Platt as a legitimate masonic brother. The Grand □ of Vermont, in January, 1856, after a full investigation of the whole case, passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That no subordinate □ under this jurisdiction shall admit or acknowledge Abraham Platt as a Free and Accepted Mason, while standing in his present relation to Washington □, No. 3.

The committee who reported the above resolution also said in their report: "Your committee are clearly of opinion, that if such a practice be continued, it must tend to destroy all confidence among brethren, and all harmony in our □, and that it must prove subversive of the most vital principles of our order, and ought not to be tolerated."

The Grand □ of Vermont adopted that report, and will abide by it. Abraham Platt is (according to the action of the New York Grand □) a mason *within the bounds of that State, but he is not one in Vermont*, and (wherever masonic justice and law rule) not one elsewhere. It is hopeful that he will adhere to his New York masonry only, and that Ogdensburgh □ and the Grand □ of New York will make the most of a member who joined them by acknowledged fraud, and whose masonry is bounded by State lines.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, with other valuable matter, contains a tabular statement of masonic statistics, valuable for reference. In relation to the power of a Master of a □ to resign his office, the committee quote from the proceedings of the Grand □ of Indiana, whose proceedings your committee have not received:

That the being made Master of a □ ought not to deprive the Master of any of those rights which he enjoyed as a mason—among which is the right to change his location, by moving from the jurisdiction of one □ to that of another, and with such change of location to change his membership, which are only to be done by dimitting from the □ of which he is a member. The Grand □ of England, on the 25th of November, 1793, provided "that if a Master of a □ is deposed, or *dimits*, the Senior Warden shall fill the chair until the next appointment of officers." In the Ancient Constitution we find this provision: "If the Master goes abroad on business, *resigns*, or is deposed, the Senior Warden shall fill his place," &c. Dermot, in the Ahiman Rezon, establishes the principle: "That if the Master dies, *dimits*, *resigns*, is deposed, or goes abroad, his place shall be filled by the Senior Warden." The Grand □ of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Ohio, and perhaps others, have recognized the right of a Master to resign or dimit, a right which your committee think may

be classed among what, in other associations, would be called *inherent and inalienable rights*. They think, in fact, that the right to resign or dimit is as well established by masonic law as the *right to die or be deposed*.

VIRGINIA.

We have before us the proceedings of the M. . W. . Grand \square of Virginia at its Annual Grand Communication, held at the city of Richmond, Dec. 14, 1857, M. . W. . John S. Caldwell Grand Master. The address of the M. . W. . Grand Master is brief, consisting chiefly of a notice of his official acts. The address contains a valuable suggestion in relation to the publication in the Grand \square proceedings of the names of those expelled or rejected. The remarks are founded on that truly masonic virtue—Charity:

I beg leave to call your attention, at this time, to the practice of publishing with the proceedings of the Grand \square a list of rejections made by the subordinate \square s. The object, I presume, is to give notice to sister \square s of what takes place at each \square , and thus give notice of rejections and prevent impositions. But it will readily be perceived that the publishing a list annually only, does not effect the object aimed at. The printed proceedings of the Grand \square are not distributed for a long time after the closing of the Grand \square , and the rejections at the subordinate \square s are reported to the Grand Secretary during the previous twelve months. So that in many cases more than a year will have elapsed between the rejection of an applicant and the notice given by the printed proceedings, at which time it is admissible for a rejected party to renew his application. If I am right in this statement, the publishing of the list of rejected applicants, as before mentioned, ought to be discontinued; for surely, if we can do the profane no good, we ought not to do them harm, nor put it in the power of others to do so. We should recollect that after the proceedings are printed they belong to the world, and by inserting the list of rejections we put it in the power of the malevolent to mortify and wound the feelings of perhaps some worthy man.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a most able and elaborate report. In relation to the Bible test, they say :

We must confess some surprise at the gracious permission accorded to the Israelite to enter our fraternity, who with a much greater show of reason might argue: "By what right or authority is the New Testament in our \square , when working in Ancient Craft Masonry?" We presume, of course, that by the words Holy Scriptures is meant the Old and New Testaments, and are sure that the Grand \square of Texas would not be willing to see the New Testament flung from the position it now occupies.

So far are we imbued with the spirit of charity, that we would cheerfully be present at the initiation of a believer in Allah, and have no objection to his Bible lying peacefully by the side of our own on the occasion.

We do not go the length of saying, with our respected brethren of Alabama, "that it would be the same to us if we saw a volume of *Æsop's Fables* resting on that holy place;" but we are equally far from subscribing to the doctrine of our brethren of Iowa, "that any candidate denying the authenticity of the Bible should be excluded, if for no other reason than because he was a fool."

We are opposed to the introduction of any new test of the qualifications of a candidate for masonry; particularly, if, as in the present instance, it strikes at the root of one of its noblest features, viz: its Universality. Not an argument advanced by our respected brethren of Texas, that might not, with a change of names, be used by the Turk, Chinese, or red Indian, in favor of his particular creed. To sum up all, as we believe the importance of this subject has carried us to an inordinate length, we hope never to hear more required of a candidate on this head, than that he should express his trust in that

Father of all, in every age,
 In every clime adored,
 By saint, by savage, and by sage,
 Jehovah, Jove, or Lord.

They set forth in strong terms the evils of so-called masonic literature, and say :

We would say a word or two upon what is called masonic literature, and allude more particularly to the newspapers, which seem to be increasing to an alarming extent. We affirm without danger of contradiction, that we know of scarcely any that are not doing more harm than good to the institution. They print what never ought to be written—each, in this respect, endeavoring to out-do his neighbor; they vaunt the good deeds of the fraternity, totally forgetting that one hand of a true mason never knows what is done by the other. They discuss knotty points of law, which only require common sense, guided by brotherly love, to adjudicate upon; and, finally, the primary object with ninety-nine out of one hundred is individual emolument. Evil must result from this—good, never.

Your committee are also in receipt of the printed proceedings of this Grand at a Special Communication begun and held at the city of Richmond, on the 22d of February, 1858. The occasion was the dedication of the Washington Monument, and the ceremonies were conducted in an imposing manner by the assembled craft. The occasion was glorious, and the day an eventful one in the annals of Freemasonry in Virginia. The R. . W. . Grand Secretary gave formal notice of the commencement of the masonic ceremonies, and after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Architect came forward and returned the working implements—the square, the level and the plumb—in a neat and graceful speech, which was responded to by the M. . W. . Grand Master. The monument was then dedicated in due form, and an appropriate ode sung. The R. . W. . Grand Orator, R. G. Scott, was introduced, and delivered an eloquent and appropriate oration, and the masonic ceremonies were concluded with a benediction. The day was closed at *refreshment*, by a magnificent collation, at which genius, wit and poesy reigned supreme.

We congratulate the craft of the Old Dominion that their “work is completed,” and that the key-stone is laid to so noble a structure, and they have our best wishes that their efforts to purchase the home and grave of Washington may meet with the like success.

In conclusion, your committee would state that they have discharged the duties devolving upon them in a hurried and unsatisfactory manner. Such a mass of material was presented for their consideration as should have occupied their attention for a much longer time. They have found themselves brought into contact, as it were, with the best masons in the land, and we have derived benefit and instruction from the intercourse. We regret that we have not before us the proceedings of all the Grand of the Union; but from those in our possession we gather the conclusion, that masonry was never before in a more flourishing condition throughout the length and the breadth of the land. It is our duty to preserve it in this condition. Those who have gone before us have planted a goodly tree, and we who, in the hot and dusty path of life, repose beneath its shadow, will rise up and call them blessed. The tender branches thereof shall not cease, nor the strong limbs be scathed, but in all its vigor will we leave it to our posterity—not a leaf missing, not a branch decayed.

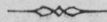
Station *guards* at the portals of your temple, that none pass or repass save such as be well qualified and fitted to enter. Let every one among us make the cause of masonry his own—jealous of its good repute, and watchful of its fair name. Let not the emblem of innocence become tarnished by pollution—but in all things be ye good men, and true, and obey the moral law.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. G. CLARKE, Chairman.

Brother Armstrong presented the Grand Treasurer's bond. Approved and ordered filed.

Grand □ called from labor until half past 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.



SECOND DAY.

JUNE 3, 1858.

At the appointed hour the Grand □ was called to labor on the third degree of masonry.

The following amendment to the By-Laws was offered by Brother Bratton:

Resolved, That section 18 of the By-Laws be amended as follows: Strike out \$1.50 where it occurs, and insert \$2.50.

Laid over, under the rule.

Brother Furnas, from the select committee on Grand Master's Address, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand Master, offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That that portion of the Grand Master's Address relative to the collection of historical facts as to the introduction of masonry into this Territory, and its progress thus far, be referred to a select committee of one from each □ now in existence; said committee to report at the next Annual Communication of this Grand □.

R. W. FURNAS, }
H. N. CORNELL, } Committee.

Brothers Keller, of Nebraska □, No. 1, Lindley, of Western Star □, No. 2, Clarke, of Capital □, No. 3, Bratton, of Nemaha Valley □, No. 4, Wilkinson, of Omadi □, No. 5, and Wheeler, of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, were appointed said committee.

Brother Armstrong, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, having before them the By-Laws of Western Star ☐, No. 2, find the following clause in the 1st section of article 8:

“But no brother shall dimit unless he is about to leave the vicinity of the ☐, or to form a new ☐.”

While we sincerely deprecate the non-affiliation of masons, and think all proper and legal measures should be adopted to prevent the evil, yet we claim that there is nothing in the laws or usages of masonry which would sanction an interference in a brother's exercising his own pleasure respecting his connection with a ☐.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG.

The following amendment to the By-Laws was offered by Brother Redfield:

Resolved, That article 1 of the Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate ☐ be amended to read as follows:

“A subordinate ☐ shall consist of at least a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior and Junior Deacon, a Tyler, and as many members as are convenient. The officers above enumerated shall be elected by ballot, by a majority of votes, at the stated meeting preceding the festival of St. John the Baptist (June 24); except the Senior Deacon and Tyler, who shall be appointed by the Master elect, and the Junior Deacon, who shall be appointed by the Senior Warden elect, and be installed as near the festival of St. John the Baptist as practicable.

Laid over, under the rule.

The Grand Master instructed in the work of the third degree.

Brother Cornell, from the select committee on Uniformity of Work, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The select committee appointed by the Grand Master, make the following report:

That they have had the subject under consideration, and would recommend that the manner of conferring the first three degrees which our M. . W. . Grand Master has so fully illustrated in our presence, be accepted and introduced throughout the subordinate ☐ of Nebraska, by the Grand Lecturer, as soon

as practicable; and would furthermore recommend the speedy introduction, adoption and use of Cornelius Moore's Craftsman throughout the [] .

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. N. CORNELL, }
 J. H. MAXON, } Committee.
 C. D. KELLER, }

On motion of Brother Armstrong, it was

Resolved, That orders be drawn on the Grand Treasurer in favor of the following [], for amount of Grand [] dues ordered to be refunded, viz: Nebraska [], No. 1, \$24.50; Western Star [], No. 2, \$23.50; Capital [], No. 3, \$57.00; Nemaha Valley [], No. 4, \$10.25; Omadi [], No. 5, \$14.50; Plattsmouth [], No. 6, \$2.50.

Grand [] closed in harmony at 11 o'clock.

ROBERT C. JORDAN, *Grand Master*.

ROBERT W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary*.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

NEBRASKA □, NO. 1, BELLEVUE.

Regular days of meeting: second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

L. B. Kinney, W. M.	Thomas M. Boyer, Treas.	Louis F. Bartels, J. D.
John A. Nye, S. W.	W. H. Cook, Secretary.	Henry T. Clarke, Steward.
C. D. Keller, J. W.	Charles Johnson, S. D.	Almarin Lockwood, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Leavitt L. Bowen,	Joseph Bennett,	Andrew Sagendorf,
J. M. Whitted,	Stephen H. Wattles,	Silas A. Strickland.
Thomas Clifton,		

Initiated, 11 ; admitted, 4 ; present members, 16.

WESTERN STAR □, NO. 2, NEBRASKA CITY.

Regular days of meeting: Friday at or preceding each full moon ; also upon St. John's day.

OFFICERS.

Sylvester Redfield, W. M.	Geo. W. Bailey, Treas'r.	David Huffman, J. D.
John H. Maxon, S. W.	Mastin W. Riden, Sec'y.	Edward Henry, Tyler.
Wm. P. Birchfield, J. W.	David Lindley, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

William B. Hall,	John Boulware,	Geo. W. Boulware,
I. L. Gibbs,	John S. Place,	Simon Hooper,
H. N. Cornell,	John B. Boulware,	William W. Loper,
William Anderson,	Samuel P. Sibley,	Fountain Pearman,
Hiram P. Downs,	Smith McMains,	John C. Campbell,
John F. Kinney,	Jacob Safford,	Henry Brown,
T. E. Thompson,	Thomas Donahoo,	Charles W. Wyatt.
J. B. Bennett,	G. H. Hail,	

Initiated, 4 ; raised, 3 ; admitted, 4 ; withdrawn, 2 ; deceased, 2 ; expelled, William W. Hurst, 1 ; present members, 36.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA.

Regular days of meeting: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Robert C. Jordan, W. M.	John R. Porter, Treas'r.	Lorin Miller, J. D.
George W. Wood, S. M.	Albert G. Clarke, Sec'y.	Francis Lusignan, Tyler.
Theodore H. Dodd, J. W.	Horaco G. Spencer, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

H. C. Anderson,	Charles H. Hamilton,	John H. Sahler,
George Armstrong,	Myer Hellman,	Alfred Sayre,
Nelson Baker,	A. Jacobs,	Robert Shields,
George C. Bovey,	A. D. Jones,	George W. Skinner,
William N. Byers,	Frank Kemp,	Thomas F. Stewart,
J. M. A. Campbell,	Aaron Cahn,	J. F. Taylor,
J. M. Chivington,	John Logan,	John M. Thayer,
E. H. Clark,	J. P. Manning,	William R. Thrall,
Fleming Davidson,	George L. Miller,	Charles Turner,
George W. Forbes,	P. G. Peterson,	H. H. Visser,
William Frodsham,	John Reck,	Philip Windheim,
A. R. Gilmore,	Samuel E. Rogers,	William F. Wilder.
Joel Griffin,		

Initiated, 17 ; raised, 15 ; admitted, 5 ; withdrawn, 2 ; deceased, 1 ; present members, 45.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE.

Regular days of meeting: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

G. W. Bratton, W. M.	David Siegel, Treasurer.	Adrian Hoblitzell, J. D.
Jesse Noel, S. W.	U. C. Johnson, Secretary.	Jeremiah Marlatt, Tyler.
C. S. Langdon, J. W.	M. F. Clark, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Franklin Ferguson,	L. E. Lyanna,	R. W. Furnas,
R. T. Rainey,	William Hoblitzell,	William A. Finney,
T. W. Bedford,	Henry Bean,	John B. Wells.
Elias Knauer,		

Initiated, 7 ; admitted, 3 ; withdrawn, 1 ; present members, 18.

OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI.

(No day of meeting indicated in the return.)

OFFICERS.

M. G. Wilkinson, W. M.	Thos. McDermott, Treas.	M. Pinkerton, J. D.
E. G. Lamson, S. W.	J. C. Turk, Secretary.	Amos Lamson, Tyler
A. W. Puett, J. W.	J. H. Hallack, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

H. M. Hale,	Stephen Ulrez,	W. C. McBeath.
Harlan Baird,	Alex. Ford,	

Initiated, 5 ; admitted, 1 ; present members, 13.

PLATTSMOUTH □, NO. 6, PLATTSMOUTH.

Regular day of meeting: first Monday evening of each month.

OFFICERS.

E. A. Donelan, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	Joseph Harper, J. D.
D. H. Wheeler, S. W.	J. C. Cummins, Sec'y.	G. W. Colvin, Tyler.
John W. Marshall, J. W.	Wm. B. Porter, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

J. Minchell,	W. M. Slaughter,	W. H. Bassett.
W. D. McCord,	E. Williams,	

Initiated, 1 ; admitted, 1 ; present members, 12.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT BELLEVUE, JUNE 14, A. L. 5859.

SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

BELLEVUE, N. T., June 14, 1859.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its second Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Bellevue, this day. There were present the following

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. . W. . R. C. JORDAN, Grand Master.
R. . W. . S. REDFIELD, as Senior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . G. W. WILKINSON, as Junior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . J. H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.
R. . W. . R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary.
W. . J. M. CHIVINGTON, Grand Chaplain.
W. . A. G. CLARKE, Grand Orator.
W. . GEO. ARMSTRONG, Grand Lecturer.
W. . H. N. CORNELL, Grand Marshal.
W. . S. A. STRICKLAND, as Senior Grand Deacon.
W. . C. D. KELLER, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. . ALFRED SAYER, as Grand Steward.
W. . D. H. WHEELER, Grand Sword Bearer.
W. . H. BROWN, } as Grand Pursuivants.
W. . H. G. SPENCER, }
W. . S. D. BANGS, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. . W. . Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers

and brethren present, preparatory to the opening of the Grand of Nebraska.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Furnas, Keller and Wheeler.

On Visitors—Brothers Armstrong, Clarke and Cornell.

Brother Furnas, from committee on Credentials, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

The committee on Credentials find, by examination, the following in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct. The number of votes to which each is entitled is also given:

NEBRASKA , No. 1—L. B. Kinney, 1; W. H. Cook, 1; S. A. Strickland, 1.

WESTERN STAR , No. 2—S. Redfield, 1; H. Brown, 1.

CAPITAL , No. 3—Geo. Armstrong, 1; A. Sayer, 1; H. G. Spencer, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY , No. 4—R. W. Furnas, 3.

OMADI , No. 5—G. W. Wilkinson, 2; A. Ford, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH , No. 6—D. H. Wheeler, 3.

The committee also find the following Grand Officers entitled to seats:

M. W. R. C. Jordan, Grand Master.

R. W. S. Redfield, as Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. G. W. Wilkinson, as Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. J. H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.

W. J. M. Chivington, Grand Chaplain.

W. A. G. Clarke, Grand Orator.

W. Geo. Armstrong, Grand Lecturer.

W. H. N. Cornell, Grand Marshal.

W. S. A. Strickland, as Senior Grand Deacon.

W. C. D. Keller, Junior Grand Deacon.

W. Alfred Sayer, as Grand Steward.

W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Sword Bearer.

W. H. Brown, } as Grand Pursuivants.

W. H. G. Spencer, }

W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Tyler.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
C. D. KELLER, }

A constitutional number of being represented, the W. Grand Marshal, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, declared

the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers J. H. Maxon, A. Sayer and H. G. Spencer.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Geo. Armstrong, S. Redfield and H. Brown.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers A. G. Clarke, L. B. Kinney and J. M. Chivington.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Geo. Armstrong, H. N. Cornell and J. H. Maxon.

On Charity—Brothers Alfred Sayer, H. Brown and J. M. Chivington.

On Grievances—Brothers S. A. Strickland, S. Redfield and H. N. Cornell.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers C. D. Keller, D. H. Wheeler and A. Ford.

On Pay Roll—Brothers R. W. Furnas, J. H. Maxon and G. W. Wilkinson.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Geo. Armstrong, L. B. Kinney and A. Sayer.

On School Fund—Brothers W. A. Cook, G. W. Wilkinson and A. Ford.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers A. G. Clarke, C. D. Keller and J. H. Maxon.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then delivered the following

ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand □:

Another twelve months have been added to the past since last we met in Grand □, and we are again assembled in accordance with a resolution adopted at our last annual meeting. The yearly convention of the legal delegates of the subordinate □, in every jurisdiction, is a season looked forward to by the zealous mason with feelings of much interest and gratification, and he hails with pleasure the dawning of the day when he shall enter the temple in company with his brethren, and join with them in the inspection of the work of the preceding year, and assist in drawing upon the trestle-board such designs as may be deemed best for the future operations of the craft.

For this purpose we have come together, my brethren, and trusting that each one of us has joined earnestly in the petition to the Throne of Grace just offered by our Worshipful Grand Chaplain, I will proceed in my duty of laying before you what of interest has come under my observation during the past year.

Immediately after the close of our last session, I issued proxies to the following named brethren, for the purpose of installing the officers of the □ chartered at that time, viz: Brother David Lindley to install the officers of Nemaha Valley □, No. 4; Brother George Armstrong to install the Worshipful Master of Omadi □, No. 5; and to R.: W.: Brother W. D. McCord to install the officers of Plattsmouth □, No. 6. I have been notified that each brother performed the duty assigned to him, and that the new □ were fairly set to work under their charters.

The word *charters* brings to my mind an error in judgment we were guilty of in having our Grand Secretary purchase blank *paper* charters, instead of parchment, at the forming of this Grand □, in September, 1857. It was done for the sake of economy, as were many of our similar acts at that time. A short two years brings evidence sufficient to satisfy any one that it was an oversight. The charter of Capital □, at Omaha, is already so mutilated that it has to be used with great care. The charter of a masonic □ should invariably be of parchment. Every year adds much to their value, and when they have existed a century, or half that time, their value is incalculable. I recommend that as soon as parchment charters can be obtained, the Grand Secretary be instructed to fill up one for each □ in the Territory and forward the same to the Secretary of the □, and each □, upon the receipt of the same, forward the old charters to the Grand Secretary.

You are all aware, no doubt, we have had no increase in the number of □ during the past year. To some of our sister Grand □, which have been chartering from twenty to thirty at each session for a few years past, this would appear, perhaps, very slow work, if not a retrograde movement among the fraternity in Nebraska; but, I am happy to say, brethren, for the information of all who may feel an interest in our welfare, that our march has been steadily onward. I have been advised from time to time that the six □ which compose our little family have held their meetings regularly, and have increased gradually in strength; conferring the degrees upon good men and true, and not hesitating to reject material presented for inspection when it was thought it could not be formed into good square work. The □, at the last annual election, as I am informed, placed in the different offices the most skillful workmen, brethren known and distinguished for their fidelity and industry. If this course be pursued in the future, there can be no doubt of success.

For the information of our brethren in other jurisdictions, who are but little acquainted with our newly-settled country, and who know still less of the extreme difficulties which the whole Territory has had to contend with respecting monetary affairs, I have to say, that brethren in different portions of the Territory have had in contemplation the forming of three new □ during the past year, but having ascertained that the places in which they proposed to locate them had no very suitable rooms for the purpose, and taking into consideration the financial troubles before mentioned, I recommended a postponement of action in the matter until such a permanent change had taken place for the better, as would warrant them in proceeding without the fear of having to suspend labor after they had commenced. I trust that in future the Grand □ of Nebraska will have no blank numbers in her list of □. The marked difference of a large increase in almost every branch of business throughout the Territory in this year over last, indicates a return, not far distant, of the prosperous times previous to 1857, and we may reasonably expect an increase in the number of □ the coming year.

By referring to page 43 of the printed proceedings of the last meeting of this Grand □, you will observe a proposed amendment to article 1 of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand □, proposing to change our present arrange-

ment in electing the officers of the subordinate at the stated meeting preceding St. John the Evangelist's day, December 27, and installing on that day. The change proposed is to elect at the stated meeting previous to St. John the Baptist's day, and install on that day. I regard a change of the kind proposed as very objectionable. Our present arrangement is the same as that which is almost universally observed. I know of but one or two States where the elections and installations are held at the June festival, and I think a change made by those States to the almost universal custom of electing previous to, and installing on, St. John the Evangelist's day, would perhaps be the means of restoring a uniformity in other matters at present much complained of. It seems to be almost impossible to check the general disposition to have something new, even in our ancient and venerable institution.

On page 42 you will observe a resolution, proposing to change the present rate of mileage and per diem allowed delegates to the Grand . This is a matter which each one can determine for himself, whether the rate is too high or too low.

I have thought proper to call your attention to the fifth rule among the Rules and Regulations of the Grand , for the government of the subordinates. The said rule requires all the proceedings, ballotings, and business of the , to be had in a of Master Masons, excepting the conferring of the inferior degrees. It is complained of by some, that it does injustice to Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, in not permitting them to ballot, and have the privilege of making choice of their associates. The making of this rule is evidently a departure from ancient usage, and I fully agree with those who argue that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts should ballot for candidates for those degrees, which of course would have to be in of those grades. I consider the rule has another objectionable feature, that is, in consuming much time in the opening of the different , for examining, balloting, &c., which is well understood, I think, among those who are regular attendants at the . In other jurisdictions where this rule has prevailed, it has been entirely rescinded; I would recommend similar action on the part of this Grand .

In the outward world this is called a progressive age, and it is with wonder and admiration that we view from time to time the various improvements made in science and art within the memory of the youngest member of this Grand . Whilst the production of new and valuable inventions, or anything else which has a tendency to benefit mankind in general, is commendable in the highest degree, we are inclined to look upon our venerable order as being *nearly perfection as a moral institution*, and not susceptible of being improved upon, as are many of the ephemeral productions of the present day. The foundations of the masonic order were laid deep and with much care, in ages long since past, and by master workmen who were to the fullest extent entitled to the appellation, and they did not intend it should be subject to the change and experimentalism of uneasy minds which are never satisfied to let alone that which is good; hence the wise provision made in the installation ceremony of every Master of a subordinate , "not to suffer any innovations," &c.

I have made the foregoing remarks for the purpose of calling your attention

to what is called "new regulations" adopted by the Grand \square of Indiana, on the 26th of May, 1858; they read as follows:

1st. It shall be competent for the subordinate \square of which the Grand Master is a member, to try, and expel or suspend him, for any unmasonic conduct, not growing out of his official duties, and when expelled or suspended, his office of Grand Master shall be vacated and the officer next in rank shall fill the office.

2d. Subordinate \square s shall have power to try, and expel or suspend their Master for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of the discharge of his official duties; when the Master of a \square is under trial, the officer next in rank, or some Past Master to be designated by him, shall *préside*. When the Master of a \square is expelled or suspended, the officer next in rank shall succeed to the station.

3d. The Grand Master and Masters of subordinate \square s are answerable only to the Grand \square for acts growing out of their official duties.

While we entirely disclaim any intention or idea of interfering in the affairs of our brethren of Indiana, or any other jurisdiction, we feel it a duty we owe to the masonic fraternity to notice these *really new regulations*, and can only regard them as a direct thrust at the very vitals of the institution. But our own *charity* tells us it was unintentional and not well considered, and we have *faith* to believe such is the fact, and *hope* that the day is not far distant when the whole proceedings in the matter will be erased from the journals of that Grand \square . We are inclined to believe that the conflicting amendments offered previous to their adoption created confusion in the minds of some brethren, and caused them to vote for just what they did not intend to.

It is a well-known truth, and much to be regretted, that subordinate \square s, in electing a Master, sometimes give the preference to one who is perhaps perfect in the ritual, but whose moral deportment will not bear the test of the square. In nearly every instance, this is well known before he is elected and installed; but being *bright*, they elect him in preference to one who is not so well skilled, but known to be a good and true mason. The consequence frequently is, that before his term of office expires he is guilty of some misdemeanor, which is looked upon as disgraceful in him, and mortifying to the feelings of the members of his \square .

The custom from time immemorial, in cases like the foregoing, has been to enter a complaint against the Master, to the Grand Master (when the Grand \square is not in session), who would depose the Master from office, or receive such satisfactory assurances of reformation in him as to continue him in office on trial. If a \square elects an immoral Master, and suffers in consequence of his bad conduct, that is the misfortune of that particular \square , and we hold that one of the oldest of the land-marks of the order should not be removed to meet a few such cases, when so easy and prompt a remedy is at their command, in preferring charges against the Master to the Grand Master. In our observation of nearly fifteen years, we cannot bring to mind so many as a half dozen instances where \square s have been unfortunate in selecting immoral Masters.

With regard to a Grand Master being amenable to the subordinate \square of which he is a member, and liable to expulsion from all masonic privileges and his office of Grand Master made vacant by the action of a single \square , I am at a loss to comprehend what would be the result of such a system. As I have seen no comments upon this subject, I prefer to say nothing further in regard to it, but will look anxiously for the opinion of that eminent expounder of

masonic law and custom, Brother Albert G. Mackey, of South Carolina. I cannot learn that Indiana has suffered any in consequence of immoral and unmasonic conduct, in either any of her Grand Masters or subordinate \square ; if such is the case, it is to be regretted that the desire for *something new* prevailed to such an extent as to cause the adoption of the regulations to which we have alluded.

The subject of a General Grand \square of the United States is still being discussed in some jurisdictions with considerable ardor. Its particular advantages are set forth with much earnestness by the friends of the movement, while on the other hand strong objections are urged by the opponents of the measure, for various reasons not necessary for me to explain at this time. I am individually opposed to such an organization, for the reason that I do not believe it would be of any benefit to the fraternity at large, and admitting that it would, it would be impossible, at this late day, to get all the Grand \square s of the Union to unite in it, which ought to be the case if it is ever attempted. My object in calling your attention to the subject is, that you may, if you see proper, have an expression of opinion relative to the propriety of establishing such a body, that the advocates and opponents of it may know the feelings of this Grand \square on the subject, in case steps are taken to establish a general head of the order in the United States.

The Grand \square of Virginia is co-operating with the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association, in the purchase of the homestead, the tomb and a portion of the land that was once the home of Washington. If their success in receiving contributions is equal to the energy displayed by the fraternity in the Old Dominion, the undertaking will be easily accomplished. Brother John Dove, the Grand Secretary, is a host within himself, and we hope that his efforts will be crowned with success. The cause is a noble one, and should receive the support of not only every mason, but every American citizen. One payment has already been made, and the next one is to be made in February, 1860. They only ask for one dollar from each individual mason, and I would recommend to all brethren who can spare that amount to forward it to Brother John Dove, Richmond, Virginia, who will place it to its proper use.

As my term of office is about to expire, I deem this an appropriate time to tender you many thanks for the honor you have conferred in elevating me to the high position I have occupied for the past two years. Although the duties have not been arduous, yet I am compelled to apologize for a seeming neglect on my part in not making the customary visits to the \square , which is the duty of every Grand Master to make. For several months I was necessarily absent from the Territory, and since my return I have been prevented from so doing for several reasons of a private nature. I trust what failures I have made, to render satisfaction, may be overlooked, and that my successor and his associates in office may be able to spare the time, and have the inclination, to attend as strictly to the wants of the jurisdiction, as its interests will in all probability require the coming year. With a sincere wish that our business may be conducted in harmony and good order, and that each one of us may so act in our daily walk and conversation as to elicit from the world praise rather than reproach towards the order we so much revere,

I am fraternally yours,

ROBERT C. JORDAN, *Grand Master.*

Brother Chivington presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Chivington, L. B. Kinney, and Wheeler, were appointed said committee.

Brother Chivington, from the select committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's Address, reported as follows :

REPORT.

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

The select committee to whom was referred the M. . W. . Grand Master's annual and most admirable address, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein contained shall be referred, beg leave to report, that

So much as refers to procuring new parchment charters for the subordinate , be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

So much as refers to the proposed change of By-Laws and Rules and Regulations, be referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

So much as refers to the "new regulations" adopted by the Grand of Indiana, be referred to a select committee of three.

So much as refers to the subject of a General Grand of the United States, be referred to a select committee of three.

So much as relates to the purchase of Mount Vernon and the tomb of Washington by the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association, be referred to a select committee of three.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. CHIVINGTON,	} Committee.
L. B. KINNEY,	
D. H. WHEELER,	

The report was adopted.

The M. . W. . Grand Master appointed the following select committees as provided for in the foregoing report :

SELECT COMMITTEES.

On Indiana Regulations—Brothers George Armstrong, S. Redfield, and L. B. Kinney.

On Mount Vernon Purchase—Brothers Alfred Sayer, H. N. Cornell, and G. W. Wilkinson.

On General Grand —Brothers A. G. Clarke, D. H. Wheeler, and H. G. Spencer.

Brother Cornell offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing be invited to witness the deliberations of this Grand \square .

The M. W. Grand \square was called from labor to refreshment until 2 P. M.



AFTERNOON SESSION.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. Grand \square was called from refreshment to labor, M. W. Grand Master presiding.

Prayer by the R. W. Grand Chaplain.

Brother Wheeler, from the select committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Unfinished Business find, upon examining the proceedings of last year—in addition to the changes in the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand \square , noticed by the M. W. Grand Master in his address to the Grand \square —on page 42—that a committee of one from each chartered \square in the Territory was appointed to collect historical facts relative to the introduction of Masoury into the Territory, and were directed to report at this meeting of the Grand \square .

The committee not being able to discover anything further, respectfully ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

D. H. WHEELER, }
 C. D. KELLER, } Committee.
 A. FORD, }

The R. W. Grand Secretary presented the following as his report, which was referred to committee on Accounts.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

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

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska :*

1859.				Dr.
June 14.	To amount of dues from Nebraska \square , No. 1.....			\$24 00
" "	" " " " Western Star \square , No. 2.....			74 00
" "	" " " " Capital \square , No. 3.....			49 00
" "	" " " " Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4.....			30 00
" "	" " " " Omadi \square , No. 5.....			27 00
" "	" " " " Plattsmouth \square , No. 6.....			26 00
				\$230 00
				Cr.
	By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....			\$230 00

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary.*

The R. W. Grand Treasurer presented the following annual report, which was referred to committee on Accounts :

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

JOHN H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska :

	Dr.	Cr.
1858.		
June 2. To amount received of William Anderson, late Grand Treasurer.....	\$370 10	
1859.		
June 14. Received of Grand Secretary, Grand \square dues.....		230 00
		<u>\$600 10</u>
1858.		Cr.
June 2. By Pay Roll of first session.....		\$81 21
“ “ “ Voucher No. 1, amount refunded Omadi \square , No. 5.....	14 50	
“ “ “ “ No. 2, “ “ Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4.....	10 25	
“ “ “ “ No. 3, “ “ Western Star \square , No. 2.....	23 50	
“ “ “ “ No. 4, “ “ Plattsmouth \square , No. 6.....	2 50	
“ “ “ “ No. 5, “ “ Nebraska \square , No. 1.....	24 50	
“ “ “ “ No. 6, “ “ Capital \square , No. 3.....	57 00	
1859.		
June 14. Cash on hand, to balance.....		386 64
		<u>\$600 10</u>

JOHN H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.

Vacancies having occurred in the committee appointed at the last session of this Grand \square for the purpose of collecting facts relative to the introduction of Masonry into the Territory, viz: in Western Star \square , No. 2, and Omadi \square , No. 5, Brother S. Redfield was appointed by the M. W. Grand Master to fill the former, and G. W. Wilkinson the latter.

The committee then reported partial progress—reports from two \square —and asked further time. Time granted until next meeting of this Grand \square .

Brother Furnas presented the following bill of incidental expenses, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

<i>The M. W. Grand \square of Nebraska, to R. W. FURNAS,</i>	Dr.
To printing 300 copies of proceedings of first annual session.....	\$70 00
“ “ 200 blank returns.....	20 00
“ “ Circulars to subordinate and Grand \square	5 00
“ “ Postage.....	6 95
“ “ Blank book for Grand Treasurer.....	75
	<u>\$102 70</u>

Brother Armstrong, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, reported as follows :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the amendment to Article I. of our “Rules and Regulations,” offered by Brother Redfield, respectfully report :

That the first portion of the amendment involves the changing of the time of the election and installation of officers of subordinate from the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist to that of St. John the Baptist.

The latter portion of the proposed amendment takes from the the election of Senior and Junior Deacons and Tyler, and provides that the Senior Deacon shall be appointed by the Master, and the Junior Deacon by the Senior Warden.

In regard to the first proposition, your committee would recommend that no change be made in the time for the election and installation of officers of subordinate .

The second change proposed we would recommend be adopted.

GEO. ARMSTRONG,	} Committee.
L. B. KINNEY,	
ALFRED SAYER,	

The report was adopted.

The R. . W. . Grand Secretary reported that he had made no purchase of Grand jewels, because of a want of more definite instructions as to the price he should pay. The further consideration of the matter was laid upon the table.

Brother Sayer, from the select committee on that portion of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address relative to the purchase of Mount Vernon, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred that part of the annual address of the M. . W. . Grand Master pertaining to the co-operation of the Grand of Virginia with the ladies of the Mount Vernon Association in their efforts to purchase the home and grave of Washington, beg leave to report:

That the enterprise, above referred to, is one that appeals strongly to the sympathy and support of every patriot, but more especially to the members of our fraternity, of which the great Washington was one of the brightest lights. We cordially concur in the suggestion of the M. . W. . Grand Master, that each member of the fraternity in this Territory, who is able to do so, should make a contribution in behalf of the enterprise ; and in order that the matter may reach the attention of the brethren of the several subordinate , we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the M. . W. . Grand of Nebraska cordially sympathize with the M. . W. . Grand of Virginia in their endeavors to assist the ladies of the Mount Vernon Association in their efforts to acquire a title to the consecrated tomb of him who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen;" and for the purpose of making our sympathies effectual, the M. . W. . Grand of Nebraska recommends that the Worshipful Master of each subordinate call the attention of their several to the subject at the most favorable opportunity, and solicit from the brethren such aid as they may be able to give, to be forwarded to Brother John Dove, the Grand Secretary of the

Grand \square of Virginia, at Richmond, Va., in season for the next payment to be made by the said Association, in January, 1860.

ALFRED SAYER, }
H. N. CORNELL, } Committee.
G. W. WILKINSON, }

On motion of Brother Furnas, it was

Resolved, That this Grand \square now proceed to the selection, by ballot, of a point at which to hold its next session.

The resolution was adopted, and Omaha, Omadi, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Bellevue, and Brownville being put in nomination, the latter was selected on second ballot.

Whereupon Brother Armstrong offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand \square hold its next Annual Communication at Brownville, on the first Tuesday in June, 1860.

Brother Furnas offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That hereafter, before the granting of a charter, the applicants for the same shall be required to furnish the Grand Secretary with all the facts, incidents, and preliminary steps connected with the organization of the \square .

Brother Armstrong, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, presented the following report, which, on motion, was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the amendment of Brother Bratton (laid over from last session), proposing to increase the pay of the members of the Grand \square from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day, would respectfully recommend that said amendment be rejected.

GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
L. B. KINNEY, } Committee.
ALFRED SAYER, }

On motion of Brother Maxon, it was

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated as compensation to the Grand Secretary, he being satisfied with that amount.

Brother Maxon presented the following, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of Western Star \square , No. 2, for five dollars, that being the amount overpaid the Grand \square of Nebraska at its last annual communication.

On motion of Brother Armstrong, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand ☐ now proceed to the election of officers.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Sayer and Wheeler tellers, and the election was had with the following result:

- R. C. JORDAN, of Omaha, M. W. Grand Master.
- HENRY BROWN, of Nebraska City, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
- L. B. KINNEY, of Bellevue, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.
- S. REDFIELD, of Nebraska City, R. W. Junior Grand Warden.
- J. H. MAXON, of Nebraska City, R. W. Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. FURNAS, of Brownville, R. W. Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following officers, which appointments were ratified by the Grand ☐:

- Brother J. M. CHIVINGTON, W. Grand Chaplain.
- “ W. D. M'CORD, W. Grand Orator.
- “ GEO. ARMSTRONG, W. Grand Lecturer.
- “ W. H. COOK, W. Grand Marshal.
- “ ALFRED SAYER, W. Senior Grand Deacon.
- “ D. H. WHEELER, W. Junior Grand Deacon.
- “ G. W. WILKINSON, W. Grand Steward.
- “ C. D. KELLER, W. Grand Sword Bearer.
- “ H. N. CORNELL, } W. Grand Pursuivants.
- “ H. G. SPENCER, }
- “ W. N. RAINEY, as Grand Tyler.

The Grand officers were then installed in ample form.

Grand ☐ called from labor until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 15, 1859.

At the appointed hour the Grand ☐ resumed labor, the M. W. Grand Master presiding.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain; after which the minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Brother Clarke, from the committee on Returns of Subordinate ☐, reported as follows, which report was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

The committee on Returns of Subordinate ☐ have had the same under consideration, and would report that all of the six ☐ of the jurisdiction have made written returns to your Grand ☐.

The return of Nebraska ☐, No. 1, has no memoranda of its proceedings attached, and has no seal. The same may be said of Omadi ☐, No. 5, and Nemaha Valley ☐, No. 4. With these exceptions, all the returns are properly made out, and no variances can be discovered by your committee in any of the matters returned.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. G. CLARKE, }
C. D. KELLER, } Committee.
J. H. MAXON, }

Brother Sayer, from committee on Charity, presented the following brief report:

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Charity would respectfully report that no business has been presented for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

ALFRED SAYER, }
HENRY BROWN, } Committee.
J. M. CHIVINGTON, }

The Grand Treasurer presented his bond, which was ordered to be spread upon the minutes. The following is a copy:

BELLEVUE, N. T., June 14, 1859.

Know all men by these presents, that we, John H. Maxon, as principal, and Henry Brown and H. N. Cornell, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand ☐ of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, the said John H. Maxon has been elected Treasurer of the Grand ☐ of Nebraska for one year, now if the said Maxon shall well and truly discharge the duties of the office of Treasurer, and pay out the funds received by him as required by the Grand ☐, and pay over all moneys in his possession as Treasurer to his successor in office, then this obligation is void, otherwise in full force and effect.

JOHN H. MAXON,
HENRY BROWN,
H. N. CORNELL.

The committee on School Fund, through its chairman, Brother Cook, reported as follows:

REPORT.

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

The committee on School Fund beg leave to report, that no measures have yet been taken to raise such a fund, and finding nothing further to claim our attention, respectfully subscribe ourselves,

W. H. COOK,
A. FORD,
G. W. WILKINSON, } Committee.

Brother Clarke offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be instructed to procure the printing of 400 copies of the proceedings of this session of the Grand \square of Nebraska, and to forward three of said copies to each of the Grand Officers, one to each of the Grand \square s, with which this Grand \square is in correspondence, and five copies to each of the \square s within this jurisdiction.

Brother Maxon, from committee on Accounts, reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Accounts report the accounts of the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, R. W. Furnas and the claim of Western Star \square correct, and offer for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of R. W. Furnas for the sum of \$102.70, and another in favor of Western Star \square for the sum of \$5.

J. H. MAXON,
ALFRED SAYER,
H. G. SPENCER, } Committee.

Brother Clarke, from select committee on General Grand \square , reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The special committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M. W. Grand Master relative to the establishment of a General Grand \square , would respectfully report that they have had the matter under consideration, and fully agree with the opinion advanced by the committee on Foreign Correspondence in their report, and would recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient at the present time to organize a General Grand \square of the United States.

Respectfully submitted.

A. G. CLARKE, }
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.

Brother Clarke offered the following, which was laid over, under the rule :

Resolved, That the appellation of the "standing committee on Foreign Correspondence" be changed so as to read "standing committee on Masonic Correspondence."

Brother Armstrong, from select committee on Indiana "New Regulations," submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. : W. : Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee to whom was referred that portion of our Grand Master's address in which allusion is made to a certain "new regulation" made in May, 1858, by the Grand □ of Indiana, would respectfully report as follows:

The "new regulation" referred to, briefly stated, is this: A Master of a subordinate □, or a Grand Master, may be tried, expelled or suspended by the □ of which he is a member, for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of his official duties, and thus vacate his office, whilst for official misconduct the same officers are made responsible to the Grand □.

Your committee have had but a few hours' deliberation on this important question; but, *conceding the right* of a Grand □ to make *new regulations*, when they do not interfere with the landmarks of the order, we can find no precedent for one like *this*, and can but look at it, at least, as one of a questionable character. So far as we can ascertain, every other Grand □ in the United States has decided in this matter in an entirely opposite manner, and the question appears to be well settled, that a Master of a □ is amenable only to the Grand □ for his conduct, whether masonic or official. In the language of Brother Mackey (whose opinion our Grand Master solicits), "for no misdemeanor, however great, can the Master be tried by his □, for, as no one has a right to preside there in his presence, except himself, it would be absurd to suppose that he could sit in judgment on his own case." This, says Brother M., may now be considered as a settled law of masonry.

Want of time preventing your committee from more fully entering into the examination of this important question, we submit the subject to this Grand □ by offering the following resolution:

Resolved, That the "new regulation" of the Grand □ of Indiana, empowering a subordinate □ to arraign and punish a Master or Grand Master, is an unprecedented "innovation upon the body of masonry," and an unwarranted encroachment upon the ancient prerogatives of those officers.

GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
L. B. KINNEY, } Committee.
S. REDFIELD, }

Brother Brown, from standing committee on Charters and Dispensations, reported as follows, which report was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Master's address as refers to the procuring of charters printed on parchment, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to report for your adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to procure parchment charters for the use of the subordinate of this jurisdiction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
S. REDFIELD, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

Brother Chivington offered the following substitute amendment to Rule 15th of "Rules and Regulations of the Grand of Nebraska for government of subordinate

"Every candidate shall apply to the nearest his residence *Provided,* that with the unanimous consent of said nearest of this jurisdiction. In a town or city, any therein may receive an applicant, resident of such town or city."

Brother Furnas, from committee on Pay Roll, reported the following, which was agreed to:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Pay Roll beg leave to report the following amounts due the officers and members:

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held at Bellevue, June, 1859.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles		Per Diem	TOTAL.
		Miles	Mileage.		
R. C. Jordan, M. W. Grand Master.....	Omaha	10	\$1 20	\$2 25	\$ 3 45
S. Redfield, Senior Grand Warden.....	Nebraska City.....	40	4 80	2 25	7 05
*G. W. Wilkinson, Junior Grand Warden.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.....	Nebraska City.....	40	4 80	2 25	7 05
*R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
J. M. Chivington, Grand Chaplain.....	Nebraska City.....	40	4 80	2 25	7 05
A. G. Clarke, Grand Orator.....	Omaha	10	1 20	2 25	3 45
Geo. Armstrong, Grand Lecturer.....	Omaha	10	1 20	2 25	3 45
H. N. Cornell, Grand Marshal.....	Nebraska City.....	40	4 80	2 25	7 05
S. A. Strickland, Senior Grand Deacon.....	Bellevue .....	.....	.....	2 25	2 25
C. D. Keller, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Bellevue.....	.....	.....	2 25	2 25
*Alfred Sayer, Grand Steward.....	Omaha.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*D. H. Wheeler, Grand Pursuivant.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*H. Brown, " ".....	Nebraska City.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
H. G. Spencer, " ".....	Omaha.....	10	1 20	2 25	3 45
S. D. Bangs, Grand Tyler.....	Bellevue.....	.....	.....	2 25	2 25

*Drew mileage and per diem as representatives.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
1.	Nebraska □	Bellevue.....	.....	\$.....	\$2 25	\$ 2 25	L. B. Kinney.....
2.	Western Star □	Nebraska City.....	40	4 80	2 25	7 05	Henry Brown.....
3.	Capital □	Omaha	10	1 20	2 25	3 45	Alfred Sayer.....
4.	Nemaha Valley □	Brownville	67	8 04	2 25	10 29	Robert W. Furnas..
5.	Omadi □	Omadi.....	100	12 00	2 25	14 25	G. W. Wilkinson.....
6.	Plattsmouth □	Plattsmouth.....	10	1 20	2 25	3 45	D. H. Wheeler.....

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS,)
 J. H. MAXON,) Committee.
 G. W. WILKINSON,)

Brother Strickland, from committee on Grievances, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the subject matter of Grievances, beg leave to report that they have held the same under consideration during this session of the Grand □, and are happy to say that no matters of a grievous character have been presented for their deliberation.

S. A. STRICKLAND,)
 S. REDFIELD,) Committee.
 H. N. CORNELL,)

The Grand Orator, Brother A. G. Clarke, then delivered the following

ORATION.

Brethren of the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Twice has the earth rolled around the sun since first this body met together to consolidate the interests of the craft in this new Territory, and to place our □ and the government thereof, in the hands of brethren who live among ourselves.

Thrice have our □ convened in council about the Grand □ altar to deliberate upon measures of usefulness to the order, and to legislate upon rules for its guidance. Broad and deep have we laid the foundation of this new temple of our brotherhood; fair are its proportions; built upon the level and laid out upon the square, it has grown silently, as did the temple of old, to be a mansion of beauty for an habitation.

We have met to add once more our note of praise to the shout that has gone up from the millions of our order before us, proclaiming "peace on earth and good will to man;" to add once more our testimony to the excellence of the institution which claims us for its children; to show once more our thankfulness to that power which has so long watched over us, and holding us in the hollow of His hand, has prospered and protected us.

Upon the platform of brotherly love to-day, we stand supported by the strong arm of Faith, leaning upon the staff of Hope, while over all is cast the broad and beautiful mantle of a mason's Charity for deeds which have been badly

done, and acts of duty which have been left undone. We have reason to be at once proud and grateful for the good report in which we are held at home, and the commendations we have received from abroad. We are, in comparison with others, but just commencing our existence; we are taking our first footsteps upon a pathway strewn with responsibilities of the highest character, and bordered by dangerous pitfalls into which others have fallen.

Yet, in this, our infancy, we are not alone; cheering words greet us at the outset; from all over the Union greetings come to us, bidding us welcome to the still enlarging circle. From the North and the South—from the Orient of Maine to the Occident of Oregon—echo the words of fellowship, and the right hand of fellowship is stretched out to us; in our midst we have lost nothing of our good report, but with a firm step and sure, we have, from the beginning, gone forward with increasing numbers and augmenting strength. Not a \square is missing here to-day; but from all over the jurisdiction the representatives of the order assemble at the appointed place. The lights of masonry are now shining in the valleys of the new El Dorado to the West, and a voice has but just come up to us from the North-western border of our confederacy—from the country which bears the hallowed name of Washington—saying, the time has come and we are ready, admit us to the fellowship extended to the good and true of heart. Though the broad deserts divide us, there is no waste so barren, no journey so difficult, no distance so remote, that the spirit of masonry cannot overcome them all.

Say we then to them, if the time has indeed arrived, if the harvest is fully ripe, reap the reward of your labors, and the same power which has sustained the order in our midst be with you at the setting sun—for the true mason carries with him his principles and practice, as a boon companion on a toilsome way, and, like Ruth of old, he can say to them: "Whither thou goest, I will go; where thou diest, I will die; thy people shall be my people; and thy God my God; the Lord do this and more also unto me, if aught but death part me and thee."

The past year has been particularly productive of events beneficial to the order, and for which every true mason is grateful. The turbulent agitations which have distracted the craft in different jurisdictions have been set at rest. The oil has been poured upon the troubled waters and they are still. The unhappy differences which have existed for so long a time among our brethren of New York, are amicably arranged, and the breach of jurisdiction in Canada is closed, we hope forever. In each of these countries the craft have agreed to recognize but one controlling power and to work beneath but one grand head.

May they who have washed in the troubled pool, emerge like those who bathed in Siloam, purified and cleansed. May the thistle, the rose and the shamrock, long bloom above the grave of buried strifes, and the rising sun shine brightly on forgotten sorrows; let the mantle of oblivion fall upon all such disputes, and the seal of forgetfulness be stamped upon the mouth of cavil forever and forever.

It is needless for me, at this time, and before so intelligent a body of masons, to dilate upon the rise of the masonic order, the antiquity of the masonic era,

or the continuance of masonry throughout the wreck of political combinations, and the strifes of rival nations; I need remind no one of you, that from the beginning, the standard bearers of the order have been good men and true; that foremost in our ranks have stood the patriarch, the warrior, the statesman and the scholar.

Nor is there aught new to tell you; how, that in the time long past, the brethren of our craft worked for the common good, under the guidance of men who stood high in the land, and who would not lend the influence of their position to anything derogatory to the best interests of the craft.

It is useless to make glad and proud your hearts, by recounting to you the history of masonry; by telling of the glories it has won, and the bloodless victories it has achieved, or to make them sad by a mournful story of the persecutions it has endured, and the dangers it has escaped. The *past* of masonry needs no eulogy from me, and its future rests with us—but

“Trust no future, however pleasant,
Let the dead past bury its dead,
Act, act in the living present,
Heart within and God overhead.”

We in the present time are to guard the tenets of masonry from change, its portals from the unworthy, and its laws from maladministration, and if those tenets are fully followed out, those doors securely tiled, those laws completely obeyed, it is not for me to tell you that under this dispensation, the good mason must be the good man.

“The best men in all ranks and professions in life, are found crowding the four thousand five hundred [] which compose the thirty-six grand [] of the United States. Their names swell our rolls; their persons our professions public and private. The federal executive, the president of the United States; the vice-president; many of the members of the cabinet; the speaker of the house of representatives; judges, governors and men in every public station; representatives of all the gradations of society; the plain common sense of the nation, the yeomanry; the bench and bar; the clergy; the mechanic; the seafaring man; the tradesman; the soldier—all wear, without shame, the emblem of innocence, which is the true badge of a mason, and handle, without confusion, the implements of moral architecture.”

It may be proper at this time to call your attention to the relative position of masonry with the world at large, and to set forth the position it occupies as an integral part of the complex machinery which governs society. When the world was young, the old patriarch sitting in his tent door, gave commands to his children, and his word was law. There was no appeal from his decision, and with filial obedience his behests were respected and obeyed. But, when the world grew older, when time and change of scene had done their work, making of mankind many families, and when these families expanded into power and took upon themselves the name of Nation; when the tribes of men armed themselves for battle, and went forth to slaughter one another, then the great necessity arose for government of another kind, and laws, with penalties attached, usurped the place of the old patriarchial sway. Then mammon, in its thousand forms, took its place among the ruling powers, and held its votaries by a chain golden but infrangible.

Community of thought called for concert of action to carry out its aims, and the laws and societies of the earth made their appearance on the scene of action. Foremost among them, both in antiquity and usefulness, arose the order of which we are members. The secrets of science were confided to the few and faithful, who, after years of patient toil and probation, reached the *ultima thule* of their ambition and became the master workmen. Among themselves the brethren adopted the patriarchial system of government, and placed in power some one of their number, well-fitted by age, experience and proficiency, to be a ruler of his people. Mutual protection was the great controlling principle, and as all governments imply a tutelage of those governed, so masonry assumed the character of its predecessors, and went forth upon its errand of good, with that motto of sterling worth, "Do good unto all men, and remember it more especially toward the household of the faithful."

From the commencement there were instituted distinctive signs and ceremonies, so that none might receive peculiar benefits to which they were not entitled. A peculiar garment was then adopted, but not for the purpose of ostentatious display. The white apron was worn at first from necessity, and then in commemoration of the time when the members of the order wrought in the quarries. It covers alike the breast of peasant and of king, and to its sway, the crown of the one, and the bonnet of the other, bow in token of its fitness. Who admires less the natives of Peru who fall in defense of liberty and their native land, because they were a half-clothed band? who loves masonry the less for the reason that its members are distinguished by the apron in its deep significance, more noble than the noble empire of the Incas, more priceless than all the gold of Peru?

The order of Freemasonry, as we believe, originated in the ancient times; but since its foundation the necessity which called it forth has ceased to exist, and in its place, but without disturbance of the ancient landmarks, has arisen an institution whose objects are well understood by all of you.

The standard of requirements for a candidate in our order, are high, but as like the archer who aims at a distant target elevates his range far above the level, and thereby approaches nearer than he otherwise might have done, so a standard of excellence above the attainment of ordinary men admits of an approximation which otherwise might not be reached.

We ought, as masons, to profit by the example of those gone before, and our prayer should be like Elisha of old, upon whom fell the mantle of Elijah, that looking upon the good deeds of our predecessors, we should ask that a double portion of the spirit fall upon us. As Elisha was transported and caught away from mortal gaze, and his brother prophet looked on in wonder and admiration, so may we say, when a brother mason passes away from the things of earth to that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, as his disenthralled spirit catches its first glimpse of the heavenly temple and the glories of the world to come, then may the yearning cry go forth as did that prophet's: "My father! my father! the chariots of Israel and the horsemen thereof."

As members of the order, we claim much for masonry, but no more than is its just due. We say that in its theory it is the friend of every good, and the

enemy of vice and wickedness; that the foundations of the order rest upon the solid superstructure of true morality; that instead of being a foe to religion, it is its constant companion and most ardent co-adjutor, and has been so, from the remotest time. It is the friend of the poor and the destitute, and the enemy of arrogance and inequality; the firm and unflinching advocate of loyalty and patriotism, and the avowed and determined foe of disloyalty and rebellion.

The \square of masons carries no banners, nor instruments of warfare; no blazoned shields precede it; no warlike trappings mark its advocates, or members; the shotted gun proclaims no victories for us; the bayonet and the sword in our hands would rust, and the god of war would frown upon us for deeds of murder left undone. It is the battle of *principles* we wage, and as we have gone forward in our onward course, no man can say that masonry has ever been the aggressor in any difference or dispute.

True, it has been often persecuted and reviled by those who were ignorant of its tenets, but it has always acted the defensive part, and gone on in its mission of doing good, even to those who thought to do it evil.

Such, my brethren, are some of the principles of our order, and if time did not fail me, it would be a pleasing task to review them more at length, and to dilate upon their peculiar beauties, to speak of the good effects produced by them in all ages and in all countries.

The Arab, who has eaten salt with his enemy, bids him God speed upon a journey in which he might otherwise have perished by an Ishmaelish hand; so masonry, by its simple signs and customs, ensures to its professors protection and support.

It is our duty, as members of the order, as professors of such principles, as workmen in that science, to see well to it that the old customs are not infringed upon, the old landmarks not effaced. From time immemorial they have come down from \square to \square , and, being in our custody, let us keep them safe.

It will not be many hours before we shall be once more called back from these halls to the cares and duties of the world. Such a masonic meeting as this, is like an oasis in the desert, from whence the traveler, for awhile refreshed, starts out once more upon the dusty way, with a backward, lingering look upon the pleasant spot which he has left. Here the weary wayfarers meet, whose paths lie in different directions, and when the parting comes, a hearty "God be with you" comes from the heart of each, and now from the breast of every mason springs "a heart-warm, fond adieu," and the earnest wish that each may carry with him to the outer world something of good he may have learned within the temple's walls. And as our present parting comes within a few brief hours, so, after a few brief years, at most, will come that final parting with all the things of earth. Then, when the hand of time rests upon the dial of eternity, and its finger points at the hour of low twelve in the midnight of a world destroyed, may we part with friends and brothers with as reasonable a hope of meeting again in the world to come.

Let us, then, mark well that we go not astray, and while laboring constantly for the elevation of the order, and the spread of its principles, look to it that our own lives are pure and without reproach, so that at the end, when we are

called to rest from our labors in the □ of earth, we may join that procession which moves towards the beauteous temple, eternal in heaven, and swell the shout which goes up like one voice: "Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors, that the King of Glory may come in. The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory."

A. G. CLARKE, *Grand Orator.*

Brother Chivington offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand □ tender Grand Orator A. G. Clarke their thanks for his beautiful and impressive oration just delivered before us.

Brother Armstrong, from committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address proposing an amendment to the 5th paragraph of our Rules and Regulations, respectfully recommend that the subject be laid over until our next session.

GEO. ARMSTRONG,)
S. REDFIELD,)
L. B. KINNEY,) Committee.

Brother Furnas offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the representatives here assembled are hereby empowered and authorized to enforce, in their respective □, the work adopted by this Grand □.

The business being all completed, after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand □ of Nebraska closed in ample form.

ROBERT C. JORDAN, *Grand Master.*

ROBERT W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

It is with pleasure that your committee, to whom was referred the task of digesting the correspondence of your Grand body during the past year, report that they are in receipt of the printed proceedings of nearly all of the Grand of the Union, and in each jurisdiction this Grand is recognized and greeted with words of friendship and expressions of welcome.

Pervading the whole of this extended correspondence runs a spirit of congratulation in regard to the prosperity of the order wheresoever dispersed. And from most of the come up to us words of sorrow, caused either by the departure of some gifted and honored brother, or by evils which threaten the order and which lie within the temple. Nearly all deplore the fact that not enough care is exercised in admitting candidates; and in relation to non-affiliated masons, the Grand Master of Maine uses this forcible language :

There is another subject of growing importance, which I deem it my duty to allude to at the present time. There are, as is well known, a considerable number of masons within the precincts of many , who do not associate themselves with their brother masons as such, and have no active participation in the affairs of any particular . This class, though small when compared with the great body of masons, is not beneath the notice and action of the Grand under whose jurisdiction they live. I am not prepared to impeach or call in question the motives of those who, for reasons best known to themselves, have seen fit to withdraw from the active sphere of masonic labor. There may be, doubtless, in some few instances, such obstacles as to render an association with any entirely impracticable; but we are well aware that, in the great majority of cases, no excuse can be given, unless it be that of a flagging zeal or a penurious economy. These sutlers, "who hang about the outskirts of our army," are always willing to receive any advantages which they may derive from being nominally associated with us, but are never willing to contribute, by their hand or their purse, towards the success or maintenance of the order. Various expedients have been adopted, by different Grand , to test the strength of their attachment to our fraternity, and to determine definitely the relations which they should sustain to the great body of acting masons. In some States, it has been proposed to lay a small tax upon them; in others, to allow them the privilege of visiting any within the jurisdiction of the Grand once, and if after that they unite with no , they are to be excluded altogether from such a privilege. Without specifying any particular mode as preferable, I have held it my duty to lay the subject before you for your consideration.

Doubtless there are no words in the masonic vocabulary strong enough to express our disapprobation of the course of those who thus wilfully remain outside the pale of local jurisdiction; and while we are bound to recognize them as belonging to the body of masonry, let us make them understand, in a quiet and

brotherly manner, that they are *charity* masons, dependent upon the good will and long suffering of our order, the spirit of which they cannot appreciate, and whose teachings they either cannot comprehend, or else set utterly at naught.

The subject of a General Grand \square has, in some quarters, been again revived; some intelligent masons still insist that masonic politics could be improved by the formation of such a body; but it is still the opinion of your committee that the Grand \square of the various States and Territories are supreme within their separate jurisdictions, and that it is inexpedient for this Grand \square to enhance the intricacy of masonic jurisprudence, by assisting to create a power above itself, and endowing it with a position in which it might usurp authority dangerous to the well-being of the order.

Your committee leave the question whether a General Grand \square would be an innovation upon the *landmarks*, to masonic jurists; but we are strongly of the opinion that the benefits to be derived from such an institution would be more than counterbalanced by the evils which would eventually result therefrom.

The labors of a committee on Foreign Correspondence are necessarily onerous and severe. The brief time allowed your committee to complete their report, must serve as the apology for whatever errors of judgment have been committed.

It is a source of much gratification to observe, that the practice is growing more universal year by year, of bringing before the eyes of every mason a synopsis of the proceedings of other Grand \square than his own. Such a course, if properly pursued and judiciously managed, cannot fail of becoming an important source of masonic information to those who might otherwise have remained in ignorance of the transactions and conclusions of the more intelligent masons in other jurisdictions.

ALABAMA.

Your committee acknowledge the receipt of the printed proceedings of the Grand \square of this State, held at Montgomery, December 7th, 1857, and at the same place December 6th, 1858; M. W. J. McCaleb Wiley, Grand Master. We are indebted to the committee on Foreign Correspondence for an able and impartial report, and at the same time for a flattering notice of this Grand \square :

The proceedings of the first Annual Communication, for 1858, of the Grand \square of Nebraska, held at Nebraska City, Wednesday, June 2d, 1858, have been received.

Upon examining the pamphlet, we have been delighted with the evidence everywhere found, of a young, healthy, vigorous Grand \square , springing into existence as it were in a day, and yet filled with able, discreet and learned brethren.

The Grand Master, in his annual address, takes strong grounds against non-affiliated masons, and against the right of a mason unaffiliated with any \square to still claim the peculiar privileges of a mason. We take the liberty of presenting his argument entire:

It is with some reluctance that I approach the subject of non-affiliated masons; but my convictions of duty and of the great wrong these *brethren* are reflecting upon the character, usefulness, and funds of the order, impels me to it; and I earnestly recommend that such legislation may be had as will place them in their proper position before the fraternity and the world. The idea of dismission is a modern one, and an anomaly in Masoury. You might as well say that a dimitted church member was still a member of the church, or that a stock-holder in a

bank or insurance company, who had sold out his stock, was entitled to dividends, as to say that a dimitted mason is still a mason, and entitled to masonic benefits and privileges; for I hold that "if he will not work, neither shall he eat." But, say some, masonry is a voluntary association, and a member has a perfect right to withdraw whenever he sees fit. For the sake of the argument, I will admit the truth of this position, and in reply ask if it is only *voluntary* so far as the dimitting member is concerned? And are the contributing members and [] bound to recognize him and his? to contribute to his support, and give him funeral honors? or can they not *voluntarily withdraw* from him also? The idea that he can sever his connection with the [], and the [] not be able to sever its connection with or obligation to him, is, to my mind, most unnatural and unjust. But I deny that masonry is a voluntary association to the extent claimed for it by these over-lenient brethren; for Chapter VI., Section 8, of the "General Regulations of Ancient York Masons," says: "No set or number of masons shall withdraw or separate themselves from the [] in which they were made, or afterwards admitted members, unless the [] become too numerous; nor even then, without a dispensation from the Grand Master or his deputy; and when thus separated, they must immediately join themselves to such other [] as they shall like best, who are willing to receive them; or else procure the Grand Master's warrant to join in forming a new []." And in the charges approved in 1722, Chapter IX., Article III., it is said that "A [] is a place where masons meet; hence that assembly, or duly organized society of masons, is called a [], and every brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its by-laws and the general regulations." Brother Bierce, Past Grand Master of Ohio, says: "Once a member of a [], he must continue so until he connects himself with some other []." Again: "If a dimit is to exonerate a brother from the duties of a mason, it should exonerate the [] from all liability to him; in other words, if it suspends all allegiance and duty on his part to the [], it should also suspend his claims for all corresponding benefits from the institution." And Brother Robert Morris, Grand Master of Kentucky, in a work of great merit now being published, says: "The severance of the connection between the Master Mason and his [] (a connection which is vitally important to his masonic character and usefulness, and which is urgently required in the ancient charges) is denominated non-affiliation. It is a great evil, and has done more, in modern times, to dishonor the masonic institution, and weaken the bonds of the masonic covenant, than any other innovation. In many places the number of non-affiliating masons equals that of the affiliated, thus crushing them under such dead weight as to render it morally impossible for them to carry on the masonic building. Non-affiliation should be discouraged by every means at the command of the order. Grand [] should fulminate decrees against it, forbidding any masonic benefits or attentions being bestowed on non-affiliating masons living, and any masonic honors when dead. The by-laws and usages of subordinate [] should pointedly discountenance them while in that condition; at the same time present every allurements to them to affiliate. They should be forbidden to visit the [] more than once or twice, or admitted to the public demonstrations of the order, its festivals, funerals, &c., under any circumstances, nor aided from the [] funds, nor introduced to masons as brethren. They are, masonically, outlaws, while in their condition of voluntary estrangement, and should be treated as such."

That, we think, is the true ground to take, and the Grand Master of Alabama has done well his duty in thus fearlessly uttering those sterling words of masonic law.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That we hail with pleasure our new sister Grand [] of Nebraska, and trust ever to keep with her a fraternal correspondence.

CONNECTICUT.

The Grand \square of this State convened in New Haven, May 12, 1858, M. : W. : William L. Brewer, Grand Master, whose address consists chiefly of a record of his official acts. During the year, the Grand Master made the following decisions :

The proper color of a Master Mason's regalia is blue, not red.

No \square should publish their expulsions.

Vacancies in office from death, dimit, or expulsion, should be filled by appointment *pro tem.*, not election.

The Grand \square does not recognize so-called side degrees as any part of masonry.

A \square has no right to investigate the justness of an expulsion in another jurisdiction ; nor has it the right to receive the petition of an expelled mason, and give him the degrees again.

The fact that a man has been a clandestine mason, if he was imposed on and is in every other respect a good man, does not prevent him from being made a legal mason.

The action of the Grand \square , affirming the restoration of an expelled mason, is necessary, if they have affirmed his expulsion ; otherwise, not.

The Grand Secretary, in his report on Foreign Correspondence, extends to this Grand \square a hearty welcome.

The appeal in the case of Kilbourn *ads.* Carter occupies a considerable space in the proceedings. One of the charges against Carter was :

That said Carter, on or about the 8th day of January, 1857, in the \square room and during \square hours, called Brother J. Kilbourn a "d—d ass and a d—d fool!"

Without venturing to criticise the action of our brethren of Connecticut, we think their conduct in sustaining the expulsion of the offender worthy of all praise.

DELAWARE,

Sends us the reports of four Grand \square Communications, held during the year 1858, successively, at Wilmington, June 28th, and July 7th; at Dover, January 29th; at Delaware City, June 16th; at Georgetown, August 17th, A. D. 1858.

The proceedings before us contain a plain record of the official business transacted by the Grand \square . It would be a source of gratification if the craft in that State would follow the practice now almost universal among Grand \square s, of publishing the *minutes* of all their proceedings, as we doubt not that the craft would be benefitted by the perusal thereof.

FLORIDA.

We acknowledge with great pleasure the receipt of the proceedings of this Grand \square held at Tallahassee, January 10, A. D. 1859, M. : W. : Thos. Y. Henry, Grand Master.

The Grand Master thus refers to an evil of the gravest nature:

I would call the attention of this Grand body to an evil, which I fear is increasing to an extent already injurious to many of the craft, and the cause of masonry: It is intemperance—the corner stone of almost every vice. Temperance, as intelligent masons, you are all aware, is one of the cardinal virtues of masonry, and should be cherished and practiced as such, by us all, at all times and at all places, or we must bear our part of the burden of reproach which attaches to such a vice. I hope this Grand body will enact some law

making it specially imperative upon the proper officers of the several Subordinate [] to take prompt and decisive action on this subject. Vague or abstract resolutions will not do; the attack is now acute, and the treatment should be prompt and vigorous.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present an able report of seventy pages in which they freely and ably discuss the current questions of masonic policy and jurisprudence. They say of our Grand [], and of the refusal of the Grand [] of New York to recognize us at its last communication, as follows :

We regret that our young sister in the Northwest did not also receive our proceedings, for they may be assured that their brethren in the South will as cordially extend to them a fraternal greeting as any of their sister Grand [], and wish them God speed in their noble work. We observe that the Corresponding Committee of New York object to the recognition of this new Grand [], because it is reported that the Grand officers were installed by a brother who is styled "*Most Excellent*," which we suppose a *misnomer* of the Grand Secretary, in which opinion we are strengthened when we look at the list of Grand [] which have so promptly recognized her. But we believe this very Committee of New York, in this report, recommends recognition of "the Ancient Grand [] of Canada," whose Grand Master was installed by a *Provincial Grand Master*. Seeing this young sister in the Northwest is the *daughter* of three *mothers*, whose consent to her throwing off the leading-strings does not appear to have been obtained, we suppose for consistency's sake, our very particular brethren of New York Committee, would have required some explanation on that point of the masonic law.

In return for the warm welcome extended to us by our Southern sister, your committee would express the hope that the fraternal communication so recently opened shall continue forever pure as our northern snows, and bright as her own everglades.

INDIANA.

The brethren of this jurisdiction assembled in Grand [] at the Masonic Hall in the city of Indianapolis, on the 24th day of May, 1858; M. . W. . Solomon D. Bayless, Grand Master.

The committee on Correspondence recognizes this Grand [] by resolution:

Resolved, That the newly formed Grand [] of the Territory of Nebraska be recognized by this Grand [], and made truly welcome to an equal standing among American Grand [].

In relation to the Mount Vernon scheme, a special committee report as follows :

The select committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the purchase of Mount Vernon and the tomb of Washington, respectfully submit the following report:

From an examination of the papers submitted to them in relation to the subject, which consist of a couple of communications from the Grand [] of Virginia, addressed to the Grand [] of this State, it appears that in 1856 an association of ladies was formed in Virginia for the purpose of raising money to purchase Mount Vernon, which, in 1856, was incorporated by an act of the legislature of that State, under the name of the "*Ladies' Mount Vernon Association*." On the 6th of April last this association bargained with John A. Washington, the present owner of the Mount Vernon estate, for the purchase of two hundred acres of the estate, including the residence and grave of his illustrious namesake, for the sum of two hundred thousand dollars. The payments

were arranged as follows: Cash down, \$18,000; \$57,000 to be paid the 1st of January, 1859; \$41,000 to be paid the 22d day of February, 1860; \$41,000 to be paid February 22d, 1861; and \$41,000 to be paid February 22d, 1862. The deferred payments to bear interest from date, and possession to remain with Mr. Washington until paid in full, with the proviso of obtaining possession at any time on paying the entire amount of purchase, thirty days notice being required of such intention.

The Association are in possession of funds sufficient to meet the first payment of \$57,000, January 1, 1859; and one of the circulars expresses the confident expectation that the whole amount of purchase money will be raised by the 22d of February following, and possession taken.

By the terms of the act of incorporation, the Association are empowered to make the purchase, but are forbidden to alienate the land, or any part thereof, or to lease the same, without the consent of the General Assembly of Virginia first had and obtained; and if, from any cause, the said Association shall cease to exist, the lands shall revert to the commonwealth of Virginia.

In the Grand of Virginia, December 15, 1857, a plan was suggested to secure the co-operation of the masonic fraternity in this enterprise. A committee was appointed to consider the subject, who reported a series of resolutions to the effect that the subordinate of that jurisdiction be requested to contribute the sum of one dollar for each member towards the proposed fund for the purchase of Mount Vernon, but which is not to be called for until the subject has been submitted to the sister Grand of the United States, and their co-operation secured. They speak of it as "the purchase of Mount Vernon by the masonic fraternity in the United States, and the presentation of that venerated domain to the State of Virginia."

Your committee are unwilling to recommend a poll tax of one dollar upon the masonic fraternity of Indiana, for the purpose named, and under the circumstances thus detailed. They yield to none in a proper veneration of the character of Washington, and would hesitate at no expense to *preserve* his ashes from profanation, threatened them. That the Mount Vernon estate should be in the hands of another than the present owner, the fact of his asking a price for it so enormously beyond its real value, furnishes indubitable proof. But the Association which was specially organized for the purpose, under the auspices of the ladies of Virginia, seems, from the best information your committee are in possession of, to be amply sufficient to effect that end. Although they cannot but regard the proposition to levy a general contribution throughout the country for the purchase of property which it is expected ultimately to be passed into the possession of the State of Virginia, as rather the reverse of *modest*, and could in better taste have been effected by an appropriation from the treasury of that ancient commonwealth; yet, in order that the custody of the remains of the Father of his Country should be taken from one so unworthy of the sacred charge as the present owner of Mount Vernon, they would be willing to recommend the proposed contribution to all who are able to pay it, as individuals; but they must respectfully decline such a recommendation to the craft.

While the grave of Joseph Hamilton Davies, and other distinguished masons, upon the battle-field of Tippecanoe, remain unmarked by a single stone, it would be, in the last degree, unseemly in the masons of Indiana to levy a contribution upon even themselves for the purpose proposed by the Grand of Virginia, which, however apparently laudable in its designs, is for the sole immediate benefit of a citizen of that State, and the ultimate benefit of the State itself."

And we find also the report of a committee which enunciates a new and strange doctrine, and one which, in the opinion of your committee, strikes a blow at one of the ancient landmarks of the order:

The committee on Unfinished Business report that they find, on page 78 of the proceedings of last year, the following report and resolution:

"The select committee to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand

Master's address as relates to the trial of the Grand Master and Masters of subordinate , have given the subject that consideration which the limited time at their command would permit. They have approached the subject with great diffidence, knowing that they would be obnoxious to the charge of trespassing upon old established and long received opinions relative to the rights and prerogatives of Masters of , who by many have been considered to be entirely beyond the reach of the over which they preside.

"Your committee, however, think that while this opinion is, to some extent, correct, yet there is a marked distinction to be drawn between the official acts of the Master, for the faithful performance of which he is amenable to the Grand alone, and acts of moral delinquencies, for which he ought to be, and we think is, amenable to the of which he is a member—who are, doubtless, as competent to judge as well of the character of the offense, and the punishment that should be inflicted, as the Grand can be. While we entertain these views in regard to Masters of subordinate , we cannot perceive why the elevation of a brother to the office of Grand Master should place him beyond the reach of that moral discipline by the subordinate of which he is a member, to which every other brother is and ought to be subject.

"While we readily admit that a subordinate has no supervision over the official acts of its Master, or of the Grand Master, yet we must maintain that they are amenable to the subordinate of which they are members, for any violation of the great moral code which every mason is bound to observe and obey, and which it is the imperative duty of every to enforce among its members, whether their station be high or low—whether they be Master or member.

"We believe that all , whether Grand or subordinate, would bear long with the delinquencies of their presiding officer, rather than attempt discipline; yet, when forbearance ceases to be a virtue, there ought to be a remedy somewhere, and that remedy, we think, can be placed in no safer hands than the of which the delinquent is a member, and which is responsible to the great masonic family for the moral rectitude of those brethren who are placed under their immediate care.

"Your committee, believing that Masters of Grand and subordinate ought to be subject to the discipline of the of which they are members, for a violation of any duty other than that growing out of their official duties, have instructed me to report the following regulations, and ask their adoption by the Grand as 'New Regulations' for the government of Masters of Grand and subordinate in this jurisdiction:

"1st. It shall be competent for the subordinate of which the Grand Master is a member, to try, and expel or suspend him, for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of his official duties; and when expelled or suspended, his office of Grand Master shall be vacated, and the officer next in rank shall fill the office.

"2d. Subordinate shall have power to try and expel or suspend their Master for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of the discharge of his official duties. When the Master of a is under trial, the officer next in rank, or some Past Master, to be designated by him, shall preside. When the Master of a is expelled or suspended, the officer next in rank shall succeed to the station.

"3d. The Grand Master and Masters of subordinate are answerable only to the Grand for acts growing out of their official duties."

In relation to this matter, your committee desire to be as brief and yet as plain as possible. Our limited time has not enabled us to examine it in the light of precedents, so far as we should desire to do, and therefore we cannot say how well the plan proposed has operated in jurisdictions where it has been adopted. So far as we have looked over the various masonic publications, however, we cannot find a single precedent to sustain it, nor can any of the intelligent brethren present with us this week, with whom we have consulted, furnish us one. This is to us an argument almost conclusive against it.

Your committee are not able to draw the distinction suggested in the proposition before us, between the official and other acts of a presiding officer. Every act of a presiding officer may be attacked by ignorance or malice, and ignorance and malice are notoriously blind. Who is to decide the character of an act, save the presiding officer himself? He is the more enlightened party. He performs his duties under a peculiar obligation as a Past Master. His honor and credit are staked upon the issue. He is placed, by position, above any personal feeling in the matter, and is, therefore, better qualified to judge whether his decision is in accordance with his official duties; and if there is no party to decide whether his acts are official or non-official, there is no legal ground for charges against him. Your committee will simply add, that in the present condition of masonry, when the institution is suffering in every part by the evil conduct of unworthy members, and Grand everywhere are demanding that the reins of discipline be more tightly drawn, and the temple purged of its improper material, it is no time to strike at a principle—the personal irresponsibility of Masters—which, more than any other, gives power to the hand of discipline.

Your committee regard the "New Regulations" proposed by the committee, and reported at the last Grand Communication, as being vague and imperfect, and, if adopted, would be a violation of the ancient usages of masonry.

Your committee would, therefore, offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the report and "New Regulations" submitted at the last Grand Communication, be not concurred in.

Brother Benj. Newland moved to strike out the word "not" in the last line.

Brother Downy moved to add the words "and new regulations adopted."

Which amendments were concurred in, and the resolution, as amended, was adopted.

In relation to the office of Grand Master, and concerning his prerogatives and powers, your committee would refer to the treatise on Masonic Law, from the pen of that able masonic jurist, Brother Albert G. Mackey, of South Carolina. He there lays down the law, (page 35, Mackey's Treatise).

There can be no doubt but that this is the true doctrine, and that the theory of the Grand of Indiana is untenable and futile, and that practice under that theory would be impossible.

So long as he occupies the chair, he dictates of the Grand Master are supreme: and he would, of course, rule any motion to expel him to be out of order, thus rendering impotent any attempt to dethrone him.

The principle of strict and absolute obedience to the behests of the Master in matters masonic, is the very *foundation* upon which is reared the structure of masonic law, and the strength of masonic policy.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand convened at Springfield, on the 5th day of October, 1858; M. . W. . Harrison Dills, Grand Master, who presents an interesting report, consisting chiefly of a record of official acts. He recommends that a committee be appointed to purchase a suitable site and make arrangements for the building of a masonic hall.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence presents a report of over forty pages, and a favorable recognition of this Grand . The Grand Secretary notices the strictures of the Grand of New York in regard to the clerical error which made the M. . E. . Brother I. A. W. Buck the installing officer of the Grand of Nebraska, in place of M. . W. . Brother I. A. W. Buck, Grand Master of the Grand of Illinois. We would inform the Grand Secretary that

it was a clerical error of a single word, which led the Grand \square of New York to adopt such a resolution:

M. : W. : Ira A. W. Buck was elected Grand Master, and issued among other edicts the following in relation to non-affiliated masons:

DEAR BRETHREN: I call your attention to Sections 22, 23 and 24 of the By-Laws recently adopted by the Grand \square , entitled "Non-affiliated Masons."

It is the duty of every worthy Master Mason to belong to some regular \square . Non-affiliation, beyond a necessary length of time, should not be his fault, but should be the result of rejection by the \square to which he applies for membership. The great immigration to Illinois for several years past, and the constant change of residence in this State, have thrown a large number of masons within the jurisdiction of nearly every \square , but in fact members of no \square . They are sharing none of the burdens which they have covenanted to bear; they are contributing nothing to sustain the Grand \square or its subordinates, to whose rules and government they are solemnly bound; and yet they are in a position to exercise great, and, often, a controlling, influence among the fraternity where they dwell.

The Grand \square has decreed that this shall be so no longer. I have, therefore, resolved to recommend to the several \square s having jurisdiction over this matter to take the following steps:

1. It is my order, that all such non-affiliated Master Masons as reside within your jurisdiction be immediately furnished with a copy of said sections above named, in order that they may be fully informed as to their liabilities, privileges and rights.

2. I recommend that all such non-affiliated Master Masons be requested to apply for membership in some \square in their town or neighborhood, before the first day of June next; and that no steps be taken to enforce the collection of dues until that time.

3. That all such as do not petition for membership, and all whose applications may be rejected, be required to pay the dues prescribed by said by-laws, within the month of June next.

4. That all such as may remain unaffiliated, and do not pay their dues within the month of June next, be summoned to appear at the next meeting, and show cause why they should not be suspended.

5. No cause will be valid but indigence. The same rule which would govern you in remitting the dues of indigent members, should govern you in such cases. Excuse no one who is able to pay.

6. In case any brother is not excused, and he should still refuse or neglect to pay his dues, it is your duty to suspend him, and report the same, with the reason therefor, to the Grand \square .

7. It is the duty of every Worshipful Master of a \square having any jurisdiction over non-affiliated masons, to have said regulations carried into effect. I shall require an efficient and vigorous discharge of that duty at their hands.

IOWA.

We have before us the proceedings of this Grand \square at a Communication held at Des Moines, on the 1st day of June, 1858. M. : W. : J. F. Sanford, Grand Master, delivered a lengthy and interesting address, from which we extract the following :

The influence exerted by financial convulsions and distress, in disturbing the conditions of society, has not affected the peaceful and steady progress of our order in this State. Notwithstanding the increased care with which our doors have been guarded, no year since the organization of our Grand \square has been signalized by a more vigorous and rapid growth in the increase of our \square s or membership. I am aware that the voice of warning, as it is called, has been raised throughout the country against this rapid addition to our numerical strength, and many forebodings of evil results have found expression from eminent and

devoted brethren. But whilst I am willing that these alarms shall be sounded in our sister jurisdictions, I cannot reconcile it with my sense of truth to be their echo here. Organic peculiarities impel some minds constantly to seek out the defects in human society and government, and this disposition, often constituting an infirmity of genius, will naturally exaggerate the causes of censure, whilst the claims of excellence or virtue are passed over in silence, or at most alluded to in terms of trembling confidence. It is to some such quality as this I attribute the declaration in so many of the reports and addresses to our grand bodies, which represent our order as on the brink of danger, resulting from imperfect or reckless administration of its affairs. Careful observation respecting the practical working of our fraternal system has given me faith in the efficacy of masonic government, and I am convinced that the disciplinary influence of our ancient customs and landmarks, which serve as the basis of our legislation, as well as the animating principle of our ceremonies, is fully adequate to sustain and transmit unimpaired to future generations, the usefulness and glory of our institution. We have no evidence that our brethren of this jurisdiction have proved, or that they are likely to prove, recreant to the obligations imposed upon them by our sacred and immemorial constitutions. On the contrary we believe they are penetrated by the sentiment of that eternal truth which declares that it is not in the power of any man or set of men to make innovations upon the body of masonry, and that the internal economy of our fully justifies the remark that no principles of human action or government are more faithfully guarded than are those to which this declaration applies. Although this is the great foundation of our confidence in the stability of our institution, other things contribute to its strength. We have confidence in the general integrity of men. Moral obliquity as well as criminal practices often mar the fair estimate which charity encourages respecting the character of this world, yet with the worst view which misanthropy can portray, are associated elements of dignity, nobleness and virtue, which, in every legitimate department of human pursuit, greatly predominate. The disposition formed by the possession of these qualities is that which impels men toward virtuous affiliation, and even excluding all idea of the efficacy of our principles and discipline in making men wiser and better, this fact is a strong guaranty of our unity and durability.

In conclusion, he says:

Brethren of the Grand , our work is not done when we have finished the labors of this Annual Communication. The principles and virtues of Freemasonry, like the great lights in the constellation of heaven, should shine through the surrounding darkness wherever a faithful mason makes his way. It is not enough that we declare ourselves through the usual forms, Free and Accepted Masons. The mighty principles embodied in our system of benevolence we should cultivate and extend.

We are sure of being prosperous and useful, so long as our lives are in accordance with our professions. Let us leave the hallowed scenes of this grand communication with renewed determination to study masonry as a science, and practice its virtues as a sacred duty. The sunshine will then rest upon our path; verdant fields and flowery lawns will ravish our sight; sweet waters will gush forth from the flinty rocks to refresh us; and having attained the deep recesses of the inner temple, and become familiar with the form thereof, we will understand the *wisdom*, possess the *strength* and admire the *beauty* which support and keep bright and glowing the fair portions of our great moral edifice.

The report of the Foreign Correspondence committee presents an able review of the proceedings of thirty-four Grand , our own among the number. They thus speak of the duty of the standing committee on Foreign Correspondence:

They consider the duty of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence to be of a far higher nature than merely to chronicle the doings of the order. It is by its position called on to challenge every new and strange idea, and not to suffer it

to pass until by due trial and strict examination it may have determined its character and its claims to be recognized as correct and worthy to be received. In no other way can heresy, false doctrine and innovation be so surely shut out of our order, as by a faithful and careful performance of duty by committees on foreign correspondence; and that brother, and that Grand □ who finds fault with them for reviewing the action of the Grand □ and criticising the decisions of Grand Masters, must either have a high estimate of perfectibility of human wisdom, or a low valuation of masonic purity. Grand Masters and Grand □ are but human, and nothing will be more likely to make them careful how they decide, and what they enact, than the knowledge that their action is not confined to their own circle, but that they are surrounded with an amphitheatre of anxious and interested observers, who watch every movement and discuss every decision, and that, though they may be the ultimate tribunal in their own jurisdiction, they themselves will be tried by a higher—by the whole united brotherhood.

An interesting feature connected with the proceedings, was an oration by Bro. Robt. Morris, the zealous and ubiquitous Grand Master of Kentucky. He concludes as follows:

The ordinary eye, gazing upon our fair proportions, our numerous votaries and defenders, can detect no flaw. To the ear, the masonic songs are songs of triumph and victory. Everything promises perpetuity to its honor and usefulness, and the orator of 1858 but echoes the popular sentiment when he predicts "unchangeable prosperity to Freemasonry as the necessary result of its unchangeable principles." My mission for years has carried me with restless foot from one side of the great temple of American masonry to the other, and I can testify that the seeming prosperity of Freemasonry in Iowa is but on a par with that of every other of her thirty-five sisters in the great work; that the countenances, glowing with brotherly love, which I see around me, are but the counterparts of one hundred and sixty thousand such, who make up the membership of American □.

But if history, and especially masonic history, is to be regarded, this prosperity is, in the highest degree, specious. Our hopes of perpetuity, based upon our past labors, are without solid foundation, and we stand upon the eve of a crisis similar to that which tried and weighed and found wanting the professions of our masonic fathers. We have built up the temple with "untempered mortar," and we must look for the "overflowing shower," the "great hail-stones" and the "stormy wind to rend it." The cement of knowledge is wanting in our work. The history of the craft, so thrilling in its details, the *philosophy* and *jurisprudence* of the institution, so perfect in their structure, are alike unknown and unregarded. Until within the last three years, and since the commencement of the publication of the *Universal Masonic Library*, it was rare to find a mason in possession of any masonic work, as it is still rare to find one acquainted with its contents.

Who shall predict the moment when this perilous crisis shall come upon us? The darkness of the atmosphere, the low murmuring of distant thunder, and the oppression with which all nations seem troubled, are so many indications of a coming storm, which the wise man will not disregard. The crumbling of the walls predicts a speedy end to the edifice, and the wise man hastens to vacate it. The gaining leak, and the settling of the keel into deep water, threaten a speedy submersion of the gallant ship, and the mariners hasten to their boats and pull for life, for dear life. But we, although we may see the impending danger, cannot fly from it. As masons, we are the edifice—we are the ship—and cannot fly. The distant signals are visible. Mark them, my intelligent brethren. To the critical eye they are manifest in the withdrawal, by dimission, of tens of thousands of masons, embracing much of the intelligence and moral worth of the order; in the carelessness with which the institution is regarded by many of its votaries; in the lengthy catalogues of suspensions and expulsions,

announced year by year by all our Grand : and in the springing up of fungus societies around us, in which, shame to say, many masons are found, to the proportionate neglect of their proper calling. These signs point to the crisis which has been predicted. They are unerring indicia of a day and an hour when the craft will be rent to pieces as by the whirlwind of God's wrath, unless measures speedy and effectual are adopted to cement the walls of the institution together.

And that cement is *knowledge*. Masonry presupposes a love of knowledge in its votaries; their earliest attention is directed towards the East, as the source of masonic light; they are all their life long seekers of "more light." *As light*, then, enters into the very purpose and title and improvements of the craftsmen, *so light* is the only remedy for the evils which now assuredly threaten a dissolution of the order. *Without it*, "Ichiabod" will again be written above our portals, as it was written thirty years since; *with it*, the walls may be strengthened to endure all that can be brought, to bear against them.

KANSAS.

The Grand of Kansas convened at Leavenworth, October 18, 1858, M. : W. : R. R. Rees, Grand Master. Six were represented. In his address, the Grand Master thus lays down the law concerning a certain rule of masonry :

I unhesitatingly proclaim the right of every mason to withdraw from his affiliation with a whenever he may please, if he be worthy, free from charges, and not indebted to the ; and I conceive all legislation which shall tend to ostracise a mason on account of non-affiliation to be in violation of ancient usages, in derogation of masonic rights, and as tending to modernize our ancient institution. I regard the great distinctive mark between this and every other order or association to be, that "once a mason, always so;" and though expulsion or suspension may preclude communion with a mason, and correctly so, yet until conviction and expulsion or suspension, he remains a brother and can claim the social benefits of masonry, even though he may not be worthy of assistance; for this the mason or the must determine when he makes his application for relief. When he unites himself with a he must obey its laws, and disobedience may subject him to even the extremest penalty of expulsion; nor having once become amenable, can he relieve himself by a dimit while under charges. It is true that a non-affiliated mason, for a violation of the general laws of masonry, or for un-masonic conduct, may be dealt with, and ought to be expelled; but the mere conventional regulations of a can apply to its own members only, and not to the various branches of the great family of the descendants of the ancient Giblinites, who are without the confines of the .

Brother Chas. Mundee, chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence, gives a review of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand in a brief manner. It is with gratification that your committee are enabled to exchange fraternal correspondence with the Grand of our sister Territory.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Annual Communication of this Grand was held in the city of Lexington, on Monday, October 11, A. L. 5858.

The M. : W. : Philip Swigert, Grand Master, after a recital of his official acts, reviews several mooted questions of masonic policy. Of the Universal Masonic Congress, he says:

I have also, from Brother Dove, as one of the American committee of the Universal Masonic Congress, which met at Paris two years since, a second circular, which I likewise submit to your consideration. Our Grand , on all occasions heretofore, opposed with stern denial the forming of Grand bodies superior to those of State Grand , and I would certainly recommend that we decline to participate in the present.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in speaking of the "New Regulations" of the State of Indiana, says :

The Grand of Indiana, like our own, has experienced the necessity of having some mode of enabling a subordinate to try its Master for unmasonic conduct, not growing out of the discharge of his official duties. The following regulations, on this subject, offered at a previous communication, and laid over for consideration until the present year, were adopted:

1st. It shall be competent for the subordinate , of which the Grand Master is a member, to try and expel or suspend him for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of his official duties, and when expelled or suspended, his office of Grand Master shall be vacated, and the officer next in rank shall fill the office.

2d. Subordinate shall have power to try and expel or suspend their Master for any unmasonic conduct not growing out of his official duties. When the Master of a is under trial, the officer next in rank, or some Past Master, to be designated by him, shall preside. When the Master of a is expelled or suspended, the officer next in rank shall succeed to the station.

3d. The Grand Master and Masters of subordinate are answerable only to the Grand for acts growing out of their official duties.

With the principle educed in the first of these regulations, we cannot coincide. It is, in our opinion, subversive of every idea of masonic supremacy. It in effect permits the members of a subordinate to depose the Grand Master, and place another in office. We look upon the second resolution as an experiment, and will await with interest its workings.

The same committee, reviewing the proceedings of our Grand , say:

Thus has a new star risen on our masonic firmament, which we welcome among the bright galaxy of American Grand . As we find the proceedings perfectly regular, we offer a resolution for adoption, extending to her the right hand of fellowship, and welcoming her as an independent Grand .

Resolved, That the Grand of Kentucky heroby extends the right hand of fellowship to the Grand of Nebraska, and welcomes her, as a young sister, to the circle of American Grand .

LOUISIANA,

Sends to us the proceedings of her forty-seventh Annual Communication, held at New Orleans, February 14, 1859.

The M. . W. . Amos Grand, Grand Master, after a recital of his official acts, says, of the care necessary to be exercised in the admission of candidates:

I feel that I cannot close this address and do my own feelings justice, without referring to the vital importance of guarding well the entrance into the . I am persuaded that many—very many of our —are not sufficiently guarded here. There is too great a laxity on the part of committees appointed to investigate and report upon the fitness of candidates. Too great care here cannot be taken. It is through these committees that the members of a derive the principal information of the fitness of a candidate to become a mason; hence the importance of a thorough investigation and a full report. It is not enough to say that there is no harm in the applicant; but the question should be, what advantage will he be to the order? what are his *moral* qualities? what his intellectual qualities? what are his habits? what his associations? Does he reverence the G. . A. . O. . T. . U. . ? These and many other questions should be answered. How common is it on the evening on which a candidate is to be balloted for, and after a report is called for, for the committee to have a hasty consultation, and agree upon a report, without having given the subject any investigation, and then draw up a report, simply saying that they report favorably, leaving the in as much darkness as before? This, my brethren, is all wrong. The committee should be required to make a written report, giving to the the grounds

upon which a favorable or an unfavorable report is founded. More injury to masonry is done by admitting one unworthy applicant than can be remedied for years. This caution is particularly applicable to young [□]. They commence with a few members, and there is a desire to increase in numbers and strength, and think, perhaps, that as soon as a healthy number have been received, they will be more careful; but, by this want of care at the onset, the □ tumbles into ruin and disgrace.

And of the practice of taking certain advantages of masonic positions:

There is a species of charlatanism becoming quite too common in our State and country; it is the insertion of cards and advertisements in newspapers, emblazoned with masonic emblems, and addressed to the fraternity; in other words making merchandize of masonry. It is a base prostitution of our expressive emblems, and should be reprobated by every worthy member of the order.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a long and extremely well written report, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-three jurisdictions. Of Nebraska, they say:

The organization of this Grand □ was noticed in an appendix to the report of last year. Since then, we have received the proceedings of the first Annual Communication, held on the second of June last. The legislation of this Grand □ is such as is necessarily incident to all newly-formed Grand [□]; and though we have examined the same with some care, we find nothing calling for extended comment. On the Holy Bible question they take a middle ground, not regarding the expression of a belief in it, only in its principles, as a necessary qualification to one becoming a mason; yet, find nothing to dissent from the question being put to the candidate, as to his belief in its Divine authenticity. The address of the Grand Master, as well as the address of the Grand Orator, and the reports of various committees, exhibit more than the usual amount of masonic information and intelligence. From the character of the proceedings before us we have no fears of a healthy progress of our order in that far-off Territory, and reiterate the kind and fraternal wishes of the committee of last year.

The same committee take the following position in relation to the formation of a General Grand □:

To the formation of a National Grand □, as many understand it, we are opposed; yet we can conceive many advantages which would result from its formation under certain conditions, and as we understand such a body should be, and very few, if any, disadvantages. A National Grand □, as the supreme head of the order in this country, possessing equal and similar powers over the several Grand [□] and the fraternity generally, would never do, as it would take away from the Grand [□] the sovereignty which now exists in them, and through them the sovereignty existing in the subordinate [□] and the craft in general. This is the kind of a National Grand □ to which we are opposed; but to the formation of a society composed of, say, the four highest officers of Grand [□], who should meet at least triennially, for the purpose of exchanging opinions and recommending to the craft throughout the world such ideas as might be deemed best by them, after due consideration, would, we conceive, be of decided benefit to the interest of the order. We know of no other way in which a uniformity of work and the principles of action can ever be obtained in the United States. Let each Grand □, having established, as near as may be, what all are now strenuously endeavoring to do, a uniformity in work, lectures and system of government for their various [□], meet, say, once in three years, through their chief officers, in convention, compare their various modes of work and lectures, and interchange ideas upon all that may interest the fraternity, express in resolutions what may be written in their conclusions, and, when these delegates return home, communicate, as they would most assuredly do, to their constituents, such things as had been learned or agreed upon which

could not be written; and we feel certain there would, in time, result that uniformity after which now so many vainly strive, and that unanimity of feeling and sentiment, that brotherly love and concert of action, which could but redound to the true advancement of our beloved order. There is no need of any legislative powers being vested in such a national body, except such as would be necessary for its own individual government. It would be more in the nature of a convention, to take into consideration the wants of the order throughout the land, with the power to recommend, and whose recommendations would, indeed, become law only from being founded in truth, and meeting the approval of the Grand \square of the world. We have seen the benefit of this social converse and interchange of opinion in other bodies, similar to the one proposed—ten times outweighing the expense, which actually would be trifling; and which would have been ten times the more valuable, had the time of these bodies been exclusively devoted to the real wants and interests of the order, instead of being wasted in needless or ill-digested legislation for others. We say, then, that we are decidedly in favor of the formation of a National Grand body of masons, in which our chief officers may meet others of similar rank from our sister Grand \square , and there consult with them upon the questions of work, etc., and report the result of their consultations to our own Grand \square . We would then know, with some certainty, what was actually going on in other jurisdictions, and could act in reference thereto by the advice of our delegates. All the evils complained of by those who object to the formation of a National Grand \square , would not exist in a body thus formed; and every good expected by its advocates be attained, while the expense would be trivial. We know our brethren in Maine and elsewhere desire to meet the representatives of all our Grand \square in social communion, and to feel that firm grasp which one brother gives to another; and we are with them in this, heart and soul—knowing that thereby our vast fraternity would be more indissolubly cemented, and that the throb of true masonry would beat in every heart.

MAINE.

The Grand \square of this State convened at Portland, on the 4th day of May, 1858. Eighty-four \square were represented. M. W. Robert P. Dunlap, Grand Master, in his address, thus speaks of masonic literature:

There is one consideration which I would earnestly press upon your notice—the importance of a knowledge of the standard masonic literature. We have among us sure and safe guides through all the hidden and abstruse principles of Freemasonry, besides periodicals and newspapers issued from the weekly or monthly press. Though we have such a literature, it can hardly be realized how small a portion of the masonic community are conversant with it, or are even aware of its existence. If the expense render it impracticable for each one to form a private masonic library of his own, yet it seems to me not only expedient, but a binding duty on Grand \square and on all subordinate masonic organizations, to provide for themselves libraries, according to their respective means. It is hardly necessary that I should give any detailed reasons in support of this suggestion. If we have a literature that is worth preserving, we have one which is worth diffusing among the members of the fraternity. There is no one thing of which the brethren of the craft are so much in need as of a thorough knowledge of the elementary rules and principles which flow through and form the basis of all our workmanship. And while we hold it as one of the leading objects of our charity to afford the means of education to those who are destitute of it, let us remember that our charity should begin at home, and that our efficiency in contributing to the wants of others will depend upon the degree of intelligence to which we have attained ourselves.

The following wise resolution was presented and referred:

Resolved, That persons who have been rejected in any subordinate \square within

this jurisdiction, and afterwards (being still residents of this State, but temporarily absent,) obtain their degrees in a under another jurisdiction, shall not be considered as masons in good standing.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is able and well digested. That committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted; and your committee hereby acknowledge the receipt of the same under the hand of the Grand Secretary and the seal of the Grand of Maine:

The resolutions relative to the Grand of Nebraska, were then taken up and adopted, to-wit:

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand of Maine receives with sincere pleasure the proceedings of the convention in the new Territory of Nebraska, which resulted in the formation of the Grand of Nebraska.

2. *Resolved*, That the Grand of Nebraska is cordially welcomed to the circle of Grand , and the fraternal correspondence it is our pleasure to cultivate with all good and true masons. May her prosperity equal her largest aspirations.

For this hearty and manly welcome from this far-off jurisdiction, will the committee accept our responsive hope that the members of the Grand of Maine will always maintain in the Northeast corner of our confederacy their present position of just and upright men and masons.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Grand of this State held an Annual Communication at Boston, on the 10th day of March, A. D. 1858.

M. W. John T. Heard, Grand Master, in his annual address utters the following in relation to visiting brethren:

In my last annual address, I cited various authorities to show that a person claiming to be a mason and desiring to visit a , might be refused admission unless he could present a certificate of his good standing in the order, or could be vouched for to that effect by a brother present; and that it could be denied to him, without such evidence, even though he could pass the usual examination. On this point—the receiving of visitors—the Master of a must necessarily possess very large discretionary power, and, for its proper exercise, is responsible to the Grand . That the Grand and Grand Master as the chief executive officer, have the right to dictate the terms on which brethren may visit subordinate to them, is beyond a question; and they may use it freely and absolutely, without any accountability to any other masonic jurisdiction. Of course it is not to be presumed that in this jurisdiction either the Grand or Grand Master would limit the privilege of visiting beyond what the safety, welfare and reputation of the institution should seem to demand; or that they would subject brethren of other jurisdictions to more onerous regulations than are imposed upon members of our own .

A pleasing feature of this communication, is recorded as follows:

A procession was then formed of the subscribers, with the Grand Master and other Grand officers, and repaired to the banqueting hall, where a "Grand Feast," in commemoration of the day, and in conformity with an ancient custom of the craft, was celebrated as in olden time, "*after the manner of masons.*"

A record is made of the proceedings of the Grand at the laying of the corner stone of the "Minot's Ledge Lighthouse," and we regret that our limits forbid of transcribing an account of the same.

MARYLAND.

We have received the proceedings of the Grand of Maryland, held at Baltimore, May 10, 1858. at a Semi-Annual Communication, M. · W. · Charles Webb, Grand Master.

The proceedings were chiefly of a business nature. The Grand Master in his address recommends that a Masonic Congress be held in this country.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, through their chairman, Brother J. N. McJilton, present a long and elaborate report which forms the chief feature of the proceedings. They say of this Grand , of its session at Omaha on the 23d day of September, 1857:

The proceedings of the brethren of Nebraska, appear to be regular and in accordance with masonic usage. They were conducted in harmony and with considerable dispatch. At three sessions held on one day, the body was organized, the proceedings necessary to the result, all regularly performed, and the constitution and by-laws considered and adopted. The record shows a great amount of labor performed on the occasion, all pleasantly wrought—the brethren happily agreeing and serving in the important cause they had taken in hand. When it shall fully appear that there was nothing irregular, unmasonic or objectionable in the labors of the brethren of Nebraska, Maryland will be happy to take her by the hand and welcome her among the sister of this great and ever extending country.

We have also received the proceedings of the Annual Communication held at Baltimore November 15, 1858; M. · W. · Charles Webb, Grand Master.

The committee on Correspondence favor us with an elaborate review of the proceedings of our last session, and in conclusion, say:

The proceedings of the Grand of Maryland at the November Communication of 1859, are noticed by the committee, and an extract taken from the report of the committee of Correspondence.

Our sister, Nebraska, is now in full operation as a Grand , and she bids fair to perform her meed of service to the masonic institution strictly in conformity with the masonic landmarks and usages. We most heartily welcome her into the sisterhood of Grand , and bid her God speed in her noble work of disseminating the principles and encouraging the virtues of Masonry in her territory. The resolution of the committee recognizing the Grand is appended to this report.

The following is the resolution referred to:

Resolved, That the Grand of Maryland recognizes as regular masonic bodies the Grand of Kansas and Nebraska, and that she welcomes them with pleasure among the sisterhood of Grand of the United States.

MICHIGAN.

This Grand convened at Grand Rapids, on the 12th day of January, 1859; M. · W. · Wm. M. Fenton, Grand Master.

In his annual address, the Grand Master states that the following questions have arisen, and he has thus answered them:

1. Can a expel a non-affiliated mason? Answer—Yes.
2. Can a dispensation be granted by the Grand Master for election of a Junior Warden, to fill a vacancy, while the Master and Senior Warden remain? Answer—No.
3. Can the accuser be a witness on the trial of charges against a brother? Can the accused be a witness? To the first, answer Yes; to the second, No.

4. Can a rejected candidate for initiation, after one year, or ever, apply to another , without the recommendation of the three highest officers of the first? Answer—No, not under our constitution.

5. Can petitions for membership be received at a Special Communication, and after ten days be reported on, and a ballot had at a regular? Answer—No; must be presented at a regular, reported on and balloted for at a regular.

6. Can a ballot be had at a Special Communication for second and third degrees, after a candidate is elected and initiated at a regular? Answer—Yes.

7. Can the Worshipful Master, without the order or assent of his , admit or reject visiting brothers at his discretion? Answer—Yes.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence extends the right hand of fellowship and recognition to the Grand of Nebraska.

The R. : W. : Stillman Blanchard, Grand Secretary, closes an interesting report with these words:

Let, then this Grand Assembly, consisting of the representatives of more than one hundred —of more than four thousand brethren within this jurisdiction—affiliated with over two hundred thousand within our broad Union, and with millions scattered over the world—let them, for a moment, imagine that they are now standing, with hand linked in hand, around the grave of their Grand Master Hiram, while they solemnly pledge themselves—brother to brother—to promote the elevation of the order to its highest standard of excellence throughout this beautiful Peninsula; and when invited to leave their "high hills" and "ancient landmarks," to amuse themselves with minor pursuits on the plains, they will answer with Nehemiah, while engaged in rebuilding the lofty walls which were to enclose Jerusalem and its sacred temple,—"*We are doing a great work, and cannot come down.*"

A special committee reported as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Brother Broddie, with instructions to report the masonic definition of the word "suspended," respectfully report:

"That they know of but one definition of the word; that they believe the word, as used in the ritual, covers and refers to suspensions of whatever kind, or for whatever cause they may have been made—whether for non-payment of dues or other cause; and that a suspension by a suspends from all the rights and benefits of masonry, *until* such suspension be removed."

MISSOURI.

This Grand sends to us an elaborate and creditable volume of 259 pages, containing the proceedings of that Grand body for the year 1858. Their Annual Communication was held at St. Louis, May 24th.

M. : W. : Grand Master Samuel H. Saunders, in his address, urges the importance of the masonic college now in process of completion.

He recommends the plan of dividing the State into districts, to secure uniformity of work, and place each district under the charge of a Grand Lecturer.

He strongly urges that Masters and Wardens of subordinate take decisive action in regard to *intemperance* whenever it makes its appearance.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is a well written document. They make kindly mention of your honorable body. Let us extend to our neighbors a friendly salutation in return, and deserve their esteem by fervency and zeal in the common cause.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Our brethren of this State met in Grand \square at Concord, on the 8th day of June, 1858; M. . W. . George H. Hubbard, Grand Master, whose report is almost entirely of a business nature.

The committee on Correspondence says of this Grand \square :

We recommend to this Grand \square to recognize the Grand \square of Nebraska as legitimately and constitutionally formed, order her enrolled in our list of correspondents, courteously extend to her fraternal fellowship, and heartily welcome her as a worthy member into the family of Grand \square , hoping in future to hear of her increase and prosperity.

NEW YORK.

This powerful and flourishing jurisdiction sends us a copy of the proceedings of her Annual Communication, held at New York city on the 1st day of June, A. L. 5858, which, exclusive of the usual tabular statements, comprises 250 closely printed pages.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, with a regard for exactness in masonic expression worthy of weightier mistakes, thus notices our young Grand \square :

The whole proceedings are characterized with a very high standard of intelligence, and it is with extreme reluctance that we find it our duty to notice what we are willing to believe was an oversight on the part of the Secretary of the convention, which renders it difficult for us at present to recommend a recognition of the body thus formed, as a Grand \square . It will be observed that the installing officer is designated as "*Most Excellent Brother I. A. W. Buck.*" This title or designation belongs to a Grand or Past Grand High Priest of a Grand Chapter, and is unknown to \square masonry; nor has such an officer any more authority to install the officers of a subordinate or Grand \square than any private member of the fraternity. It is possible that as a Past Master he might discharge this duty; but even then it is necessary he should have acquired this title by service as Master of a \square . By what authority the title of "Most Excellent" is taken by Brother Buck is unknown to us, for we have no remembrance of a Grand High Priest of Illinois by this name, although it is possible there may have been such an one; the mistake does not consist in its being Most Worshipful, for there has been no *Grand Master* of Illinois by this name; he may have been the Master of some \square of that State, but we have examined the proceedings of the Grand \square for 1857 to find it, without avail. If it shall be ascertained that the installing officer was in an official position to perform this duty, we shall be happy to so report it at the earliest opportunity; meantime, we submit a resolution (No. 9) designed to obtain information on this point, and if that information be satisfactory, authorizing the Grand Master to recognize the regularity of the organization.

The resolution referred to is as follows:

Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to recognize the "Grand \square of Nebraska," if he shall obtain satisfactory information that the officers of the body so styled were installed by competent authority.

The Grand \square of Nebraska has as yet received no formal recognition from the Grand \square of New York, and we can assure the committee on Foreign Correspondence that "the officers of the body so styled" were installed by competent authority, *i. e.* by the M. . W. . Ira A. W. Buck, then the deputy and at present the M. . W. . Grand Master of Illinois. We should be happy as a committee to exchange salutations with our brethren of the Empire State, in whose \square many of our members first saw light in masonry.

One year since, and we were the youngest member of the great confederacy, but since we have yielded that position by our own cordial recognition of the new Grand \square of Washington, we would desire to be recognized by all as a Grand \square duly organized and working for the best interests of the craft dispersed upon the border, and we are well agreed to have the verdict awarded to us in so hearty and manly a way, as has been pursued by all the jurisdictions save this alone.

Masonic forbearance demands that we should not retaliate by pointing at errors in the expressions of our brethren of New York, and we can assure them that so soon as their own consciences will allow them to recognize us as a legally constituted organization, it will be with fervency and zeal that this Grand body will exchange masonic intercourse with them.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand \square convened at Raleigh on the 6th day of December, 1858, M. . W. . Alfred Martin, Grand Master, who in his annual address reviews his official acts during the past year, and makes a feeling appeal to the Grand \square in behalf of the Mount Vernon enterprise, and also in favor of the foundation of an educational institution for the education of the children of masons. Concerning the acquirement of masonic intelligence through the medium of its literature, he says :

We cannot, therefore, place too high an estimate upon the services of a Master, who is fully qualified for all the duties of that office. But the beauty and harmony of the system are not dependent *alone* upon the Master; every officer in the \square has an important duty to perform, the neglect of which, or the inability to perform it, mars the whole and detracts from the interest and value of the work. Entertaining these views, I feel that there is no subject that could possibly occupy the attention of the Grand \square , in which she is more vitally interested, than that of providing the means of instruction, not only in the work and Lectures, but in the organic law, both written and unwritten, her own statutes, and in all the glorious purposes for which the institution was designed, and placing the same within the reach of every subordinate.

I am not now prepared to recommend any particular plan for effecting this most desirable object. I confidently believe, however, that a most powerful auxiliary in any scheme that the Grand \square may adopt, will be found in the productions of the press, now so extensively devoted to masonic literature. Were all our members reading men, and especially conversant with that kind of literature, then might we hope to see the order assume a more elevated position, and maintaining the rank and influence to which its principles and purposes so eminently entitle it. The evils of which we have been complaining, with a multitude of minor ills, would then, doubtless, be vastly diminished. Standard masonic works can now be readily procured, and at moderate rates; and nearly every mason within our jurisdiction could command the means of furnishing himself with a very respectable masonic library.

Your committee also embody in this report the following "Rules for the government of subordinate \square s in masonic trials," and recommend the adoption of similar rules by the Grand \square of Nebraska:

1. The accusation must be made in writing over the signature of a Master Mason, and handed to the Secretary to be read in open \square , and be spread upon the minutes, after which the accused shall be served with an attested copy of the charges and specifications, together with a notice, through the post office or otherwise, at least ten days before the day of trial, to appear and answer; and

should his place of residence be at a distance, or he require more time to prepare for defense, a reasonable time may be allowed. If the residence of the accused be unknown, or he fails to appear or to show satisfactory cause for delay of proceedings, then and in that case the □ may proceed to examine the charges *ex parte*.

2. The examination of the charges shall be had in a Master Mason's □, especially notified and convened for that purpose, at which no visitors shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses, and the □ must be called off during the necessary presence of such persons, if they be not Master Masons.

3. The accused may select his own counsel, and the witnesses shall testify on their honor. Hearsay evidence must be excluded. If testimony be taken out of the □, the accused, if he answer or appear, shall be duly notified of the time and place where such evidence will be taken, that he may have an opportunity of being present.

4. No irrelevant questions or testimony shall be allowed in the examination of witnesses. The Master may conduct the examination on behalf of the □, or it may appoint a committee for that purpose, and the questions to, as well as the answers by the witnesses, must be carefully noted down, read, and if necessary, amended in their presence, and then spread upon the minutes.

5. When the examination is closed, the accused shall then be heard in defense, either in person or through his counsel, after which all who are not members of the □ shall retire, and if during the examination it shall have been called off, the □ must then be called on.

6. The question, guilty or not guilty, shall be put to the □, upon each separate specification, which a majority of the members present shall determine by ballot, and if the accused be found guilty of any one or more of the charges or specifications, then the penalty shall be determined in like manner, taking the question upon the highest penalty, (expulsion) first, a vote of two-thirds of the members present, being necessary to expel or suspend. The particular charges or specifications upon which the accused shall be found guilty, together with the sentence determined upon, must be spread upon the minutes.

7. A brother feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of the subordinate □, shall have the right of an appeal to the Grand □, he having given due and timely notice to the subordinate □ of his intention so to appeal from its decision, and the Secretary of said □, if required, shall furnish him with a copy of all the proceedings touching his case.

When a subordinate □ shall expel or suspend a brother, all the proceedings, embracing the charges, specifications, evidence on both sides, verdict upon each charge or specification, and the sentence, shall be sent up under the seal of the □, and attested by the Secretary at the ensuing meeting of the Grand □, for examination.

OREGON.

On the 12th day of July, 1858, the Grand □ of this Territory convened at Astoria. M. . W. Benj. Stark, Grand Master, in his address states that he has granted seven dispensations for the formation of new □□

The committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand □ cheerfully recognize the Grand □ of Nebraska, and cordially extend to it our fraternal salutations.

In regard to the Holy Bible question, they hold a middle course, and say:

We say again, the only declaration of faith necessary on the part of the candidate for initiation, is the profession of belief and trust in God. But we also say, that a man who declares his disbelief in the Divine authenticity of the Holy Bible, cannot be made a mason.

They deprecate the practice of some Grand [] in allowing candidates to receive the three degrees with a single ballot, and insist upon the practice of a ballot for each degree, and in this position she is sustained by most of the Grand [].

SOUTH CAROLINA.

We have received from this State a copy of the proceedings of the Grand [] held at Charleston, November 16, 1858; twenty-one [] were represented.

The Grand Master in his address takes strong ground against conferring degrees at sight, and says:

A large number of applications have been made to me from all parts of the jurisdiction for dispensations to confer degrees within a shorter time than is allowable. These I have, with but rare exceptions, peremptorily declined to grant, but I regard the general idea which prevails, of the unreasonableness of the refusals so erroneous that it would be advisable that you recognize in some authoritative manner, the propriety of my course in this particular, and denounce the system of the rapid manner of manufacturing masons, which it is so convenient to introduce and cultivate, and which some, illy versed in the theory of our institution, would justify.

He is opposed to a General Grand []:

The question of a General Grand [] has been again, with great zeal and pertinacity, discussed in various of our sister jurisdictions. The grounds on which it receives countenance and favor, have never been regarded by me as cogent or forcible. The advantages which are derivable from such an organization, have never been satisfactorily pointed out. It is not legitimate for its advocates to deduce from the success which has attended similarly organized branches of our institution, arguments for its establishment. Separation of masonic jurisdictions, experience has demonstrated to be wise and fruitful of good results, and we at least, should hesitate long, before we submitted to a surrender of the powers we exercise, into the hands of a body without responsibility, and, as I believe, antagonistic to the genius and spirit of our institution. In deference, however, to the suggestions of the Grand [] of Maine, I would regard it expedient that this body should appoint a committee, to meet such committees of the other Grand [] of the United States as may assemble at Chicago in the year 1859, to deliberate upon the subject.

TENNESSEE.

The Grand [] of this State met at Nashville on the first Monday of October, 1858; M. W. Thos. McCulloch, Grand Master. Two hundred and ninety [] were reported.

The corner-stone of a new masonic temple was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The committee on the Grand Master's Address report, among others, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the work of Freemasonry should be carried on in secrecy and silence. A private residence is an improper place to confer the degrees or elucidate the mysteries of our order.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a report covering 70 pages, in which they extend to this body a most flattering notice. They also say:

They do not wish by any means to be considered as alarmists, or unnecessarily to excite fears where there is no cause for apprehension. Yet from every jurisdiction come the words of caution. The present unprecedented *popularity* of the institution, to experienced eyes, presents a condition of things that may well

presage a period of disaster. It is well said that a great calm in the atmospheric world is but a prelude to violent storms and hurricanes; and we cannot but admire the caution of the careful navigator of the "great deep," who trims his bark in such a manner as to be always prepared for any emergency—always ready for the calm or the storm. To similar watchfulness your committee would earnestly urge their brethren. With them rests the remedy, if not the preventive. *Let them guard well the entrance to their* ☐. Let them also remember, that upon the exercise of individual watchfulness depends the peace and continued prosperity of the fraternity.

Brother John W. Hanner, Grand Orator, delivered an able and eloquent oration on the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the new masonic temple. We copy the following passage:

Once more Another mistake concerning masonry is, that its symbols, ceremonies and secrets are childish and silly.

Now they are not of that puerile character which many imagine; nor can they be revealed and explained to the most gifted in an hour.

The *apron*. And what meaning is there in this? Meaning enough; it is a *symbol*. John Knox's daughter once threatened sovereign majesty, "that she would catch her husband's head in her apron, rather than he should lie and be a bishop." But she was a woman, and had a right to wear an apron. Well, then, Gao was a man, a stout old blacksmith, who had an apron which he raised in successful revolt against tyranny; and now, covered with jewels, it is the royal standard of Persia. The apron of tanned hide, girt around the stalwart builder with thongs of leather, wherein sticks the trowel at evening, has meaning in it.

Soldiers will follow a glazed cotton rag, fastened to a stick, through the dun smoke and leaden hail of battle; and rather than lose or desert it, they will be cut to pieces or blown into meat for vultures. It is their *FLAG*. When Joseph pocketed the iron crown of Hungary, a thing in size, shape and value not unlike a horse-shoe, the whole nation rose in tumult like a moon-stirred ocean. That iron skull-cap was the symbol of government. Around the wallet and staff of the Netherland hero the people rallied, fought and prevailed against King Philip. Through the clouted shoe of the peasants in their wars, through heraldic coat-of-arms, through military banners, there gleams a meaning, an idea of duty, of heroic daring and doing, and, in some instances, of freedom and right. The cross itself, with its right angles, its horizontal and perpendicular, the highest, holiest ensign that ever was lifted up, has its meaning in something extrinsic to itself. And so has the masonic apron, and so have all the other symbols, badges and implements of the craft.

Is there anything childish or silly in *silence*? One of the old sages thought it a god; and if this were an altar-building age, surely altars would be raised for its worship now. Silence is the element in which great things fashion themselves for the noise and battle of every-day life. Great men never babble of their projected plans and discoveries. Shut out intrusive noises, hold your tongue for one day, and see how the rubbish will be swept away by the mute workmen within you; how clear your purposes, your perception of duty! A Frenchman once defined speech to be "the art of concealing thought." Too often it so stifles and suspends, that it leaves none to conceal.

VERMONT

Sends to us the proceedings of an Annual Communication held at Burlington, January 12 and 13, 1859.

M. . W. . Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master, read a long, able, and, in some portions, caustic address. In speaking of the action of the Grand ☐ of New York, in the contested case of Abraham Platt, he indulges in the following satirical language:

As I have cheerfully acknowledged that I spoke with "asperity" of the Grand of New York, in this Platt case, simple justice to myself demands that the circumstances which led to that manner of speaking should not be forgotten. In mild and calm language I had caused to be laid before the Grand of New York the causes of our complaint. I had furnished full proof that Ogdensburgh had deliberately violated the regulations of the Grand of New York in the case, and that Platt himself had committed a gross fraud upon Ogdensburgh , by suppressing the circumstance that within a very short time before he petitioned that , he had been rejected in Washington at Burlington. The Grand of New York deliberately refused us any redress in the case. Platt returned to Burlington, and demanded admission as a visitor to the very which had rejected him. This was refused, the Grand of Vermont was referred to, and that Grand body forbade the of this jurisdiction to admit him within their walls. The subject had thus brought the two Grand into direct conflict. Platt was a regular mason in the jurisdiction of New York, but was excluded from all masonic privileges in that of Vermont; and this anomalous state of things had been brought about, as we knew and felt, by a deliberate refusal on the part of the Grand of New York to do us but the simplest masonic justice. Unwilling to have this state of things continue, I considered it my duty to refer to the subject again, and under a cutting sense of the injustice which had been done us, and the unpleasant position in which it had placed our Grand , it does not seem surprising to me that I did not speak of it with the same undisturbed calmness as at first. That method of reaching justice had failed in the case; nor had I any reason to think that a mere cool repetition of it would add anything to its force. I expressed myself, therefore, in strong language, that the Grand of New York might know how deeply we felt the wrong; and despite the censure cast upon that language, it cannot be honestly denied that it was, after all, but the language of simple *truth*. Acknowledging, as I do sincerely, that masonic courtesy is a masonic virtue, I may be permitted to say, that the Grand of New York has sometimes found occasions where she has chosen to forego the exercise of this virtue. She forgot it when she resisted the right of the Grand of Vermont to masonic existence, and she forgets it when she talks of the masonic "bantling" of Canada.

Notwithstanding the strictures of the M. . W. . Grand of New York, your committee have discovered no good reason to change their opinion as expressed in their report of last year in regard to the case of Abraham Platt.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence presents a complete review of the proceedings of forty-one Grand or masonic bodies, requiring a degree of labor fully appreciated by your committee.

Concerning the vexed question of the right of visitation, they say:

Your committee cannot fully endorse the opinion of our Louisiana brethren. In their opinion, the right of visitation is neither "inherent" nor "absolute." It is subject to restrictions. Our brethren restrict it to those who are in "good standing," "members of " who are "vouched for" or who pass a "satisfactory examination." We would restrict the privilege still further, and affirm that in this matter, each , through its Master and Wardens, has the right to refuse admission to any visitor whose presence they may, for any cause, deem detrimental to the . An individual rejected, for cause in one jurisdiction, may pass into another and be admitted to the honors of masonry—may possess all the qualifications mentioned by our Louisiana brethren. Shall he claim "as a right secured to him" to return and demand admission to the very from whose portals he was rejected. Your committee are of the opinion that the right of visitation is not thus absolute, but is a privilege which every through its Master and Wardens has the undoubted right to confer on whom he or they see fit, and it is only under such "restrictions" that it may be termed "inherent."

In speaking of this Grand □, they say:

Another star is added to the great constellation of masonry—a star that promises to be one of no small magnitude. On the 23d of September, 1857, a meeting of the Masters and Wardens of the following □s, viz: Nebraska □, No. 184, of Bellevue; Giddings □, No. 104, of Nebraska City; and Capital □, No. 101, of Omaha City, holding charters respectively from the M. : W. : Grand □ of Illinois, Missouri, and Iowa was held at Omaha City, for the purpose of organizing a Grand □ for the Territory of Nebraska. A □ of Master Masons was opened in due form; the credentials of representatives duly examined and approved, when, in accordance with a resolution passed, R. C. Jordan of Omaha City, was elected Grand Master; L. L. Bowen of Bellevue, Deputy Grand Master; David Lindley, Nebraska City, Senior Grand Warden; L. B. Kinney, Bellevue, Junior Grand Warden; Wm. Anderson, Nebraska City, Grand Treasurer, and Geo. Armstrong, Omaha City, Grand Secretary, and were regularly installed into their respective stations by M. : E. : Bro. Buck. A slip of the pen, or want of proper information in the Secretary, or mayhap an oversight of the printer, placed an E where a W should have been, and gave our cautious brethren of New York a hook to hang a doubt upon, of the legality, masonically, of the installation,—a specimen of hair-splitting, which your committee cannot commend.

To which, with a will, we say yea, and thank the Green Mountain Masons for taking up arms in our behalf. Printed with the proceedings is a copy of the old charges, as published by the Grand □ of England, 1722.

VIRGINIA.

On Monday the 13th day of December, 1858, the Grand □ of this State convened at the City of Richmond, M. : W. : Jnc. S. Caldwell, Grand Master, who says in relation to questions of masonic jurisprudence propounded to him:

During the past year, a great many legal masonic questions have been propounded to me by brethren in different parts of the State, to all which I responded to the best of my judgment; and I have not such confidence in my judgment as to suppose that I did not err in some cases; and yet such errors have come to the knowledge of the Grand □, and no means are provided for their correction. Now I submit that some mode ought to be devised by which the decisions given by the Grand Master upon questions of masonic law, propounded to him in the course of the year, should be made known to the □ as a part of the proceedings of the Grand officers during recess. To that end, therefore, I recommend that the Grand Master be requested by resolution to return to the Grand □ at each Grand Annual Communication, a synopsis of the questions on masonic law propounded to him during the preceding twelve months, and his answers to the same, if proper to be written.

Bro. John Dove, Grand Secretary, speaks in enthusiastic terms relative to the purchase of Mount Vernon. The committee on Foreign Correspondence notices this Grand □ in terms of friendship.

WASHINGTON.

Your committee have received at a late day the proceedings of a convention held at the City of Olympia, Territory of Washington, December 6, 1858, together with a constitution then adopted, and the proceedings of the Grand □ then organized. Four □s were represented. Bro. T. F. McElroy was elected Grand Master, and Bro. T. M. Reed, Grand Secretary.

The proceedings throughout are characterized by intelligence and understanding. It is with feelings of gratification that we welcome her to the place last

occupied by this Grand ; that of the youngest sister in the grand confederacy; and may the craft under the jurisdiction of this new Grand so guide its deliberations and conduct its actions that from the Northwest shall yearly come good tidings.

Your committee append a resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand of Nebraska hails with pleasure the formation of the Grand of Washington; that we recognize it as a legally constituted body, and extend to it our best wishes for its future prosperity and strength.

WISCONSIN.

The fraternity of this flourishing jurisdiction assembled in Grand at Milwaukee, on the 8th day of June, 1858. M. W. Henry S. Baird, Grand Master, in his annual address speaks as follows concerning a General Grand :

Some months since I received a circular signed by a committee appointed by the Grand of the State of Maine. In this document is embraced a resolution adopted at the last session of the Grand , urging the expediency of forming a General Grand within the United States, and instructing their committee on Foreign Correspondence to address the Grand in the Union on the subject. I present this circular to the Grand , with the view that such action may be had upon it as, in your judgment, the importance of the subject demands. I am unprepared to give an opinion as to the expediency or in expediency of this measure, and will therefore make no recommendation on the subject. It is unquestionably one of serious import to the order, and may operate greatly to the weal or woe of the institution, and should not be lightly considered or hastily acted upon. So far as my knowledge and experience go, I believe the present system of securing to the several Grand of the United States the exercise of supreme and independent power over the within their respective jurisdictions, has operated well, and I am not aware of any *absolute necessity* for destroying this power and jurisdiction, and transferring it to a General Grand body, composed of representatives from the former. The arguments used by the advocates for the establishment of their new supreme body, are, principally, that it will bring together, from the different States, representatives from their Grand : will be the means of establishing a clear bond of union between the several Grand , and cultivate a more universal feeling of fraternity and action amongst the craft in general. These reasons are plausible, but, on the other hand, is there no danger of evil in adopting a system entirely new, and heretofore unknown, in this country at least? Is there no danger of establishing thereby a concentration of power, which may prove not only dangerous, but destructive of the dignity and powers of the Grand as they now exist?

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported upon the following questions:

1. Has a the right to open in the Entered Apprentice degree, without first opening in the Master's degree?
2. Can the first section of the Master's degree be conferred on a candidate, and then adjourn until another time to confer the second section?
3. In the absence of the Worshipful Master and both Wardens, can a Past Master open the ?
4. Must a brother pass both Wardens' chairs before being qualified to be elected Worshipful Master?

And report:

In reply to the first interrogatory, the committee are of the opinion that a may open and close in the Entered Apprentice degree, without first opening in

the Master's degree, when convened solely for the purpose of working in that degree, but not for any other purpose.

In answer to the second interrogatory, the committee are of the opinion that the whole of the Master's or any other degree ought to be conferred at the same meeting.

The third interrogatory your committee answer in the negative.

The fourth interrogatory your committee answer in the negative; he must have been a Warden.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a concise and brief report, and recommended the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the establishment of a Grand in Nebraska, in September last, upon the principles now acknowledged by every Grand in the United States, is a pleasing event in the masonic year, and the Grand of Wisconsin extends to her the right hand of fellowship, and cordially admits her into the circle of her correspondents.

A. G. CLARKE,
H. N. CORNELL,
G. W. WILKINSON, } Committee.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

John A. Nye, W. M.	Henry T. Clarke, Treas.	S. H. Wattles, J. D.
C. D. Keller, S. W.	W. H. Cook, Secretary.	Louis F. Bartels, Tyler.
Silas A. Strickland, J. W.	J. M. Whitted, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

L. B. Kinney,	L. L. Bowen,	A. Lockwood,
H. T. Clarke,	S. H. Wattles,	T. M. Boyer,
J. A. Nye,	Thomas Clifton,	S. A. Strickland,
L. F. Bartels,	A. Hall,	W. H. Cook,
C. D. Keller,	J. M. Whitted,	S. D. Bangs.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

F. M. Davenport,	S. W. Y. Schymonsky.
------------------	----------------------

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

George Jennings.

WITHDRAWN.

Charles Johnson,	Joseph F. Bennett.
------------------	--------------------

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

Stated meetings: Friday preceding each full moon; and on St. John's day.

OFFICERS.

U. C. Ransom, W. M.	J. H. Maxon, Treas'r.	J. B. Bennett, J. D.
Henry Brown, S. W.	D. H. Warren, Sec'y.	E. Henry, Tyler.
Simeon Hooper, J. W.	L. P. Gillette, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

John Boulware,	Geo. Boulware,	W. P. Birchfield,
John S. Place,	Simeon Hooper,	T. E. Thompson,
John H. Maxon,	William W. Soper,	J. B. Bennett,
John B. Cook,	Jacob Safford,	H. N. Cornell,
Martin W. Riden,	Thomas Donohoo,	William Anderson,
G. H. Hail,	Sylvester Redfield,	J. C. Campbell,
C. W. Wyatt,	William Dorsey,	Hiram P. Downs,
John F. Kinney,	C. F. Holly,	U. C. Ransom,

D. H. Warren,
Edward Smith,
H. B. Baker,
A. J. Carins,
Isaac Chivington,
E. Henry,
John B. Boulware,
L. P. Gillette,
Geo. M. Smith,

Geo. A. Gillette,
H. C. Blackman,
Wm. L. Boydston,
Samuel Henderson,
J. C. Cook,
W. P. Hall,
S. P. Sibley,
W. H. Broadhead,
W. E. Pardee,

A. Bradley,
H. B. Horton,
Daniel Whiting,
W. E. Hill,
M. Mahon,
I. L. Gibbs,
Henry Brown,
R. H. Miller,
John A. Goodlett.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Robert Lorton,

George Shoupe.

WITHDRAWN.

David Lindley,
D. Huffman,F. Barnard,
George A. Gillette.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Smith McMains.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

George Armstrong, W. M. J. R. Porter, Treas'r. John Logan, J. D.
Alfred Sayre, S. W. Albert G. Clarke, Sec'y. Francis Lusignan, Tyler.
Horace G. Spencer, J. W. J. K. Wall, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

G. C. Bovey,
Philip Windheim,
A. R. Gillmore,
Frank L. Kemp,
J. T. Griffin,
G. W. Forbes,
Albert G. Clarke,
William N. Byers,
A. Roeder,
August Egbert,
John H. Sahler,

J. K. Wall,
George Armstrong,
Charles W. Hamilton,
Horace G. Spencer,
Charles Turner,
Thomas F. Stewart,
Francis Lusignan,
Theodore H. Todd,
William Frodsham,
Robert C. Jordan,
H. H. Vischer,

E. H. Clarke,
Nelson Baker,
Alfred Sayre,
Samuel E. Rogers,
P. G. Peterson,
John Logan,
John R. Porter,
Myer Hellman,
J. E. Boyd,
G. L. Miller.

FELLOW CRAFT.

P. A. Preston.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

E. G. McNeely,

H. P. Bennett.

WITHDRAWN.

Joseph Hunsicher,
J. B. Manning,A. Jacobs,
G. W. Wood,

W. R. Thrall.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

R. Shields,
J. M. Thayer,
J. McA. Campbell,

John Reck,
Lorin Miller,
J. F. Tayler,

F. Davidson,
H. C. Anderson,
W. F. Wilder.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Robert W. Furnas, W. M. David Siegel, Treasurer. Jer. Marlatt, J. D.
U. C. Johnson, S. W. T. W. Bedford, Secretary. Elias Knawer, Tyler.
William Hoblitzell, J. W. R. T. Rainey, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

G. W. Bratton,	Frank Ferguson,	A. J. Richardson,
David Siegel,	T. W. Bedford,	Adrian Hoblitzell,
U. C. Johnson,	Louis E. Lyanna,	Jer. Marlatt,
William Hoblitzell,	John B. Wells.	J. M. Cotton,
Henry Beane,	J. C. Aylsworth,	W. W. Keeling,
C. W. Wheeler,	Chester S. Langdon,	George Crow,
J. C. Cline,	A. H. Alderman,	O. B. Hewett.
R. T. Rainey,	A. O. D. Kelley,	
Robert W. Furnas,	Jesse Noel,	

FELLOW CRAFT.

J. J. Clark.

WITHDRAWN.

Milton F. Clark,	William A. Finney,	J. A. Adams.
E. Knawer,	James Ferguson,	

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

J. G. McCathron, of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI, DAKOTAH COUNTY.

Stated meeting: Saturday on or before each full moon.

OFFICERS.

A. W. Puett, W. M.	W. C. McBeath, Sec'y.	Alexander Ford, J. D.
Thos. McDermott, S. W.	Harlan Baird, Treas.	A. Lamson, Tyler.
E. G. Lamson, J. W.	J. H. Hallack, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

A. W. Puett,	W. C. McBeath,	H. M. Hale,
Thomas McDermott,	G. W. Wilkinson,	Thomas C. Ryan,
Harlan Baird,	M. Pinkerton,	A. H. Baker,
Alexander Ford,	Stephen Ulrey,	E. G. Lamson,
W. D. Smith,	Asa Rathburn,	William Henderson.
M. G. Wilkinson,	William Cheny,	
Amos Lamson,	J. A. Hallack,	

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

John C. Turk.

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

Stated meetings: first Monday in each month.

OFFICERS.

J. W. Marshall, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	James Minchell, J. D.
D. H. Wheeler, S. W.	J. C. Cummins, Sec'y.	E. A. Donelan, Steward.
Enos Williams, J. W.	W. D. McCord, S. D.	D. M. Coulter, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

E. A. Donelan,	E. Williams,	Joseph Harper,
J. C. Cummins,	W. J. Young,	W. H. Bassett.
J. Minchell,	W. M. Slaughter,	Thomas J. Jones,
S. H. Elbert,	W. D. McCord,	Thomas K. Hanna,
D. H. Wheeler,	J. W. Marshall,	W. B. Warbritton.
W. B. Porter,		

FELLOW CRAFT.

S. H. Jones.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

A. H. Barker.

WITHDRAWN.

J. C. McLelland.

LIST OF GRAND LODGES

In Correspondence with the Grand of Nebraska, with the names and residence of the Grand Secretaries.

STATES.	NAMES.	RESIDENCES.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.....
Arkansas.....	T. D. Merrick.....	Little Rock.....
California.....	Alex. J. Abell.....	San Francisco.....
Connecticut.....	E. G. Storer.....	New Haven.....
Delaware.....	W. S. Hayes.....	Wilmington.....
Florida.....	John B. Taylor, M. D. . .	Tallahassee.....
Georgia.....	Simri Rose.....	Macon.....
Illinois.....	Hermon G. Reynolds.....	Springfield.....
Indiana.....	Francis King.....	Indianapolis.....
Iowa.....	T. S. Parvin.....	Muscatine.....
Kentucky.....	John M. S. McCorkle.....	Greensburg.....
Kansas.....	Charles Munde.....	Fort Leavenworth.....
Louisiana.....	Samuel G. Risk.....	New Orleans.....
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.....
Massachusetts.....	Charles W. Moore.....	Boston.....
Michigan.....	James Fenton.....	Detroit.....
Missouri.....	A. O'Sullivan.....	St. Louis.....
Mississippi.....	R. W. T. Daniel.....	Jackson.....
Minnesota.....	Geo. W. Prescott.....	St. Paul.....
New Hampshire.....	Horace Chase.....	Hopkinton.....
New Jersey.....	Joseph H. Hough.....	Trenton.....
New York.....	James M. Austin, M. D. . .	New York.....
North Carolina.....	W. T. Bain.....	Raleigh.....
Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.....
Oregon.....	C. J. Trenchard.....	Astoria.....
Pennsylvania.....	William H. Adams.....	Philadelphia.....
Rhode Island.....	William C. Baker.....	Providence.....
South Carolina.....	A. G. Mackey, M. D. . .	Charleston.....
Tennessee.....	Charles A. Fuller.....	Nashville.....
Texas.....	A. S. Ruthvan.....	Galveston.....
Virginia.....	John Dove, M. D.	Richmond.....
Vermont.....	John B. Hollenbeck.....	Burlington.....
Wisconsin.....	John Warren Hunt.....	Madison.....
Washington Territory.....	T. M. Reed.....	Olympia.....
District of Columbia.....	G. A. Schwarzman.....	Washington.....
Canada.....	Thomas B. Harris.....	Hamilton, C. W.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT BROWNVILLE, JUNE 5, A. L. 5860.

THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA, June 5, 1860.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its third Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Brownville, this day. There were present the following

GRAND OFFICERS.

- R. . W. . L. B. KINNEY, as Grand Master.
R. . W. . GEO. W. BRATTON, as Senior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . S. REDFIELD, as Junior Grand Warden.
R. . W. . J. H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.
R. . W. . R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary.
W. . I. L. GIBBS, as Grand Orator.
W. . GEO. ARMSTRONG, Grand Lecturer.
W. . A. R. GILMORE, as Grand Marshal.
W. . L. P. GILLETTE, as Senior Grand Deacon.
W. . D. H. WHEELER, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. . G. W. WILKINSON, Grand Steward.
W. . G. G. GILLETTE, as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. . H. N. CORNELL, } as Grand Pursuivants.
W. . A. D. LUCE, }
W. . R. T. RAINEY, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. . W. . Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following committee:

On Credentials—Bros. Wilkinson, Bangs and Wheeler.

Bro. Wilkinson, from committee on Credentials, reported as follows, which report was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials find the following in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA , No. 1—L. B. Kinney, 1; S. D. Bangs, proxy, 1.

WESTERN STAR , No. 2—Lee P. Gillette, 1; Geo. G. Gillette, proxy, 1; J. F. Kinney, proxy, 1.

CAPITAL , No. 3—Geo. Armstrong, 1; A. R. Gillmore, proxy, 1; A. D. Luce, proxy, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY , No. 4—T. W. Bedford, proxy, 1; G. W. Bratton, 1; R. T. Rainey, 1.

OMADI , No. 5—G. W. Wilkinson, 2; S. Redfield, proxy, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH , No. 6—D. H. Wheeler, 1; J. W. Marshall, 1; S. H. Jones, proxy, 1.

The committee also find the following Grand Officers entitled to seats:

R. W. L. B. Kinney, as Grand Master.

R. W. Geo. W. Bratton, as Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. S. Redfield, as Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. J. H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.

W. L. L. Gibbs, as Grand Orator.

W. Geo. Armstrong, Grand Lecturer.

W. A. R. Gillmore, as Grand Marshal.

W. L. P. Gillette, as Senior Grand Deacon.

W. D. H. Wheeler, Junior Grand Deacon.

W. G. W. Wilkinson, Grand Steward.

W. G. G. Gillette, as Grand Sword Bearer.

W. H. N. Cornell, } as Grand Pursuivants.

W. A. D. Luce, }

W. R. T. Rainey, Grand Tyler.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. WILKINSON, }
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
S. D. BANGS, }

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

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers J. H. Maxon, Geo. Armstrong and G. G. Gillette.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers D. H. Wheeler, L. P. Gillette and A. R. Gillmore.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers R. W. Furnas, Geo. Armstrong and J. F. Kinney.

On Ways and Means—Brothers J. H. Maxon, J. W. Marshall and S. H. Jones.

On Charity—Brothers S. H. Jones, G. W. Bratton and S. Redfield.

On Grievances—Brothers S. H. Jones, G. W. Wilkinson and S. D. Bangs.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers R. W. Furnas, Geo. Armstrong and S. H. Jones.

On Pay Rolls—Brothers J. H. Maxon, R. W. Furnas and A. R. Gillmore.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers J. F. Kinney, Geo. Armstrong and G. W. Bratton.

On School Fund—Brothers T. W. Bedford, H. N. Cornell and D. H. Wheeler.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers S. Redfield, S. D. Bangs and S. H. Jones.

On Visitors—Brothers Geo. Armstrong, H. N. Cornell and G. W. Bratton.

The Grand Secretary then read the following from the M. W. Grand Master :

OMAHA, June 2, 1860.

Brethren of the Grand :

A few days since I became convinced that it would be impossible for me to attend the coming session of our Grand on the 5th inst. ; a privilege, I regret much, that I have to forego at the present time. The brethren of the Grand have for three successive years elevated me to the highest office with their gift, and being now about to retire from office, I wished, sincerely, that I might be present and thank each brother, individually, for the good will and many favors I have received at their hands during my administration. Since the organization of our Grand , we have, as Grand and Subordinate been peculiarly situated, with much to encounter for success and but little to encourage us on our way. The six that now compose our Grand were organized and set to work when times were prosperous and good. Soon after their organization a change took place that will long be remembered by the residents of this Territory, from which we are now just recovering, and that very slowly.

In addition to financial troubles, during the period mentioned, the great gold discovery was made west of us, and a large number of our members having suffered severely from the effects of the crisis, and being possessed with a spirit of adventure, concluded to seek fortune's favors and smiles in the newly discovered gold mines. All of the six have suffered greatly from this cause; in some instances leaving barely enough to perform the duties of the .

In view of the great troubles and difficulties the have had to encounter, I have a few recommendations to offer with respect to our Constitution and By-Laws :

Article XIII. of the Constitution, says that no warrant or dispensation shall be granted for a less sum than \$50. I would recommend this to be reduced fully one-half the above amount.

Section 2 of the By-Laws, is left blank with regard to the time and place of meeting of the Grand □. I would recommend that the Grand □ locate permanently at some central place.

In Section 19 of the By-Laws, the sum of \$3 for each initiation is required from the subordinate □. With a view of aiding the □ in every possible way, I would recommend that the amount be changed to \$2.

The foregoing are, I believe, all the changes I have to recommend.

Officially I have had but little to do since our last Grand Communication. On the 27th of December last, I installed the officers of Capitol □, No. 3, and on the 10th of May last I issued a dispensation to Western Star □, No. 2, located at Nebraska City, their charter having been consumed in the late disastrous conflagration that visited that city. As the dispensation expires with the present meeting of the Grand □, I recommend that a new charter be granted without any additional fee.

With respect to other jurisdictions, I have but little knowledge at present. I have, as Grand Master, received copies of the following States only: Louisiana, Alabama, Florida and Vermont, where the craft appear to be in the most flourishing condition.

In concluding this letter, my brethren, allow me to again allude to your kindness in the favors you have bestowed upon me. Under no circumstances, at present, could I consent to attempt to fill any position in the Grand □; and in retiring, allow me to suggest that you elect officers well skilled in masonic law and the ritual, and from those who will most likely remain in our jurisdiction until the next annual session.

Trusting you will have a pleasant and profitable session, and may receive the blessing of our Supreme Grand Master above upon your labors,

I am fraternally, your obedient servant.

ROBERT C. JORDAN, *Grand Master.*

Brother Wheeler presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers J. F. Kinney, Geo. Armstrong and G. W. Bratton, were appointed a committee as provided in the foregoing.

Brother Wheeler offered the following, which was adopted:

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

Brother J. F. Kinney presented the following preamble and resolutions relative to Western Star □, No. 2, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, The late disastrous fire in Nebraska City, N. T., which occurred on the 12th day of May last, destroyed the hall occupied by Western Star □, No. 2, Free and Accepted Masons, with all the records and furniture belonging to said □ (except their jewels), leaving the □ entirely destitute, and without a room in the city suitable for holding Communications; and

WHEREAS, Many of the brethren, as we are credibly informed, suffered severely in the loss of property by said fire, and are without the means for building a hall; and

WHEREAS, The location of said □, at Nebraska City, on the Missouri River, is one of the most importance to the traveling and sojourning brethren in this Territory, and the □ is among the most flourishing and worthy; and

WHEREAS, We learn that the □ has appointed Brothers Fountain Pearman, Sylvester Redfield and Lee P. Gillette to visit the brethren and masonic □ east and south, for the purpose of appealing to their masonic charity in this their hour of distress; therefore

Resolved, by the Grand □ of Nebraska, now in Annual Session in the city of Brownville, That the appeal of our brethren of Western Star □, No. 1, for assistance in building a □ hall, is meritorious; and we confidently trust that their appeal for help will be responded to with that liberality which has ever characterized the brethren of this fraternity in all ages of the world.

Resolved, That this Grand □ do cordially and fraternally recommend our worthy Brothers Pearman, Redfield and Gillette as eminently worthy the confidence and respect of all the □ they may visit.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish said brethren, under the seal of this Grand □, a copy of these resolutions.

The M. W. Grand □ was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. Grand □ was called from refreshment to labor, R. W. L. B. Kinney, Grand Master *pro tem.*, presiding.

Brother Redfield offered the following in regard to Western Star □, which was adopted :

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the By-Laws of this Grand □ provides that "No representative or proxy from a subordinate □ shall hold a seat in this Grand □ until he shall produce evidence that the □ he represents has discharged in full its Grand □ dues;" and

Whereas, Western Star □, No. 2, is unable, at present, to discharge its dues, in consequence of the losses of said □ by the late disastrous fire; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized and instructed to accept the note of Western Star □, signed by the officers of said □, in lieu of cash due.

Brother J. F. Kinney, from committee to whom was referred the communication of M. W. Grand Master, reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

The committee to whom was referred the annual communication of the M. W. Grand Master, for designating appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named be referred, report by presenting the following resolution :

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Master's communication as refers to the reduction of charges for warrants and dispensations, and to the lost charter of Western Star □, No. 2. be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations; that portion relative to the permanent location of the Grand □ be referred to a select committee of three; and that portion relative to a reduction of Grand □ dues, be referred to committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. KINNEY,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
G. W. BRATTON, }

Brothers Redfield, Armstrong and Furnas were appointed a select committee on permanent location of this Grand □.

Brother Bratton offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee on Foreign Correspondence be, and they are hereby instructed to collect, and have published in our proceedings, the names of all expelled and suspended masons of other jurisdictions with which this Grand □ is in correspondence.

Brother Bedford, from committee on School Fund, reported the following, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee on School Fund beg leave to report, that no measures have been taken to raise such a fund; and finding nothing further to claim our attention, we respectfully subscribe ourselves

T. W. BEDFORD, }
H. N. CORNELL, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

Brother Furnas, as a committee appointed at the last session of this M. W. Grand □ to procure a set of Grand □ jewels, and also the printing of twenty-five parchment charters, presented the following report, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

In compliance with your instructions, I have procured a set of Grand jewels and twenty-five parchment charters, all of which are here present. The following is an exhibit of their cost:

M. W. Grand of Nebraska

To R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary,

	Dr.
To paid W. M. Price for set Grand <input type="checkbox"/> jewels.....	\$100 00
“ express charges on the same.....	2 00
“ for ribbon for collars.....	1 50
“ for parchment charters.....	25 00
Total.....	<u>\$128 50</u>

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, Committee.

The R. W. Grand Secretary presented the following as his report, which was referred to committee on Accounts:

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand of Nebraska,

	Dr.
To dues from Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/> No. 1.....	\$ 18 00
“ “ Western Star <input type="checkbox"/> No. 2.....	66 00
“ “ Capital <input type="checkbox"/> No. 3.....	59 00
“ “ Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/> No. 4.....	43 00
“ “ Omadi <input type="checkbox"/> No. 5.....	19 00
“ “ Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/> No. 6.....	31 00
	<u>\$236 00</u>

Cr.

By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....\$236 00

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary.

The R. W. Grand Treasurer presented the following annual report, which was referred to committee on Accounts:

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

JOHN H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand of Nebraska:

	Dr.	Cr.
1859. Balance in Treasury.....	\$386 64	
1860. Amount received of Grand Secretary.....		236 00
		<u>\$622 64</u>
1859. By Pay Roll 1859.....	\$ 89 40	
“ “ “ amount paid for stationery and printing.....	102 70	
“ “ “ “ Grand Secretary's salary.....	50 00	
“ “ “ “ refunded Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	5 00	
1860. Cash in Treasury, to balance.....	375 54	
		<u>\$622 64</u>

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.

Brother Furnas presented the following bill for printing, which was referred to committee on Accounts

<i>Grand □ of Nebraska, to R. W. FURNAS,</i>	Dr.
To printing and binding 400 copies Grand □ Proceedings for 1859.....	\$134 50
“ “ circulars to other Grand □.....	4 50
“ postage.....	6 50
	\$145 50

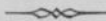
Brother J. F. Kinney offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand □ now proceed to the election, by ballot, of officers of this Grand □ to serve the coming year.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Wilkinson and Redfield tellers, and the election took place with the following result :

- GEORGE ARMSTRONG, of Omaha, M. W. Grand Master.
- L. B. KINNEY, of Nebraska City, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
- S. REDFIELD, of Nebraska City, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.
- D. H. WHEELER, of Plattsmouth, R. W. Junior Grand Warden.
- J. H. MAXON, of Nebraska City, R. W. Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. FURNAS, of Brownville, R. W. Grand Secretary.

Grand □ called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.



SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 6, 1860.

Grand □ called from refreshment to labor.

Present, officers as on yesterday.

Brother Armstrong, from committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The committee on Unfinished Business respectfully report that they have examined the proceedings of our last Annual Communication, and find but one subject postponed for the action of this Grand □. This subject is the amendment of the fifth paragraph of the Rules and Regulations of subordinate □. The Grand Master recommended that they be so amended that Entered Appren-

tices and Fellow Crafts can be balloted for when the [] are open in these degrees.

Your committee would recommend that this subject be referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.
SAM'L H. JONES, }

Brother Jones, from committee on Charity, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand [] of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Charity, would respectfully report that no business has been presented for their consideration.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAM'L H. JONES, }
GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
S. REDFIELD, }

Brother J. F. Kinney submitted the following, in regard to the retiring M. . W. . Grand Master, Brother R. C. Jordan, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That, as our M. . W. . Grand Master, Brother Rob't C. Jordan—who has presided over this Grand [] from its organization to the present time—has peremptorily declined a re-election, it is with deep regret that we are compelled to sever the official relations which have so pleasantly existed between him and this Grand [].

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand [] are hereby tendered to our worthy brother, Rob't C. Jordan. for his early and efficient masonic efforts in organizing this Grand []; for his devotion to the principles of masonry; for his zeal in advancing the prosperity of the order, and for the valuable masonic information he has imparted to this and the subordinate [] under our jurisdiction.

Resolved, That—in retiring from the station, Brother Jordan has filled with so much profit to the craft—while we are sensible of our loss, we can assure our brother that he bears with him the fraternal esteem and confidence of all the officers and members of this Grand [], with our earnest desire for his continued prosperity and happiness.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to forward to Brother Jordan a copy of these resolutions.

Brother Wheeler offered the following amendment to the By-Laws of this Grand [], and by unanimous consent it was acted upon, and adopted unanimously :

Resolved, That Section 26 of the By-Laws of this Grand [], be so amended, that every society of masons applying for a dispensation, shall, before the same be granted, deposit with the M. . W. . Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master

issuing the same, the sum of \$10 for the use of the Grand \square , and should their work be approved by the Grand \square , shall be entitled to a charter upon the payment of \$25 into the hands of the Grand Secretary.

The bond of the Grand Treasurer, Brother J. H. Maxon, was presented, and on motion accepted. It reads as follows:

HALL OF GRAND \square , BROWNVILLE, June 6, 1860.

Know all men by these Presents, That we, John H. Maxon, as principal, and H. N. Cornell and F. Pearman, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand \square of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and each of them, firmly by these presents. The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, the said John H. Maxon has been elected Treasurer of the Grand \square of Nebraska for one year; now if the said Maxon shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as required by the Grand \square , and pay over all moneys in his possession, as Treasurer, to his successor in office, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
H. N. CORNELL, } Committee.
F. PEARMAN }

Brother Maxon, from the committee on Accounts, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your standing committee on Accounts beg leave to submit the following report:

They have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct, and a balance of \$375.54 in the treasury.

They have also examined the account of Wm. H. Price, for Grand \square jewels.....	\$100 00
For United States Express charges on the same.....	2 50
Theodore Hill, for ribbon.....	1 50
	\$104 00

Also, the account of R. W. Furnas :

To printing 400 copies of Grand \square proceedings.....	\$134 50
“ “ 25 parchment charters.....	25 00
“ “ Circulars to other Grand \square	4 50
“ Postage	6 50
	\$170 50

And find them correct, and offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of John H. Maxon for one hundred and four dollars, in payment for \square jewels, &c., he having placed in the hands of this committee bills receipted for that amount.

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of R. W. Furnas for one hundred and seventy dollars and fifty cents in payment of his bill.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
GEO. G. GILLETTE, }

Brother Redfield, from committee on Subordinate Returns, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska :

Your committee, to whom was referred the returns of subordinate ☐, respectfully report:

That the returns of Nebraska ☐, No. 1, are correct. The returns of Western Star ☐, No. 2, are as nearly correct as possible, their records and papers having been destroyed by fire. Capital ☐, No. 3, has paid dues on four Master Masons, who had been initiated the present year. The returns of Nemaha Valley ☐, No. 4, Omadi ☐, No. 5, and Plattsmouth ☐, No. 6, are correct.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a warrant be drawn in favor of Capitol ☐, No. 3, for four dollars, being the amount of dues over-paid the current year.

Respectfully submitted.

S. REDFIELD, }
S. D. BANGS, } Committee.
SAMUEL H. JONES, }

Brother Jones, from the committee on Grievances, presented the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska :

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject matter of Grievances, beg leave to report:

That they have had the same under consideration during this session of the Grand ☐, and are happy to say that no matters of a grievous character have been presented for their deliberation.

Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL H. JONES, }
G. W. WILKINSON, } Committee.
S. D. BANGS, }

Brother Wheeler, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska :

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred that portion of the communication of the M. W. Grand Master relating to the reduction of charges for dispensations and warrants, and amount to be paid on each initiation, and in relation to the lost charter of Western Star ☐, No. 2, have

had the same under consideration, and would respectfully offer the following as their report :

Resolved, That a duplicate charter be issued to Western Star □, No. 2, in place of the one destroyed in the late conflagration at Nebraska City.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, }
A. R. GILLMORE, } Committee.

Brother Redfield, from the select committee on the permanent location of the Grand □, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's communication relative to the permanent location of this Grand □, report :

That in their opinion it would not be expedient at this time to fix permanently the place of their meeting of this body. As it seems to be the understanding among the brethren that our next communication shall be held at Plattsmouth, and as that place, also, appears to be the point in view for the permanent location of the Grand □, your committee would recommend that the subject referred to them be postponed until the next communication of this Grand □.

Respectfully submitted.

S. REDFIELD,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.

Brother Maxon, from committee on Pay Roll, reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

The committee on Pay Roll beg leave to report the following as the amounts due the officers and members of the Grand □ for the year 1860:

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand □ of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held at Brownville, June, 1860.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	
L. B. Kinney, M. W. Grand Master <i>pro tem</i>	Bellevue.....	67	\$ 8 04	\$ 3 00	\$11 04	
G. W. Bratton, Senior Grand Warden <i>pro tem</i>	Brownville.....	...	...	3 00	3 00
S. Redfield, Junior Grand Warden.....	Nebraska City.....	27	3 24	3 00	6 24	
John H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.....	Nebraska City.....	27	3 24	3 00	6 24	
*R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.....	Brownville.....	...	...	...	...
Geo. Armstrong, Grand Lecturer.....	Omaha.....	77	9 24	3 00	12 24	
*L. P. Gillette, Senior Grand Deacon <i>pro tem</i>	Nebraska City.....	...	...	...	...
D. H. Wheeler, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Plattsmouth.....	57	6 84	3 00	9 84	
*G. W. Wilkinson, Grand Steward.....	Omadi.....	...	...	...	...
G. G. Gillette, Grand Sword Bearer.....	Nebraska City.....	27	3 24	3 00	6 24	
H. N. Cornell, Grand Pursuivant.....	Nebraska City.....	27	3 24	3 00	6 24	
*A. D. Luce, " " <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha.....	...	...	...	...
R. T. Rainey, Grand Tyler.....	Brownville.....	...	...	3 00	3 00
				\$37 08	\$27 00	\$64 08

*Drew mileage and per diem as representatives.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
1.	Nebraska □.....	Bellevue.....	67	\$ 8 04	\$ 3 00	\$11 04	S. D. Bangs.....
2.	Western Star □.....	Nebraska City.....	27	3 24	3 00	6 24	Lee P. Gillette.....
3.	Capital □.....	Omaha.....	77	9 24	3 00	12 24	A. D. Luce.....
4.	Nemaha Valley □.....	Brownville.....			3 00	3 00	Robert W. Furnas
5.	Omadi □.....	Omadi.....	167	20 04	3 00	23 04	G. W. Wilkinson...
6.	Plattsmouth □.....	Plattsmouth.....	57	6 84	3 00	9 84	J. W. Marshall.....
				\$47 40	\$18 00	\$65 40	

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
 R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.
 A. R. GILLMORE, }

Brother Maxon, from committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Ways and Means respectfully report, that upon examination of the condition of the finances of said □, they find the funds to consist of

Amount in hands of Treasurer.....\$375 45

Which is subject to draft at this session for the following purposes:

Grand □ jewels.....\$104 00

Pay Roll this session..... 129 48

Printing, charters, stationery, postage, &c..... 175 50

\$408 98

375 45

Making a deficit of..... \$33 53

In addition to the orders above enumerated, to be drawn upon the treasury at this session, in accordance with Sec. 16 of the By-Laws, the Grand Secretary is entitled to a salary of \$150; but the Grand Secretary, in consideration of the state of the finances of this Grand □, has generously donated this □ that amount, and will make no charge for his services.

Your committee have had under careful consideration that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's communication relating to the reduction of the amount paid by subordinate □ for initiation, reducing it from \$3 to \$2, and would offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient, at the present time, for the financial prosperity of this institution, to make said reduction.

The present year our expenses have exceeded our receipts, but your committee do not deem it advisable to increase the Grand □ dues at the present time, because our disbursements have been larger this year than we should estimate them for another year, having purchased Grand □ jewels and parchment charters.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
 J. W. MARSHALL, } Committee.
 SAM'L H. JONES, }

Brother Armstrong offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the next session of this Grand \square be held at Plattsmouth, on the first Tuesday in June, 1861.

The Grand \square having been notified yesterday, that it was the desire of Nemaha Valley \square and brethren in attendance, that the Annual Oration be delivered in public, and the Grand \square being invited to partake of a dinner prepared for the occasion, the Grand \square was called from labor to refreshment, until the sound of the gavel in the East, and a procession was formed by the Grand Marshal, which proceeded to the Presbyterian Church, where the following address was delivered by Rev. B. R. Baxter, of Oregon, Missouri :

ADDRESS.

Officers and Members of the Order of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons :

Most cheerfully would I transfer the responsibilities of this hour to one more competent to discharge them with acceptability to the craft and profit to all; but as this I may not do, I proceed to define and defend *some* of the principles of Freemasonry. So large is the field before me, and so various the sources from whence instruction may be drawn, that I feel as I imagine the child would feel in a beautiful floral garden, where hundreds of flowers of varied hues would greet the eye and please the fancy, while he would be allowed to pluck but *one*; it would be difficult for him to make a selection with which he would afterwards be content.

Masonry conveys to *us* the knowledge of one who constructs edifices composed of stone and mortar, but may be understood as including, anciently, artificers of various kinds. "Tubal Cain was an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron." A. M. 129.

Masonry is divided into operative and speculative. "The heavens," which "declare the glory of God," and the "firmament," which "showeth His handiwork," and the earth His footstool, all proclaim the power of the Supreme Architect, and lead us to exclaim, "O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In *wisdom* hast Thou made them all."

Men became operative masons from *necessity*, to provide for their wants, and operative masonry is a *progressive* art. Babylon, founded by Nimrod, the great-grandson of Noah, was "the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldee's excellency." This city, having reached the zenith of its glory under the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, as he walked upon its walls, and beheld its magnificence, excited his pride, and drew forth the exclamation, "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built?" With its stupendous walls, magnificent gates, beautiful hanging gardens, and the gorgeous temple of Belus, it has been pronounced by a modern writer "the *wonder* of the world." Ninevah, the chief city of Assyria, founded by

Nimrod, was improved by Ninus the Second, before Christ 1230 years, so as to be regarded, at *that* time, as the greatest city in the world. These, with Solomon's Temple, which was built after a divine model, serve as specimens of the successful cultivation of the art of operative masonry, in the days of yore. Each passing day develops some new phase of this branch of masonry, turned to account for the benefit of man.

"Speculative masonry is a science, which, borrowing from the operative art its working tools and implements, sanctifies them by symbolic instruction, to the holiest of purposes—the *veneration* of God and the *purification* of the soul. The operative mason constructs his edifice of material substances; the speculative mason is taught to erect a spiritual building, pure and spotless, and fit for the residence of Him who dwelleth only with the good. The operative mason works according to the designs laid down for him on the trestle board by the architect; the speculative mason is guided by the great trestle board on which is inscribed the revealed will of God, the Supreme Architect of heaven and earth."—*Mackey*.

"Freemasonry is a beautiful science of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols." This definition ought to be indelibly inscribed upon the mind and heart of every member of the order, and be the ruling principle of his life, and the guiding star of his final destiny.

Before entering upon the delineation of the principles of masonry, we would briefly state what it is *not* :

1st. It is not a *political* association. It distinctly disavows any interference with the political opinions of any man who may seek identity with it. As an organization, it forbids the discussion of political issues in the room, and leaves each member quietly to enjoy his own opinions.

2d. It is not a religious organization, in any sectarian sense. It seeks not to meddle with the religious creed or dogma of any man, or association of men; but, as in the other case, leaves each member free to think and act for himself. "Masonry knows no religious sectarian creed, beyond 'Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity toward all mankind.'" Here it stops, as well it may, because upon this basis all good men can meet and work. The standard of masonic morality is the Bible, the "great light" of the order. Every principle and tenet of masonry will bear measuring by *this standard*, and being weighed in the scales of truth and justice.

Freemasonry contemplates the moral, social and intellectual improvement of its members. First, its morality: It *requires* each member to believe in the existence and providence of one Living and Supreme Being. While masonry is true to her principles, no "stupid atheist" can ever gain admittance within her sacred pale; nor can the "polytheist," who admits a plurality of gods, be obligated on masonic altars. He who denies the existence of God has no object of trust, no foundation for his faith, and cannot be guided through the various chambers of our mystic temple; and should he profanely thrust himself within the outer court, his eyes should not be permitted to behold, nor his mind to conceive the beauties of masonry. "Every mason is bound by this tenure to obey the moral law," which is "the great light of masonry." The infidel who rejects this "light," in whole or in part, has no right to a place among masons.

He can never be made a "polished stone" in this beautiful edifice, and should be promptly rejected by all masonic builders. All "irreligious libertines" are to be rejected. While Freemasonry is not a religious association, and does not promulgate sectarian dogmas, it is opposed to every species of vice; drunkenness, gambling, debauchery, and dishonesty of every *grade*, and to the smallest extent, are contrary to masonic principles, and no man who practices these things is morally *fit* to be a mason. Masonry teaches reverence for the name of Deity, and he who blasphemes that name is an immoral man, and cannot be made a mason without a compromise of the principle of the order; and that mason who profanely uses the name of God, grossly violates his *moral* obligations, and deserves to be expelled from the order.

If "Freemasonry be a *beautiful* system of *morality*," how can those who are *habitually immoral* be regarded as masons? We distinguish very materially between *bright* masons and *good* ones. A man may be well versed in all the mystic cabala of the craft, and understand all the work of the □ room, and yet not be a *moral man* nor a *good mason*. We close this point in the address with a quotation from DeWitt Clinton: "Although the origin of our fraternity is covered with darkness, and its history is to a great extent obscure, yet we can confidently say, that it is the most ancient society in the world; and we are equally certain that its principles are based on pure morality; that its ethics are the ethics of christianity; its doctrines, the doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love, and its sentiments, the sentiments of exalted benevolence. Upon these points, there can be no doubt. All that is good, and kind, and charitable, it encourages; all that is vicious and cruel, and oppressive, it reprobates."

Masonry recognizes *all* the social relations of society, and demands of all its members a just regard to them; and he who fails to render that regard, if out, should be *kept* out; and if, unfortunately, within, should be reformed or excluded. Men of sour and morose dispositions and selfish principles are not the material of which to make good masons. Those who have no social element in their composition cannot conceive nor practice those refined principles socially taught in Freemasonry.

It is not true that masonry loves "darkness rather than light," and ignorance more than knowledge. On the contrary it directly contemplates the intellectual improvement of its members. To this end it directs the prudent disposition of time, and advises the study of the "liberal arts," and directs to the investigation of the various departments of scientific research. The successful study of the principles of masonry will make masons men of more than average intelligence. He who fears God most *devoutly*, regards the *rights* and *interests* of his fellow-men most *conscientiously*, improves his intellect most *assiduously*, cultivates his moral and social qualities most *successfully*, and he who governs *himself* most *scrupulously*, and practices charity with the most *prudence*, is the *best mason*.

It is sometimes objected to Freemasonry that it is opposed to christianity. The very reverse of this is true. It is the handmaid of virtue and religion. Otherwise good men would not be connected with it. We may successfully challenge all its opposers to find anything in masonry contrary to the tenets of revealed religion.

Others object that it is contrary to the civil and political institutions of the country. Are such persons sincere? If so, they are most *deplorably ignorant*, and are prepared to believe any and every thing they may hear. One of the fundamental principles of masonry is, that "in the state its members are to be quiet and peaceable citizens, *true* to their government and *just* to their country. Not to countenance *disloyalty* nor *rebellion*, but patiently submit to legal authority, and conform with cheerfulness to the government of the country in which they live." Again: some object because of the immorality of the members. This is the fault of *masons* not of *masonry*. There are immoral members in all moral and religious associations. Judas Iscariot was a "*devil*," as bad, I should think, as the worst specimen of a mason that could be found. He who would hold a *system* responsible for the improprieties of its members, lacks either *capacity*, or *candor*, or *bold*, to reason on any subject, and should be left alone in his glory. Doubtless the motto of such is, "Where *ignorance* is *bliss*, 'tis *folly* to be *wise*." The objection to masonry is, that it is a *secret society*, and the argument (if such it may be called,) is that whatever is secret is necessarily evil. Masonry is not a secret organization, so far as its principles are concerned. These are published to the world, and court investigation, alike from friend and foe. In its work in the \square room, its signs, &c., it is a secret society, and its secrecy is its only indemnity against imposition. Remove its secrecy and you destroy its identity and upheave its very foundations.

Various church organizations, as such, oppose masonry. Roman Catholics oppose it because it gives the Bible to the people. Other small organizations—composed of *small* men, competent only to deal in very *small* matters—make it a test of church fellowship. For this regulation, masonry owes them a vote of thanks, because I have never seen a member of one of these associations of sufficient mental caliber to make a *small sized mason*. I venture the assertion that the most violent opposers of masonry are those who are most ignorant of its principles and tenets.

An important question is: Will masonry be perpetuated? It has withstood the opposition of all its foes, from without, and all treachery from within, and there can be but one source of imminent danger; as long as we guard with proper vigilance the entrance to the inner temple, and reject all improper material, our edifice will stand, proudly bidding defiance to outward influences and unfriendly combinations. "Our institution being supported by wisdom, strength and beauty," is destined to an enviable immortality. Though the outward temple may be dissolved, its principles will not, *cannot* be affected by time, and chance and change. "Though the foundations of the earth be removed," yea "though the globe itself be dissolved, and like the baseless fabric of a vision, leave not a wreck behind;" though "the elements melt with fervent heat, and the heavens pass away with a great noise," yet the "beautiful" morality of Freemasonry shall survive the final "wreck of matters and crush of worlds," and shine with a brighter lustre, as they shall reflect the rays of the sun of righteousness.

Let us ever bear in mind the emblems of our order; some of which so significantly symbolize our morality. Let us heed the voice of Jehovah speaking

through the prophet: "All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof as the flower of the field." Of man how truly may it be said, "To-day he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; to-morrow blossoms, and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the next day comes a frost which nips the shoot, and when he thinks his greatness still aspiring, he falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth." "These beautiful and expressive emblems close with the solemn realities of death, the deep, damp vault, the mattock and the grave." "These are gloomy considerations to our race, but to the christian, the coldness and dampness of the grave are hidden by the evergreens of Faith and Hope, which sprung forth from the root of Jesse, who was cut down in the midst of his days, but from whose resurrection we derive glorious evidences of a blessed immortality. If, like our great pattern and exemplar, we are faithful to our trusts, violence may assail, but cannot destroy us; death will be no longer a tyrant, but a tyler to usher us into the presence of our Supreme Grand Master, who presides in the □ above."

Brethren, "we are traveling upon the level of time, to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." Beyond the chilling flood of death, in that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God, may we all meet again,

"Where no bright dream is broken,
No flower shall fade in beauty's hand,
And no farewell be spoken."

"After the address the procession was again formed, and proceeded to dinner, and from thence to the masonic hall.

Grand □ called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Furnas offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the order are due, and are hereby tendered to Brother Baxter for the very able and excellent address delivered on this occasion.

Resolved, That this Grand □ request of the orator, Brother Baxter, a copy of the address for publication with the proceedings.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be hereby instructed to procure the printing of 400 copies of the proceedings of this session; that he forward three copies to each of the subordinate □ in this jurisdiction, and one copy to the Grand Secretary of each Grand □ in the United States and Territories.

Brother Furnas, who had, during the interval between this and the last session of this Grand □, been appointed chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, in place of Brother Clarke, who had temporarily gone from the Territory, made the following report, which was agreed to:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

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

But a few weeks ago the writer was informed by the M. W. Grand Master that he was appointed chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, in the place of Brother A. G. Clarke, who had removed from the Territory. It was with no ordinary degree of timidity that I accepted the appointment and undertook the duties. To step into the arena where labor those of life-long experience and devotedness to the order, those thoroughly versed and posted in all masonic affairs, was indeed embarrassing. The committee has not undertaken to discuss points of masonic law or usage that necessarily arise in many of the jurisdictions; but has contented itself with furnishing the order in Nebraska, through this report, with a general outline as to the condition of the order within the scope of our correspondence.

The Grand Secretary has received the printed proceedings from thirty-three jurisdictions; others in the United States have failed, we presume, owing to some irregularity in the mails, as copies of our proceedings have been forwarded to every Grand \square in the United States. Those received are as follows, and of the dates attached:

- Arkansas, November 1, 1859.
- Alabama, December 5, 1859.
- Connecticut, May 11, 1859.
- California, May 10, 1859.
- Florida, January 9, 1860; also a bound volume of the proceedings of the Grand \square of Florida from the year 1830 to 1859—a very valuable book.
- Georgia, October 26, 1859.
- Indiana, May 23, 1859.
- Illinois, October 4, 1859.
- Iowa, June 7, 1859.
- Kentucky, October 17, 1859.
- Kansas, October 18, 1859.
- Louisiana, February 14, 1859, and February 13, 1860.
- Michigan, January 11, 1859.
- Mississippi, January 17, 18, 19, 1859, and January 16, 17, 18, 19, 1860.
- Maine, May 3, 1859.
- Maryland, May 9, 10, 11, 12, 1859.
- Missouri, May 23, 1859.
- Massachusetts, March 8, 1859; December 27, 1859.
- Minnesota, October 25, 1859.
- North Carolina, December 5, 1859.
- New Hampshire, June 8 and 9, 1859.
- New Jersey, January 12, 1859.
- New York, June 7, 1859.
- Oregon, June 13, 1859.
- Pennsylvania, March 1, 1858, and March 7, 1859.
- Rhode Island, January 24, 1859.
- South Carolina, November 15, 1859.

Texas, January 13, 1859.

Tennessee, October 3, 1859.

Vermont, January 12, 13, 1859; January 11, 12, 13, 1860.

Virginia, December 12, 1859.

Wisconsin, January 14, 1859.

Washington, September 5, 1859.

The Grand Secretary has also received from the General Superintendent, Rev. W. D. Haley, Washington City, a number of pamphlet circulars, setting forth the object and plan of the "American Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans of Freemasons." Your committee regard the enterprise as a laudable one, demanding the attention of the fraternity in the United States. The circulars were distributed to the several subordinate [] in this jurisdiction.

ALABAMA.

The Grand [] of this State met at Montgomery, December 5, 1859; M. . W. . R. H. Erwin, presiding. Number of [] in the jurisdiction, and represented, 264; number of members, 8,093.

Grand Master R. H. Erwin, Camden, and Grand Secretary Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, re-elected.

We extract the following from the annual address of the M. . W. . Grand Master:

In order that we may realize the bright anticipations of good which have prompted us to abandon for a time our ordinary occupations and the endearing influences of home, we must have constant regard to the "point within the circle" and its teachings. Nor need I, brethren, in this, my first, recommendation to you as your masonic head, remind *you* that there is another point which you should have constantly in remembrance, in order that you may obtain the full benefit of wise and prudential councils. I allude to order, which has ever been one of the peculiar characteristics of the genius of masonry; and so long as she has been enabled to maintain this, how potent has been her influence to elevate our thoughts and aspirations, harmonize our sentiments and actions, soften and beautify our rude natures, and fraternize our feelings. *Here* she permits none of those rankling political feelings or sectarian exclusiveness to enter, for "we meet upon the Level and part upon the Square," as an honest effort to elevate our social feelings, support the dignity of our profession, cultivate a pure morality, exalt our race, and administer to the physical wants of humanity, are great masonic duties which admit of "no contention, but rather that emulation of who can best work and best agree."

With these points in view, I submit to your care and discretion the interests of an institution, the points of whose compass extend through all bounds, and whose solid foundation is based upon the extended principles of philanthropy and good will to mankind of every nation and tongue.

Whilst I can unite with you, brethren, in the pleasing reflection that the principles of Freemasonry have generally been maintained in their purity, and the craft seem to be gradually but perceptibly improving in their social, moral and intellectual standing, yet in all this bright picture there are, here and there, touches indicative of sadness, among which there is one calculated to awaken within your hearts a mournful sympathy; for I have to communicate to you that there are those with whom it has been our pleasure heretofore to mingle on such occasions, that have been called to their long homes, and among this number three of our Past Grand Officers—Brothers John A. Whetstone and Syd. Smith, Past Deputy Grand Masters, and Wm. A. Ferrell, Past Grand Lecturer of this Grand []. These brethren, as well as their masonic virtues, were

known to many of you, and you can justly estimate the loss which we have sustained in the wisdom of their counsels, their teachings and their expansive philanthropy. Then, while we freely and feelingly tender our sympathies to the friends and relatives of our deceased brethren, let us emulate their virtues, and console ourselves with the reflection, that as polished ashlar they have been deemed worthy to fill a niche in the temple "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

"For cold in the dust the perished heart may lie,
But that which warmed it once can never die."

Within the past masonic year I have had inquiry made of me from two different sources—"whether a brother committing suicide under the influence of delirium tremens should be buried with masonic honors?" Not disposed to arouse a painful feeling on a subject which excites so deeply the feelings of mankind as the burial of the dead, or to obstruct, in this ceremony, the gushings of the masonic heart with sympathy, or to refuse to extend the broad mantle of charity over the foibles of a fallen brother, I did not deem it necessary to interdict, by my authority, the performance of this ceremony; but left it where it seems to have been left by this Grand \square , to the wisdom and discretion of its subordinates. And yet I felt constrained to advise the non-performance of this last sad rite so sacred to the memory of masons.

I will take occasion to say, in connection with this subject, that the occurrence of such cases awakens the conviction that our \square are not taking as high grounds in masonic discipline as they should. We should counsel, admonish and exhort, in all brotherly kindness, our erring brethren, for it is human to err, and we are not exempt; but when all this has failed, we should resort, *in time*, to the extirpation of the diseased portion to protect the organization.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence notices Nebraska as follows:

We have read with pleasure the address of the Grand Master, the reports from the officers and committees, and especially from the committee of Correspondence. There is every reason to believe, from this pamphlet, that masonry is firmly established in the hearts and minds of her now thinly inhabited Territory. But a few years, and there will be millions of busy mortals within her borders, and you builders, masonic workers, are now laying the foundation for many masonic structures. May God speed you.

Brother S. A. M. Wood, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, closes his report in the following beautiful language:

We have now reached the end of our labors. The pamphlets are all laid aside, the pen placed in its rack, and as we are about to sever, perhaps forever, our connection with the committee of Correspondence, thought wanders back over the many bright pages we have read, the many thrills of joy and gladness they have produced—and memory calls up the faces of the authors, some of whom we this year were happy enough to take by the hand, and our hearts are sad indeed. * * * * * We need offer no word of encouragement to those who have had the harness on in this committee for years past, but allow us to say to the young member, who has just started up the mountain, be not discouraged by the heat and burden of the day. but toil on, your reward will be sufficient for all you may suffer. We rejoice, in common with all our sister States, that to-day masonry is understood; to-day, masonry is beautiful in the eyes of the world; to-day, masonry is aware of the dangers of prosperity, and is making haste to prepare for adversity. Yes, never before in her history has her craftsmen toiled so assiduously to beautify her temples, and to lay the foundations thereof deep and solid, so that when the storm cometh, neither the winds nor the waters can endanger her walls. If, then, her votaries are but true to themselves, true to her teachings, true to the solemn obligations of men dependent on the Grand Author of Truth, masonry is destined to live forever, "the wonder and admiration of mankind."

ARKANSAS.

The Grand met at Little Rock, November 3, 1859; L. E. Barber, Grand Master, T. D. Merrick, Grand Secretary; residence of both, Little Rock.

Number of subordinate , 128; number of members, 3,110.

The address of the Grand Master is mostly of a local nature, yet full of the spirit of true masonry—urging a faithful discharge of duties on the part of the members of subordinates. He doubts the propriety of establishing a Supreme Grand . Upon the same subject the committee on Foreign Correspondence report as follows:

Your committee have had under consideration the proposition of the Grand of Maine, and although this Grand has heretofore expressed its disinclination to the formation of a Supreme Grand , yet, we think there can be no objection to such consultation upon the subject, as proposed by our sister of Maine; we, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the representatives of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas, and of Hugh DePayens Commandery, who may attend the General Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment at Chicago in September next, be authorized on behalf of this Grand to consult with the representatives of any other Grand who may assemble there for that purpose. Adopted.

The committee on Masonic Law and Usage, submitted the following report:

Your committee have carefully considered the following inquiry, which was referred to them: "Has the Grand a legal right to suspend a brother, when a subordinate refuses to act, or, when the charges are sustained by evidence and the brethren refuse to inflict punishment," and respond as follows:

The Grand being the sovereign, and possessing the primary power of discipline over all masons within its jurisdiction, by charter, grants to subordinate the power to charge, try and punish all masons belonging to such , or residing within the territory over which it has jurisdiction under its charter, for unmasonic conduct.

If the subordinate fail or refuse to discharge their duty in the discipline of masons within their jurisdiction, such would be answerable to the Grand , and subject to have their charters withdrawn.

For example, if a mason is living in the open disregard of his moral and masonic duties, and complaint is made to the within whose jurisdiction he resides, and the refuses to act, the Grand would not, on that account, proceed to call the offending brother before her, and try him herself, but would discipline the subordinate so refusing to discharge its duty.

If charges are preferred against a brother, and the proceeds to try him, but refuses to punish him, when the evidence clearly sustains the charges, any brother deeming masonry aggrieved by the decision, may appeal to the Grand , which will reverse the judgment, if wrong, of the subordinate , and send back the case, with a mandate, that the proceed to try the case anew, and if upon the same evidence, the make the same decision as before, refusing to punish the guilty brother, it would be subject to discipline by the Grand .

CALIFORNIA.

The Grand held its tenth Annual Communication at Sacramento, on the 10th day of May, 1859; M. W. N. Green Curtis, Grand Master, presiding.

Number of , 122; number of members, 4727.

M. W. N. Green Curtis, Sacramento, Grand Master, and R. W. A. G. Abell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary, were re-elected.

The address of the Grand Master is principally of a local nature.

Brother Abell, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, replies as follows to the position taken by Grand Master Jordan and Brother Clarke, Grand Orator, &c., on the question concerning the Divine authenticity of the Holy Bible, as a fundamental requisite to the initiation of a candidate into the mysteries of masonry.

Our opinions on the subject of this paragraph have been sufficiently often and at length expressed in previous reports; and it would hardly be profitable to re-print them. We quote this principally as an illustration of considerable coolness in argumentative assumption—the stating as an exception that which is in fact, the general rule. “In some cases” there has been opposition. Possibly there has, as of the thirty-six (now thirty-seven) Grand within the United States, but three or four have adopted the “wholesome requirement,” and one at least, with such a proviso as makes the adoption meaningless. As to the “inexcusable ignorance” with which so many of us are charged, we are content to suppose that in our own case the accusation may be true; but we admit the profound sorrow which we feel in consequence, of being compelled to lose all faith in Mackey, Morris, King, Barber, Pearl, O’Sullivan, and many others who have so greatly “failed to duly appreciate” the subject.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Brother A. G. Clarke, and him, also, do our regrets include, for the language he uses in treating of this question in his report, indubitably places him among the “some,” and in his capacity as Grand Orator, we note his declaration that “Hebrew and Assyrian, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Mahomedan, can kneel at the altar of Freemasonry, and, in the perfect equality of truth and virtue, vow allegiance to its trusts.” In still a third capacity, as chairman of the committee to which was referred this portion of the Grand Master’s address, he presented certain resolutions which were adopted, and which seem to have been intended as a sort of compromise with the Grand Master, and to mean as little of the Ohio test as was practicable with that view, inasmuch as they declare that the Bible “from time immemorial has been one of the ancient landmarks, either in the form of the Old or New Testament, or both;” and “that no man can become a mason unless he can avow a belief in the principles therein contained.

The address of Grand Orator, Brother J. L. English, is purely historical.

CONNECTICUT.

We have the proceedings of this Grand which met at Hartford, May 11, 1859; M. . W. . Geo. F. Daskam, Grand Master, presiding.

Number of , 87; number of members, 5224.

John C. Blackman, of Bridgeport, was elected M. . W. . Grand Master, and E. G. Storer, of New Haven, re-elected R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

Of the General Grand question, Grand Master Daskam says :

During the past year I have received several communications from eminent and distinguished masons in various parts of the United States, respecting the formation of a General Grand . Without expressing any opinion of my own on the subject, I leave it for you to take such action in the premises as may be deemed proper and expedient.

Upon the same subject, the Grand adopted the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Grand of Connecticut approves of the ten propositions submitted to the “Universal Masonic Congress,” at its sittings in Paris, in June, 1855, with the amendment proposed by the R. . W. . Brother Dove.

Resolved, That this Grand is in favor of the city of New York as the place

for holding the next meeting of said Congress; and, if held there, will take measures to be represented.

We are sorry the Grand Secretary failed to receive our proceedings regularly. We send again. Brother Storer, the proceedings of 1858.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Annual Communication was held at Washington city; M.: W.: G. C. Whiting, Grand Master, presiding. Number of , 16.

M.: W.: G. C. Whiting, of Washington, was re-elected Grand Master, and R.: W.: G. A. Schwarzman, of Washington, Grand Secretary.

At a semi-annual communication, a committee of one from each subordinate was appointed, to whom was referred the matter in relation to suspension for non-payment of dues. As this is an important question to the craft generally, and as this committee has ably treated the subject, we extract liberally:

The subject of dues is one that has been, of late, frequently considered, and fully discussed, in the various jurisdictions of our country; but the conclusions arrived at have been very different. Several of the Grand have permitted their subordinate to inflict the severest punishments known to masonry, in order to compel their payment. This, in general, has been permissive merely; although in one or two instances it has been formally decided that the use of such means was proper and right. On the other hand, the exercise of such a power has been reprobated by many of the Grand , as well as by the most eminent masonic writers of the day. Your committee, however, do not deem it necessary to specify in detail the actions of other Grand bodies, as precedents for that to be adopted here, regarding the question as one of very easy solution when viewed simply as a matter of masonic jurisprudence, and divested entirely of all notions of mere expediency.

In order to arrive at a just estimate of the power of subordinate in reference to the matter under consideration, it will be necessary to institute a brief inquiry as to their origin. Until a comparatively late period, no such bodies as distinct chartered subordinate were known. The requisite number of brethren convened together at any one time, had full and ample power to make masons, without any warrant or constitution. Those who were thus made became members of the fraternity generally, and assumed only the duties and responsibilities common to the whole body of masons. In the discharge of those duties they were not bound to discriminate in favor of any member or any association of members. They were, however, if any faith is to be attached to the traditions of our order, as fully and truly *masons*, as to all the physical, social, and moral requirements, as those of our own day; and, as such, were quite as liable to trial and punishment, and for the same offenses, so far as the general craft was concerned, as are our members of the present period.

Thus the masonic system continued until the year 1717, when warrants or charters were granted, by which certain numbers of brethren, petitioning for the privilege, were constituted into distinct , with authority to confer degrees, receive members, dispense charity from a common fund, &c., &c. Upon the first organization of such , a system of rules for their government was prescribed by the Grand , to which was added a clause authorizing their alteration when deemed necessary by that body; "Provided always, that the old *landmarks* be carefully preserved." Subsequently, the subordinate were granted the privilege of framing their own by-laws, under the supervision of the Grand , but with the same provision as to a sacred observance of the ancient limits.

Under this system of organization, thus solemnly restricted by a proviso which has been, and must continue to be, a vital principle of our institution, it is evident that these chartered associations could not, by acts of their own, make any change in the essential principles of the order. They could not, in making masons,

receive them in any other way, or upon other terms, than had been done before. They could not relieve them of any duty towards the fraternity which had been required, nor impose any additional responsibility to the brethren at large than had been previously recognized. Their powers were limited to the administration of their internal affairs, and the by-laws which they adopted were simply articles of association, containing the terms of contract by which each brother held his membership; and as such they have been found to vary, according to the different circumstances in which [] have been placed, in almost every particular, and to embrace every conceivable subject of non-essential legislation, from the adoption of prohibitory or exclusive initiation fees to the fashion of a coat or the elevation of a shirt collar!

The glance which we have thus taken at a portion of our masonic history enables us to recognize a distinction, and a plain and palpable one, between the responsibilities assumed by the individual brother to *Freemasonry* on the one hand, to the [] on the other. By the assumption of the responsibilities, corresponding distinct rights are acquired from masons generally, and from his []. Of those rights due to him in his general character of a mason he cannot be deprived, except for immoral conduct, or such a violation of his duty, as a member of the fraternity, as would have subjected him, previous to the introduction of any system of by-laws, or would now subject him, if a non-affiliated mason, to such a punishment. His relations to the craft at large cannot be suspended, nor can he be exposed to the contempt and detestation of the brethren generally, except for the commission of some masonic crime, known and recognized by the common law of the order.

If these views are correct, the only remaining question pertinent to the present issue is, whether the payment of fixed and regular [] dues is an intrinsic, essential, and original part of Freemasonry.

It is scarcely necessary to assert here, the fact so well understood and universally admitted, that until a very recent period, long after the establishment of subordinate [], no such thing as an assessment of dues was known. That period is within the recollection of many of our older masons, who must view with astonishment an effort to make what was originally a mere rule of convenience of a single [], the vital law of a wide-spread fraternity. But further, the requirement is not general, much less uniform, even at this day. Many of the [] in our own country are supported by the voluntary contributions of their members, or by revenue derived from heavy initiation fees; and in our own jurisdiction, where dues are universally required, their amount ranges from one dollar and a half to ten dollars per annum.

If, then, this duty is one of modern origin, of but partial enforcement, and of irregular and arbitrary character, it cannot certainly be regarded as an essential part of masonry, but merely as one of those responsibilities which the individual brother assumes toward his own [] alone. In the language of Brother Mackey, in his principles of Masonic Law, "it is not an obligation on the part of a mason to the institution at large, but is in reality a special contract, in which the only parties are a particular [] and its members, of which the fraternity as a mass are to know nothing."

For these reasons your committee are of opinion that the failure or neglect to pay [] dues does not constitute a masonic crime; that it is no breach of any general law of masonry, and that therefore it cannot, upon any just principle, warrant the infliction of a punishment upon the defaulting brother, which would disturb the relations existing between him and others as members of the fraternity at large, or which would deprive him of any purely masonic privilege. They are also of the opinion, that the failure to comply with the by-laws in this respect, is such a breach of the contract existing between the individual brother and his [] as justifies the termination of his membership and his exclusion from all mere [] privileges.

Your committee are fully aware of several objections which have been, and are still urged against the view here taken, some of which it may not be improper to notice.

1. It is claimed that the failure by a member to pay the required dues, amounts to such a violation of his duty to observe the by-laws as should subject him to the penalty of suspension. Without placing any stress upon the fact that at the time of his admission to the a Master Mason cannot know all, nor indeed many of the requirements of the by-laws, it will be sufficient, in order to show the fallacy of the argument, to point out some other requirements usually found in them, disobedience to which would, on the principle claimed, as certainly justify the penalty of suspension, as the offense now under consideration. As, for example, it is made the duty, respectively, of the officers to attend all meetings of the ; of the Secretary to keep certain books in a prescribed form; of the members of committees to report within specified periods; of the Tyler to keep the furniture in good order, &c. Now, as far as an infraction of the by-laws is concerned, a failure to perform either of these duties is as definite an offense as the failure to pay dues, inasmuch as they are all required by the same instrument, and under precisely the same sanction; but can it be conceived that a neglect of them could possibly be construed into so grave an offense as to subject the offender to the penalty of suspension from masonry?

2. It is argued, that the failure to pay the dues required, is a wrong done the , and as such, constitutes a much higher offense and deserves a much more severe punishment than has been indicated. If, however, this be true, then the same construction would establish a criterion by which to judge of the relations existing between individual masons, and would thus create a grade of masonic crime which has never as yet been suggested. Wherever positive fraud is committed or attempted, the party is guilty of a crime known and recognized by the fraternity, and should be punished accordingly. But in the absence of any fraudulent intent, a failure to pay cannot be construed into a crime.

3. It is said that merely dropping a member from the rolls, or excluding him from privileges, is not such a penalty as will protect the and secure the objects of a common fund. In replying to this objection your committee beg leave, very briefly, to refer to another subject, which, although not specially in charge, is intimately connected with that under consideration, and with it, is equally entitled to the careful attention and recommendatory action of the Grand . Your committee allude to the distinction, so well known to exist, but so little observed in practice, between the claims of affiliated and those of non-affiliated masons to relief from funds.

Previous to the organization of subordinate , the relations existing among masons were, for the most part, at least so far as charities were concerned, of a personal character. Common funds, out of which relief could be given, were generally unknown. But when were chartered, each with its own treasury, one of the rights acquired by the individual joining, was that of obtaining relief out of the fund raised by the contributions of himself and his associates. This was over and above his ordinary masonic privilege, which only entitled him to the aid of his brethren as individuals, and therefore to the brothers who never joined, or to him who, having joined, lost his membership, this fund was not available.

This distinction, so just in its character, and involving facts so readily established, should, it is believed, be more carefully observed and uniformly acted upon than has heretofore been the case within this jurisdiction. If our would thus limit their charities to those who could show conclusively a present membership in, and regular contribution to, some masonic body, they would not only be relieved in a great measure from the payment of the present large amounts to visitors, (oftentimes, too, to unworthy ones,) but would likewise offer a strong inducement to their own members carefully to preserve their privileges by the prompt payment of dues, without which neither they nor their families would be entitled to receive aid from the funds of any . Under the operation of such a rule, exclusion or dropping from the roll, would, we believe, be a much more effective mode of keeping our lists clean and our treasuries full, than that of suspension, which, in the great majority of cases where inflicted for this cause, would lose the subjects of it to us and to masonry forever.

But while we are willing to concede that so far as the common funds of a \square are concerned, they partake in some measure of the nature of insurance, and that he who does not contribute is not entitled to avail himself of their benefits; yet, beyond this, we join heartily in the opinion of our R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master, who some years ago submitted an able report upon this subject. Masonry itself, with all its time-honored principles, its solemn lessons, its grand illustrations, and its glorious examples of faith and truth, and love, should never be bartered for silver and gold. It is our duty and our pleasure to adorn and beautify the outside of the edifice with our money; but if any are excluded from this, let us remember, that behind the glittering portico of full treasuries and successful \square s the old temple still demands the labor and the love of all. There each must work for himself in brotherly love, relief, truth, justice, and, above all, in that "charity which suffereth long, and is kind."

As an embodiment of the views herein expressed, your committee have appended a series of resolutions, for which they ask the consideration of the Grand \square :

Resolved, That suspension, in masonic parlance, is from all the privileges of masonry, and cannot be otherwise construed, without a change in the established usages of the fraternity, and in no case should this punishment be inflicted for non-payment of dues.

Resolved, That sentence of "exclusion" may be pronounced against a brother for non-payment of dues, under the operation of the by-laws of a \square , upon a report of the facts by the Secretary and a vote of the \square .

Resolved, That this punishment shall exclude the brother from visiting his \square , and shall prevent his receiving a diploma or dimitt; and, during his exclusion, his name shall be dropped from the roll of members.

FLORIDA.

This Grand \square held its Annual Communication at Tallahama, January 9, 1860; M. . W. . Thomas Hayward, Grand Master, presiding. Number of \square s, 49.

Brother D. C. Hawkins, of Greenwood, West Florida, was elected M. . W. . Grand Master, and Brother John B. Taylor, of Tallahassee, was re-elected R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence make no report, owing to Brother E. R. Ives' other engagements.

We acknowledge the receipt of a volume, bound in cloth, of 867 pages, entitled "Proceedings of the Grand \square of Florida from 1830 to 1859; compiled by Brother Thomas Brown, Past Grand Master." This is a very valuable book for future reference. The Grand Secretary will accept the thanks of our Grand \square for this much-prized favor.

GEORGIA.

The Annual Communication was held at Macon, October 26, 1859; M. . W. . William S. Rockwell, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered \square s, 231; under dispensation, 3.

Brother W. S. Rockwell, of Savannah, was re-elected M. . W. . Grand Master, and Brother Simri Rose, of Macon, R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

In answer to an inquiry propounded by the committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand \square of Florida, asking "What is a Grand Lodge?" the Grand Master replies at length and in detail. We would like to extract some of his able arguments, but cannot do so without destroying the chain, and have not room for the whole of it. Brother Rockwell, however, has made an able defense of his

position; viz., that subordinate ☐ are subordinate, and can exercise no more powers than those contained in the warrant.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence, in speaking of our proceedings, say :

The committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-six Grand ☐. We regret not to find ours among them, as they would have shown that "the Grand ☐ of Georgia had recognized the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Nebraska as a masonically organized Grand ☐, and offering the usual interchange of courtesy."

All right now, Brother Walker; we are in "full communion."

ILLINOIS.

The nineteenth Annual Communication was held at Springfield, October 4, 1859; M. . W. . Ira A. W. Buck, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered ☐, 290.

The address of M. . W. . Grand Master Buck is sound and practical: principally local in its nature.

An effort is being made to erect a grand masonic temple in Illinois.

Brother Ira A. W. Buck, of Aurora, was re-elected M. . W. . Grand Master, and Brother H. W. Reynolds, of Paris, re-elected R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The Annual Communication was held at Indianapolis, May 23, 1859; M. . W. . Sol. D. Bayless, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered ☐, 242; under dispensation, 5.

Grand Master Bayless' address shows the order in that State to be prospering.

A. C. Downey, of Rising Sun, was elected Grand Master, and Francis M. King, of Indianapolis, re-elected Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The Annual Communication was held at Davenport, June 7, 1859; M. . W. . Grand Master Hartsock presiding. Chartered ☐, 126.

Brother Parvin gets out the most complete and interesting Grand ☐ proceedings of any State. A fine map of the State, showing the location of every ☐, is bound with the proceedings before us.

M. . W. . J. R. Hartsock, of Iowa City, was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . T. S. Parvin, of Muscatine, re-elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY

Annual Communication held at Louisville, October 17, 1859; Grand Master Rob. Morris, presiding. Number of chartered ☐, 368; U. D., 9.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is the most extensive and detailed of any before us, and in which Brother McCorkle, the chairman and efficient Grand Secretary, does himself great credit as a "master workman."

H. T. Wilson, Sherburne, elected Grand Master, and J. M. S. McCorkle, Greensburg, re-elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

Held its regular Annual Communication at Lawrence, October 18, 1859; Grand Master R. R. Rees, presiding. Number of ☐, 15.

The Grand Master's address is good, as well as that of the Grand Orator, J. M. Pelot. The Grand Master says:

I must again admonish you that our success is not in numbers. I sometimes tremble at our rapid growth, for fear that some discordant elements may shake the long-cemented band of brothers, and scatter into fragments an association which has so long withstood the storms of persecution and oppression which have purified its membership in every age; but let me hope that our expanding increase argues a proportionate advance of moral culture in the world, and pray to Him who rules the universe to save us from insidious foes.

R. R. Rees, Leavenworth, re-elected Grand Master; Chas. Mundee, Leavenworth, re-elected Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

Proceedings of 1859 and 1860 received. Communication of 1859 held at New Orleans, February 14; Amos Adams, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 160; U. D., 4.

A complete "abstract and statistics from proceedings of Grand of the United States," is presented, in which, at a glance, may be seen the condition of the order in the United States.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence notices Nebraska as follows:

The address of the Grand Master, as well as the address of the Grand Orator, and the reports of various committees, exhibit more than the usual amount of masonic information and intelligence. From the character of the proceedings before us, we have no fears of a healthy progress of our order in that far-off Territory, and reiterate the kind and fraternal wishes of the committee of last year.

Brother S. M. Todd, New Orleans, elected Grand Master, and Brother S. G. Risk, New Orleans, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Communication of 1860 held at New Orleans, February 13; S. M. Todd, Grand Master, presiding.

Brother J. Q. A. Fellows, New Orleans, elected Grand Master, and Brother S. G. Risk, New Orleans, re-elected Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Portland May 3, 1859; Grand Master Hiram Chase presiding. Number of chartered , 92; U. D., 5; number of members, 3,762.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence make an able report on the question of "invasion of jurisdiction," and take exception to the position assumed by the Grand Master of England. They say:

"The doctrine of the Grand Master is directly at variance with the sixth proposition put forth by the Universal Congress at Paris, to-wit: 'Before proceeding to the initiation of a non-resident, inquiry shall be made of the authorities of the country to which the candidate owes allegiance, except in well authenticated cases of emergency.'"

We believe the position taken by the Universal Congress to be the true one, and the only way in which to "prevent the working up of unfit material in the moral edifice which we are erecting."

The committee make copious extracts from our proceedings, and note the fact that Maine did not appear in our correspondence. We can assure them of fra-

ternal greeting on our part, and, now that we are in communication, hope that our onward march, to the tune of "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth," may meet with no interruptions.

Hiram Chase, Belfast, re-elected Grand Master, and Ira Berry re-elected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

Grand convened at Baltimore May 9, 1859; Deputy Grand Master J. J. Heckart presiding. Chartered , 106; U. D., 3.

Brother Charles Goodwin elected Grand Master, and Brother James Robinson re-elected Grand Secretary; both of Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We have received an abstract of the proceedings of this Grand from March 8 to December 27, 1859, held at Boston; John T. Heard, Grand Master, presiding.

We find nothing save of a local nature.

Brother W. Lewis, elected Grand Master, and Chas. W. Moore re-elected Grand Secretary; both of Boston.

MICHIGAN.

The Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Detroit, January 11, 1860; Adams Allen, Grand Master, presiding.

Number of chartered , 115, U. D., 13; number of members, 5816.

The Grand Master's address is a lengthy and able document. He sums up his argument against the "North American Masonic Congress," thus:

To be efficient, the North American Congress must have power. If power be vested in it, it will speedily become dangerous. If it claims to act as a masonic power, it is an innovation. If it is content with lesser prerogatives, it is an incumbrance.

They notice the position assumed by Grand Master Jordan, in opposition to a General Grand , and say it is an opinion in which they can fully concur.

Wm. L. Greenly, of Adrian, was elected Grand Master, and James Fenton, of Detroit, re-elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The eighth Annual Communication of this Grand was held at St. Paul, October 25, 1859; A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 29.

We find the following in the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, speaking of Nebraska:

We regret very much that our proceedings do not seem to have been received by the committee, for we have thus missed what we trust would have been a fraternal greeting from our young but fair and talented sister.

We are happy to say that such is not the case at present. And hope that the chain of fraternal greeting may no more be broken.

A. T. C. Pierson, was re-elected Grand Master, and Geo. W. Prescott, Grand Secretary; both of St. Paul.

MISSISSIPPI.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Jackson, January 17, 1859; Wm. Cothran, Grand Master, presiding. Number of , 239; number of members, 7592.

Wm. P. Mellen, of Natchez, was elected Grand Master, and W. T. Daniel, of Jackson, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Annual Communication for 1860, was held at Jackson, January 16; Wm. P. Mellen, Grand Master, presiding. Number of Lodges, 246; number of members, 9045.

D. Mitchell, of Richland, was elected Grand Master, and W. T. Daniel, of Jackson, re-elected Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

The thirty-ninth Annual Communication was held at St. Louis, May 23, 1859; Samue IH. Saunders, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 180.

Marcus Boyd, of Springfield, was elected Grand Master, and A. O'Sullivan, of St. Louis, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Concord, June 8, 1859; Moses Paul, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 65; U. D., 1; number of members, 2039.

Moses Paul, of Dover, was re-elected Grand Master, and Horace Chase, of Hopkinson, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The seventy-second Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Trenton, January 12, 1859; Joseph Tremble, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 53; U. D., 1; number of members, 2492.

The Grand Master's address is lengthy and able, but taken up principally with local matters. The Foreign Correspondence is ably edited, and we are sorry to find Nebraska among the missing.

Joseph Tremble, of Camden, was re-elected Grand Master, and Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at New York, June 7, 1859; John L. Lewis, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 477; U. D., 14.

We are happy to see, by the proceedings of this Grand , that we are fully recognized; and, as on peace and harmony in the temple, depends its strength, we cordially and fraternally grasp the right hand of fellowship thus extended by our brethren of New York.

John L. Lewis, of Penn Yan, was re-elected Grand Master, and James M. Austin, of New York, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Raleigh, December 5, 1859; Alfred Martin, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 209.

Lewis S. Williams, of Charlotte, was elected Grand Master, and William T. Bain, of Raleigh, re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

This Grand held its ninth Annual Communication at Eugene City, June 13, 1859; Amory Hollbrook, Deputy Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 24; U. D., 2.

This jurisdiction is in a flourishing and harmonious condition.

Armory Hollbrook, of Oregon City, was elected Grand Master, and T. McF. Patton, of Salem, elected Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA

Held its Quarterly Communication at Philadelphia, March 7, 1859; H. M. Phillips, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 336; number of members, 11,983.

The Grand Master, in his address, says :

I cannot close these remarks without expressing my satisfaction at the removal of the obstacles which separated this Grand from intercourse with the Grand of New York.

This is also a source of gratulation to every brother in the Union.

H. P. Phillips was re-elected Grand Master, and William H. Adams re-elected Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND.

The Quarterly Communications of this Grand , for the year ending June 24, 1859, were held at Providence, commencing August 30, 1858, James Hutchinson presiding. Number of chartered , 16; number of members, 1,391.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence review our proceedings, and report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the M. . W. . Grand of Rhode Island welcomes with satisfaction the Grand of Nebraska into the fraternal circle, rejoicing that another link has been added to the chain of Grand , and heartily extends to her the hand of fellowship.

We return the greeting, and hope the friendship thus extended and accepted may never grow less.

Jervis J. Smith, of Chapatchet, was elected Grand Master, and William C. Barker Grand Secretary.

Brother Barker having been "raised" to the on high, since their last Communication, Brother Thomas A. Doyle, of Providence, has been appointed Acting Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Charleston, November 5, 1859; Henry Buist, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 95; U. D. 5.

Brother Mackey, from committee on Foreign Correspondence, makes an able report.

Henry Buist was re-elected Grand Master, and Albert G. Mackey re-elected Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Nashville, October 3, 1859; John Frizzell, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 288; number of members, 10,500.

John Frizzell, of Winchester, was re-elected Grand Master, and Charles A. Fuller, of Nashville, re-elected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The twenty-third Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Crockett, June 13, 1859; Henry Sampson, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 237; number of members, 7,160.

James F. Taylor, of Marshall, was elected Grand Master, and A. S. Ruthvan, of Galveston, re-elected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT

Held its Annual Communication at Burlington, January 12, 1859; Phillip C. Tucker, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 51; U. D. 2.

Phillip C. Tucker, of Vergennes, was re-elected Grand Master, and John B. Hollenbeck, of Burlington, re-elected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Richmond, December 12, 1859; Leopold C. P. Cowper, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 184.

John Robin McDaniel, of Lynchburg, was elected Grand Master, and John Dove, of Richmond, re-elected Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Olympia, September 5, 1859; T. F. McElroy, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 7; number of members, 158.

James Biles, of Grand Mound, was elected Grand Master, and T. M. Reed, of Olympia, re-elected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Milwaukee, June 14, 1859; Luther M. Tracy, Grand Master, presiding. Number of chartered , 106; U. D., 12; number of members, 3,363.

Luther M. Tracy, of Milwaukee, was re-elected Grand Master, and John M. Hunt, of Madison, re-elected Grand Secretary.

R. W. FURNAS, for the Committee.

The following resolution, offered by Brother Clarke at the last session, was taken up and indefinitely postponed:

Resolved, That the appellation of the "Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence" be changed so as to read "Standing Committee on Masonic Correspondence."

The Grand Secretary reported that all the Subordinate in this jurisdiction, with the exception of Capital , No. 3, had reported as to the introduction of masonry into Nebraska. Brother Clarke, the member of the committee from that , being absent, Brother A. R. Gillmore was appointed to fill the vacancy.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand of Nebraska was closed in peace and harmony.

Prayer by Brother Baxter.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

ROBERT W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary.*

REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEES FROM THE SEVERAL RELATIVE TO THE
INTRODUCTION OF MASONRY INTO NEBRASKA,

IN COMPLIANCE WITH A RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE SESSION OF THE GRAND OF NEBRASKA
HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, JUNE 2, 1858.

REPORT OF NEBRASKA , NO. 1, BELLEVUE.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Grand of Nebraska at its last regular communication, held in June, A. D. 1858, at Nebraska City, for the purpose of collecting the early history of Nebraska , No. 1, do respectfully submit the following report :

As early as the spring of the year 1854, several members of this Ancient Craft began to settle in and about the point now known as the city of Bellevue. Among these were Brothers A. R. Gillmore, L. B. Kinney, I. L. Bowen, P. J. McMahan, George Hepner, A. W. Hollister, and A. Lockwood. After deliberating upon the subject of *looking well to the West*, they resolved to petition the Grand Master of the Grand of the State of Illinois, for a dispensation authorizing them to commence work in due masonic form. The petition being duly recommended, was signed by the following brothers: L. B. Kinney, A. R. Gillmore, P. J. McMahan, George Hepner, A. W. Hollister, A. H. Burch, and A. Lockwood. The dispensation was granted by the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand of Illinois, in the fall of A. D. 1854, and was procured by Brother A. R. Gillmore, at Chicago. This was the first dispensation for the Territory of Nebraska.

The first regular communication, held under this dispensation, was on the evening of April 3, 1855, in the second story of the old trading post, then owned by Brother Peter A. Sarpy. In the adjoining room resided a family of the natives of the soil—the Omahas—who, in connection with many others of that tribe, exhibited quite a curiosity to know what their pale-faced brothers were doing ; hence, in order to elude observation, and preserve the secrets of our order, large Mackinaw blankets were hung around the room, until the desired end was accomplished. The was then opened in the Master's degree, and was the first regularly opened of Master Masons in the Territory. The following officers (having been appointed by the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand of Illinois) presided: L. B. Kinney, Worshipful Master; L. L. Bowen, Senior Warden; A. Lockwood, Junior Warden; A. W. Hollister, Secretary; and W. Barnum, Treasurer.

A committee was appointed to prepare by-laws for the government of the □, consisting of Brothers A. W. Hollister, L. L. Bowen and A. H. Burtch.

At this meeting a petition was received from Isaiah H. Bennett, signed by Brothers Burtch, Lockwood and Barnum, praying to be initiated a member of our ancient fraternity. This petition was acted upon in due form, and the □, after some other business, adjourned until May 29, 1855.

At the appointed time the □ again met at the same place. The committee on the petition of Isaiah H. Bennett reported the following:

Your committee, having investigated the character of the applicant, consider him in every respect worthy of becoming a member of our fraternity; but it becomes the painful duty of your committee to report that the worthy petitioner has been called by an all-wise Providence to the Supreme Grand □ of the universe.

In October of the same year (1855), a charter was obtained from the Grand □ of Illinois, which met that year at Springfield. This charter was obtained by Brother L. B. Kinney, Worshipful Master, who visited said Grand □ for that purpose. The following officers were named in said charter: L. B. Kinney, Worshipful Master; L. L. Bowen, Senior Warden; and George Hepner, Junior Warden. This □ was instituted, and the officers installed August 22, 1857, by Brother R. G. Jordan, of Omaha, having been appointed proxy by the Grand Master of the Grand □ of Illinois for that purpose.

On the 23d of September, 1857, a charter was granted this □ by the Grand □ of the Territory of Nebraska, and the following officers named in the same: L. B. Kinney, Worshipful Master; L. L. Bowen, Senior Warden; and John A. Nye, Junior Warden. This charter was signed by Robert C. Jordan, M. . W. . Grand Master; Leavitt L. Bowen, R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master; David Lindley, R. . W. . Grand Senior Warden; and L. B. Kinney, R. . W. . Grand Junior Warden; attested by George Armstrong, R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

Since the organization of this □, two brothers have been called away from the labors of earth; they were interred with the honors of our order; the first was Brother Rice, and the second Brother Thomas Nye. Both of them were highly esteemed citizens, and faithful in all their duties as masons.

The statistics of our □ are as follows: There were five charter members; admitted by certificate, five; entered, fourteen; passed, ten; raised, eight; dimitted, 2.

Firmly believing in the immutable principles of masonry, and striving, practically, to exemplify them, we hope to lay broad and deep the foundations of a structure that shall rise to call us blessed, after we are raised to the higher and purer climes of immortality.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. D. KELLER, Committee.

REPORT OF WESTERN STAR □, NO. 2, NEBRASKA CITY.

To the M. . W. . Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred "the collection of historical facts relative to the introduction of masonry in this Territory," respectfully report:

That in answer to the petition, of Brothers Charles A. Goshen, Lewis Hax,

William Anderson, William D. Gage, John H. Hight, A. B. Woolston, and N. B. Giddings; and upon the order of N. B. Giddings, R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the first masonic district of the State of Missouri, a dispensation was issued on the 10th day of May, A. L. 5855, by the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand of Missouri, to the aforesaid brethren, authorizing them to open a at Nebraska City, by the name of Giddings ; which dispensation was *continued* by the Grand of Missouri on the 28th of the same month, at the request of the petitioners.

On the 29th day of May, A. L. 5855, according to previous notice, the brethren assembled in Nebraska City, and proceeded to organize a under said dispensation, by which N. B. Giddings was appointed first Worshipful Master; Charles A. Goshen, first Senior Warden; and Lewis Hax, first Junior Warden; and continued to meet from time to time until the Annual Communication of the Grand of Missouri, on the 26th day of May, A. L. 5856.

On the 28th day of May, a charter was granted by the M. W. Grand of Missouri, to the brethren at Nebraska City, by the name of Giddings , No. 156, and Brother S. Redfield, Past Master of Jerusalem , No. 99, Indiana, was appointed special deputy to install the officers and constitute said , which duty was performed on the 8th day of June, A. L. 5856.

The continued working under the jurisdiction of the Grand of Missouri, until the meeting of the masonic convention held at Omaha city, on the 23d day of September, A. L. 5857, when it united with Nebraska , No. 184, of Bellevue, and Capital , No. 101, of Omaha city, to form the Grand of Nebraska, and was placed on the books of the Grand as Western Star , No. 2.

Respectfully submitted.

S. REDFIELD, Committee.

REPORT OF CAPITAL , NO. 3, OMAHA.

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

On the 21st inst. I received, by the mail of that day, a transcript of the records of Capital , No. 3, accompanied by your letter of the 18th inst., in which you give me the unanticipated intelligence, that "at the late session of the Grand I had been selected to fill the place of Brother Albert G. Clarke on the committee previously appointed to furnish historical sketches of the organization of the in this Territory."

Whilst I feel deeply grateful for the kindness which prompted my selection for this responsible duty, I cannot but regret that this task had not been given into hands better skilled and practiced than mine have been in the performance of like duties. Since, however, it be the will of the M. W. Grand Master, I will, as a true craftsman should do, undertake the task; not, however, without giving entertainment to apprehensions that the crude products of my labor may fail in interest and purpose.

The transcript of the records of Capital , which you so kindly prepared for me, is, in itself, a truthful and comprehensive history of the organization and early progress of that , needing no addition, alteration or correction from my hands. I, being one of the participants in most of the proceedings therein

recorded, may justly add my testimony to its fidelity and truth. This done, I would respectfully suggest that it be submitted, in its present form, for publication, being sensible of my inability to add to its value, or clothe it in a garb more graceful or pertinent to its intended purpose.

If I understand the true purpose had in view in raising this committee, it contemplates the collection of facts and reminiscences connected with the early and formal introduction of masonry into this Territory, and preparing them for perpetuation by publication, and that each member of the committee, after furnishing the historical data of his own , was at liberty to add such facts having true reference to such purpose, as may have come under his observation.

Having this view of my duties, I will proceed with their discharge by giving a simple, unadorned narrative of past transactions in which I, with other craftsmen, participated:

The first organized effort to a formal introduction of masonry into this Territory, that I am familiar with, transpired in November, 1854. In that month and year, a preliminary meeting of craftsmen was held for the purpose of taking initiatory steps to the procurement of a dispensation and other authority requisite to the establishment of a of Free and Accepted Masons, at Bellevue, then in Douglas but now in Sarpy County. The meeting assembled in Green, Kinney & Co.'s log store, in St. Mary's, Mills County, Iowa, directly opposite Bellevue. It was attended by Brothers L. B. Kinney, our present worthy and efficient Deputy Grand Master, now a resident of Bellevue; ex-Governor Ansel Briggs, now a resident of Florence, Douglas County; P. J. McMahan, then and now a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa; A. W. Lockwood, then and now a resident of Traders' Point, Iowa; James M. Gatewood, then retiring from the U. S. Indian Agency of the Omaha, Pawnee and Otoe tribes of Indians, now a resident of Missouri; George Hepner, then U. S. Agent for aforesaid tribes, since deceased; A. W. Hollister, then of Bellevue, present residence unknown to me; and your "humble servant," who constituted the whole number present. After "due deliberation," a petition to the Grand of Illinois was drawn up in due form, praying them to grant their petitioners a dispensation, and was signed by all those named as being present, directed to the address of the Grand Master of Illinois, and at once transmitted by mail. I visited Chicago in December of that year, and found that our petition had been received and was then in the hands of the Deputy Grand Master, with whom I arranged the payment of their usual fees, and after some little delay the dispensation was issued, and the name of L. B. Kinney inserted as our first Master, and then transmitted to him by mail. I might as well add here, that W. . M. . Kinney represented Bellevue at the annual session of the Grand in Springfield, Illinois, in 1855, and surrendered our dispensation, and received in its place a charter, under which authority that worked until the formation of the Grand of this Territory, in 1857.

On my return to Bellevue, in April, 1855, I found the duly organized, and holding their regular meetings in the second story of the Trading Post of Gen. Sarpy, near the steamboat landing for that town.

This venerable specimen of primitive architecture, still graces the spot where

it then stood, and around and within its rude walls are clustered many highly valued associations. Its well-worn threshold was the first one over which my feet passed after my advent to this Territory, an event which I then recorded, in pencil, on the cornice beneath the dripping eaves, the trace of which time has not yet obliterated. Beneath its hospitable roof, my first repast was partaken, at the instance of its hardy but generous proprietor, the pioneer of Nebraska, Gen. Peter A. Sarpy. Within its rude and rough walls the "sound of the gavel" first hailed the craft, and called them to their first "labor." In this humble room the pioneer band of "the brotherhood" first assembled around their sacred but rude altar, (a bale of Indian blankets,) and received their first charge from the lips of the first Master, (L. B. Kinney,) who ever "set the craft to work" under "due instructions," in this then extreme limit of civilization. The official regalia, or rather the jewels of the \square , were skillfully made of tin, by a craftsman who afterwards established the manufacture of tin ware in this city, and represented its population in our Territorial Legislature in 1857-8. There are many interesting events connected with this building, and the proceedings of the first meetings of our infant \square therein, that would furnish material for an interesting publication, but my time and meagre ability form an insuperable barrier to my success in such undertaking.

During the spring of 1855, petitions for initiation were received from Stephen Decatur and Isaiah Bennett, and favorably determined, but there being no suitable room for work in that place, no initiation took place during that year.

We continued to meet regularly through the season, sometimes in Brother Kinney's store, and sometimes in a room which I occupied in the second story of a large unfinished building, afterwards known as the Benton House, which was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1857.

During the fall of 1855, Gen. Peter A. Sarpy, handed in his petition for initiation. During its consideration and determination, a circumstance transpired of rather a ludicrous character, caused by an almost total destitution of furniture, clothing and working tools. In order to exhibit this feature and give our present well provided brethren, knowledge of the expedients we were obliged to resort to, I will give the history of the manner in which this application was disposed of. The meeting alluded to was held in my room before described. The report of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Gen Sarpy, had been received, and was favorable to his admission. A ballot was proposed, seconded and carried. The preparation for this duty developed the fact that we were destitute of both box and ballots, and to relieve ourselves from this awkward dilemma, we were forced to substitute an empty gallon pickle jar for a ballot box, and a box of small gravel stones, which I had gathered as specimens, and which I still had in my possession, were selected to serve the friendly office; whilst a cup of "leaden bullets" were to perform the "darker colored" service. The jar, the stones and the bullets, were then placed upon our "primitive" altar, (two trunks covered with a blue blanket,) when we gravely proceeded with our ballot. This done, our Worshipful Master ordered the "contents of the bottle" analyzed, and the result proclaimed; a task that was speedily and scientifically performed by the Junior and Senior Wardens, who

gave their unanimous opinion that the presence of "lead" was not discovered or detected, and that the ballot was clear, in favor of the candidate. A few evenings thereafter, as many of our members as could leave, accompanied "the candidate" to Council Bluffs, it being the evening of the regular meeting of the Council Bluffs \square . They closed their \square in the early part of the evening, and kindly tendered Bellevue Lodge the use of their room, furniture, tools and aid. Whereupon our \square was opened in due form, Gen. L. L. Bowen, presiding, and the Entered Apprentice Degree duly conferred upon Gen. Peter A. Sarpy, the hardy pioneer and Indian trader of thirty-six years standing.

This was the first degree conferred by Bellevue \square . I should have mentioned before this, that the two first named candidates were never initiated, Stephen Decatur having removed to Decatur City, in this Territory, where he now resides; and Isaiah Bennett, brother of our worthy townsman and brother, John B. Bennett, died in Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa, in the summer of 1855. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of personal friends, and amongst them, most of the members of Bellevue \square , your humble servant being one of that number.

In January, 1856, I closed my membership in Bellevue \square , and removed to Omaha, where I united with and participated in the establishment of Capitol \square , as shown in the transcript of their record, hereunto annexed.

It is appropriate for me to allude to the invaluable service of our Past Grand Master, Robert C. Jordan, in his unceasing labor and zeal in establishing and maintaining a system of work in truthful harmony with "the ancient landmarks of the order" in Capitol \square , No. 3. The Grand \square of our Territory is also deeply indebted to him for its healthy rules and harmonious conduct. I trust that due acknowledgments, so justly merited, were awarded to him at the last annual session.

Whilst making note of the high consideration in which he is held by the fraternity collectively, I earnestly hope that the latitude I take, in adding my individual testimony to his worth, may not be regarded as an unpardonable digression. In the discharge of responsible public duties assigned me, since my advent to the Territory, it has been my good fortune to have him associated with me in a position requiring industrious application, unquestionable ability, unimpeachable integrity and truthful fidelity, not only to his duties, but my own repute. It is alike my duty and pleasure to bear witness to his faithful exercise of all of those invaluable properties, to the utmost extent or need therefor. He has all the good will that I can give.

Having noticed most of the transactions that have fallen under my observation and given as graceful form as my unpracticed ability and skill would permit, I transmit "the product" to you, and through you to the publisher, if you deem them fit for publication. If not, please return them to me, where they may be kept as a memento of my folly, in attempting "the historical" without first serving an apprenticeship to the profession.

After several preliminary meetings of the masonic fraternity living at the capital of Nebraska, in the winter of 1856-7 (the first of which was held at the residence of Brother George Armstrong), Capital \square was organized at the city

of Omaha, on the 26th of January, A. L. 5857, by authority of a dispensation from the Grand Master of the Grand \square of the State of Iowa, granted on the petition of the following brethren:

John H. Sahler, Robert Shields, Wm. R. Demarest, Mark W. Izard, A. R. Gillmore, George Armstrong, Samuel E. Rogers, George W. Wood, Charles W. Hamilton, George C. Bovey, John R. Porter, John M. Chivington, Isaac Collins, Aaron Cahn, John McA. Campbell, Albert G. Clarke, Daniel D. Carr, Charles Turner and M. T. Shields.

The brethren having assembled in an upper room of the "Pioneer Block," on the evening of the day above mentioned, the following brethren took their stations as the three principal officers named in the dispensation: John H. Sahler, Worshipful Master; Robert Shields, Senior Warden; and Wm. R. Demarest, Junior Warden. The following officers *pro tem.* were then appointed by the Worshipful Master:

Wm. E. Moore, Treasurer; George W. Wood, Secretary; Chas. W. Hamilton, Senior Deacon; John W. Pattison, Junior Deacon; Henry B. Porter, Tyler.

Lodges of Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons were then severally opened, and the following visiting brethren admitted:

W. R. Thrall, of Columbus \square , Ohio; A. McElwe, of Summit \square , Ohio; T. H. Dodd, of Toledo \square , Ohio; C. W. Aylsworth, of Western Star \square , Iowa; and J. F. Taylor, of Elyria \square , Illinois.

The dispensation having been read, the Worshipful Master then appointed the following brethren as regular officers of the \square :

S. E. Rogers, Treasurer; George W. Wood, Secretary; Charles W. Hamilton, Senior Deacon; George C. Bovey, Junior Deacon; Rev. J. M. Chivington, Chaplain. The appointment of a permanent Tyler was postponed until the next meeting.

Brothers A. R. Gillmore, W. R. Demarest, Robert Shields, C. W. Hamilton and George Armstrong were appointed a committee to report By-Laws.

The first petition for initiation, that of A. D. Jones, Esq., was presented at this meeting.

After prayer by the Chaplain, the \square closed, to meet on the following Thursday evening, at the office of Brother A. R. Gillmore, in the old capitol building.

January 29, 1857, the \square was again opened, at the place designated, with the same officers as before, and the following visiting brethren:

Wm. E. Moore, of Lafayette \square , Arkansas; R. W. Furnas, of Franklin \square , Ohio; W. R. Thrall, of Columbus \square , Ohio; R. W. Matthews, of Oswego \square , Illinois; and Ira A. W. Buck, of Amora \square , Illinois.

The report from the committee on By-Laws, after some discussion, was laid over; and petitions for initiation were received from John Reck and Joel T. Griffin, and referred.

Brothers Gillmore, Demarest and Wood were appointed a committee on Finance.

At a Communication of the \square on the following Monday evening, petitions for membership were received from Brothers E. H. Clark and John M. New-

ton, and petitions for initiation from Messrs. E. P. Stout, H. C. Anderson and J. C. Nelson.

On the 11th of February, the \square adopted the By-Laws as reported by the committee.

On the 16th of February, J. W. Pattison petitioned for membership, and Messrs. Fleming Davidson and O. P. Ingalls for initiation. Brothers John M. Newton and E. H. Clark were elected members.

The petitions of Brother J. P. Manning, for membership, and Augustus Macon, Charles Grant and James A. Jones, for initiation, were presented on the 3d of March. At the same time the Entered Apprentice's degree was conferred (for the first time in Capital \square) on Messrs. John Reck, E. P. Stout, J. T. Griffin and J. C. Nelson. On the following evening Messrs. H. C. Anderson and A. D. Jones were initiated.

At subsequent meetings of the \square , Brothers J. P. Manning, William H. Hamilton and Theodore H. Dodd were elected to membership, and F. Davidson, F. L. Kemp and Charles Grant initiated.

April 7th, Brothers H. C. Anderson and John Reck were passed as Fellow Crafts, and on the 4th of May, Brother A. D. Jones received the same degree.

Brother H. C. Anderson was the first brother raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in Capital \square . This was on the 11th of May, 1857. Brother A. D. Jones was raised to the same degree a week later.

The foregoing are all the items of interest in the history of Capital \square that we can gather up to the time of the reception of a charter from the Grand \square of Iowa, which was on the 29th day of June, 1857. On the evening of that day, Deputy Grand Master Ira A. W. Buck, of Illinois, having been deputed for that purpose, constituted Capital \square , No. 101, and installed its officers in due form.

On the 6th of July, the election of officers was held, when the following brethren were elected and installed by Brother Buck:

George Armstrong, Worshipful Master; Charles W. Hamilton, Senior Warden; Theodore H. Dodd, Junior Warden; Alfred D. Jones, Treasurer; Hiram C. Anderson, Secretary; Wm. H. Hamilton, Senior Deacon; J. P. Manning, Junior Deacon; J. F. Taylor, Tyler.

Brother Robert C. Jordan was elected a member of Capital \square , September 7, 1857, and succeeded Brother Armstrong as Master at the next election, in December. At the two subsequent elections, Brother Armstrong was re-elected, and is now filling that station.

At the organization of the Grand \square of Nebraska, September 23, 1857, this \square surrendered its old charter to the Grand \square of Iowa, and receiving a new one instead, is now hailed as Capital \square , No. 3.

With an earnest desire to add my "mite" towards the uprearing of the institution over which you preside, I remain

Yours fraternally,

A. R. GILLMORE, Committee.

REPORT OF NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

About the 1st of September, 1857, a few masonic brethren happening to meet at Brownville, the subject of procuring a charter or dispensation was spoken of, when it was suggested that a call be made through the Nebraska "Advertiser," inviting all masons in good standing in the county of Nebraska to meet at the residence of Brother Jesse Noel, in Brownville, on the 26th day of September, to consider the propriety of forming a □ in Brownville.

In pursuance to the call, which was made as suggested, the following brethren met at Brother Noel's on the evening of the 26th day of September: George W. Bratton, R. W. Furnas, Jesse Noel, Milton F. Clark, Chester S. Langdon, U. Goodrich, Jeremiah Marlott, George Crow, Oliver Dodge, M. W. Conner, James Cotton, A. D. Jones, J. G. Akin, J. W. Douty, and U. C. Johnson, and organized the meeting by calling Brother Bratton to the chair, and Brother Johnson to the position of Secretary.

After an exchange of opinion, and a pleasant social intercourse, it was unanimously

Resolved, That we deem it expedient, and for the good of masonry, that we form ourselves into a permanent masonic organization, and apply to the Grand □ of Missouri for a dispensation.

Brothers Furnas and Clark were appointed a committee to get up a petition for a dispensation, procure signers, and raise money to pay for the same.

It was agreed by resolution that the name of the □ should be "Nemaha Valley □."

An election of officers was gone into, with the following result: George W. Bratton, Worshipful Master; Jesse Noel, Senior Warden; C. S. Langdon, Junior Warden; U. C. Johnson, Secretary; and M. F. Clark, Treasurer.

The signers for the dispensation were: G. W. Bratton, R. W. Furnas, M. F. Clark, C. S. Langdon, J. G. Akin, C. W. Wheeler, Jer. Marlott, Oliver Dodge, Henry Beane, Franklin Ferguson, Jesse Noel, and U. C. Johnson.

While these preparations were being made, the Grand □ of Nebraska was instituted, and an application was, therefore, made to that body for a dispensation.

The dispensation was granted by Grand Master R. C. Jordan, bearing date December 19, 1857, and received by the applicants December 21, 1857.

At the meeting of the Grand □ of Nebraska, at Nebraska City, June 2, 1858, a charter was granted.

Charter members: G. W. Bratton, R. W. Furnas, M. F. Clark, Jesse Noel, W. Hoblitzell, A. Hoblitzell, David Seigle, Jer. Marlott, U. C. Johnson, Frank Ferguson, and Henry Beane.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. BRATTON, Committee.

REPORT OF OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee on the "collection of historical facts as to the introduction of masonry into the Territory of Nebraska, and its progress thus far," make the following report relative to Omadi □, No. 5:

In the summer of 1857, one year after the settlement of Dakotah county, a number of the brethren having recognized each other, they held primary meetings for the purpose of organizing a □ of masons. Application was made in December of that year, to the M. . W. . R. C. Jordan, Grand Master, at Omaha City, by Elbridge G. Samson, of Osceola □, No. 77, Iowa; Albert W. Puett, of Sioux City □, No. 103, Iowa; Amos Samson, of Osceola □, No. 77, Iowa; Henry M. Hale, of ——— □, No. —, Ohio; Thomas McDermott, of ——— □, No. —, Ohio; Mahlon G. Wilkinson, of Bridgeton □, No. 169, Indiana; Jacob H. Hallack, of Oil Spring □, No. —, Cuba, New York; John C. Turk, of Capital □, No. 3, Nebraska; and on the 18th day of January, 1858, a dispensation was granted them to hold a □ at Omadi, under the name of Temple □. Mahlon G. Wilkinson was appointed Worshipful Master; Elbridge G. Samson, Senior Warden; and Albert W. Puett, Junior Warden.

At the next meeting of the Grand □ in June, 1858, a charter was granted them under the name of Omadi □, No. 5. The □ continues to hold regular meetings, doing a fair amount of work.

Present number of members, 19.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. WILKINSON, Committee.

REPORT OF PLATTSMOUTH □, NO. 6, PLATTSMOUTH.

To the M. . W. . Grand □ of Nebraska:

About the 15th day of October, A. D. 1857, a notice was circulated among those persons that claimed to be masons, who resided in and near the city of Plattsmouth, to meet on Tuesday evening the 22d day of October, A. D. 1857, A. L. 5857, at the City Hall.

The foregoing notice called together a few of the order, to which accessions were made from time to time until the first of January, A. D. 1858, A. L. 5858; when eleven of their number, to-wit: D. A. Donelan, D. H. Wheeler, J. W. Marshall, Thos. K. Hanna, J. Harper, J. C. Cummins, Wm. B. Porter, J. Minchell, sr., Wm. H. Bassett, Enos Williams, and Wm. M. Slaughter, Master Masons, met and addressed a petition to the M. . W. . Grand Master of the Territory of Nebraska, praying for a charter or warrant of dispensation to empower them to assemble as a legal □, to discharge the duties of masonry in the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the ancient forms of the fraternity, and laws and regulations of the Grand □.

On the 18th day of January, A. D. 1858, the petitioners received a letter of dispensation from the M. . W. . Grand □ of the Territory of Nebraska, under the hand and seal of the M. . W. . Grand Master, bearing date the 18th day of January, A. D. 1858, A. L. 5858, constituting the said petitioners into a regular □ of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened in the city of Plattsmouth and Territory of Nebraska, under the name of Plattsmouth □, requiring that they observe, perform and keep all the rules and orders contained in the book of Constitutions till the Annual Communication of the Grand □, on the first Wed-

nesday of June, A. D. 1858, A. L. 5858, when the letter of dispensation, together with an account of the proceedings of the □, were to be transmitted to the M. · W. · Grand □ aforesaid.

In pursuance of the authority vested in the petitioners by the foregoing letter of dispensation, they assembled on the — day of February, A. D. 1858, at their room, and opened Plattsmouth □ in due and ancient form and proceeded to their regular work by electing those that were not appointed by the M. · W. · Grand Master, when the following officers were elected and regularly installed by M. · W. · Past Grand Master W. D. McCord, who had previously been appointed Deputy Grand Master for the occasion: E. A. Donelan, Worshipful Master; D. H. Wheeler, Senior Warden; J. W. Marshall, Junior Warden; Thomas K. Hanna, Treasurer; J. C. Cummins, Secretary; Wm. B. Porter, Senior Deacon; Joseph Harper, Junior Deacon; Geo. W. Colvin, Tyler.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, Committee.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: first Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

L. B. Kinney, W. M.	Thomas Clifton, Treas.	J. M. Whitted, S. D.
David Leach, S. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, Sec'y.	S. A. Strickland, J. D.
S. H. Wattles, J. W.		

MASTER MASONS.

L. B. Kinney,	Silas A. Strickland,	Thomas Boyer,
A. Hall,	Thomas Clifton,	J. M. Whitted,
Jno. A. Nye,	Stephen D. Bangs,	Wm. H. Cook,
C. D. Keller,	Louis F. Bartels,	S. W. Y. Schimonsky,
Henry T. Clarke,	Stephen H. Wattles,	David Leach.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

D. F. Tiedemann.

WITHDRAWN.

A. Lockwood,	Andrew Sagendorf,	L. L. Bowen.
--------------	-------------------	--------------

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday preceding each full moon: and on St. John's day.

OFFICERS.

Wylls C. Ransom, W. M.	John H. Maxon, Treas'r.	Samuel P. Sibley, J. D.
Lee P. Gillette, S. W.	Fountain Pearman, Sec'y.	Aden G. Cavans, Steward.
Daniel H. Warran, J. W.	Sylvester Redfield, S. D.	Wm. E. Hill, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Sylvester Redfield,	John F. Kinney,	William L. Boydston,
Hiram P. Downs,	F. Pearman,	Andrew Beardslee,
Wm. P. Birchfield,	S. P. Sibley,	Harvey C. Blackman,
I. L. Gibbs,	Chas. W. Wyatt,	William E. Hill,
Thomas Donohoo,	H. B. Baker,	Daniel Whiting,
John Boulware,	Henry Brown,	Jeremiah S. Carr,
Geo. W. Boulware,	Wm. H. Broadhead,	Samuel Henderson,
John B. Boulware,	John A. Goodlett,	Aden G. Cavans,
John C. Cook,	R. H. Miller,	Solon F. Johnson,
H. N. Cornell,	H. B. Horton,	George W. Sroat,
Geo. W. Bailey,	Geo. G. Gillette,	Joseph F. Bennett,

W. W. Soper,
J. C. Campbell,
Edward Henry,
G. H. Hail,
T. E. Thompson,
John B. Bennett,
Simon Hooper,
J. S. Place,
John H. Maxon,

Lee P. Gillette.
Daniel H. Warran,
Isaac Chivington,
Wyllys C. Ransom,
Chas. F. Holly,
Geo. M. Smith,
Edward Smith,
J. P. Cook,

J. T. Hoyle,
Willard Bradway,
Stephen F. Nuckolls,
Peter Y. Morse,
Stephen Kent,
H. J. Kent,
Wm. E. Pardee,
C. A. Goshen.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Robert Hawke.

WITHDRAWN.

Mastin W. Riden,

Jacob Safford.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

William Anderson,

M. Mahan,

William Dorsey,

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Monday on or before full moon.

OFFICERS.

George Armstrong, W. M. Augustus Roeder, Treas. John Logan, J. D.
James K. Wall, S. W. Robert C. Jordan, Sec'y. Wm. T. Beeks, Tyler.
Henry H. Vischer, J. W. Thomas F. Stewart, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

John H. Sahler,
Wm. R. Demarest,
Samuel E. Rogers,
Charles W. Hamilton,
Jno. R. Porter
Addison R. Gillmore,
Aaron Cahn,
Charles Turner,
John Reck,
J. T. Griffin,
T. H. Dodd,
George Armstrong,
Geo. W. Kassler,

Lorin Miller,
Robert C. Jordan,
A. D. Jones,
Philip Windheim,
P. G. Peterson,
John Logan,
William Frodsham,
Francis Lusignan,
Geo. W. Forbes,
Nelson Baker,
H. H. Vischer,
H. G. Spencer,
M. Hellman,

James E. Boyd,
James K. Wall,
Wm. F. Wilder.
Augustus Roeder,
P. A. Preston.
Hiram P. Bennett.
James G. Megeath,
Henry W. Kuhns,
A. D. Luce,
E. A. Allen,
S. M. Owens,
Frank Kemp.

FELLOW CRAFT.

Ernest A. Frenzell,

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

John H. Green,

Gustavus A. Hesse.

WITHDRAWN.

Geo. W. Wood,

William N. Byers,

Alfred Sayre.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Geo. C. Bovey,
Thos. F. Stewart,

Albert G. Clarke,
Geo. L. Miller,

A. A. Egbert.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Robert W. Furnas, W. M.	David Siegel, Treasurer.	Adrian Hoblitzell, J. D.
G. W. Bratton, S. W.	T. W. Bedford, Secretary.	John L. Colhapp, Tyler.
R. T. Rainey, J. W.	J. C. Aylsworth, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

G. W. Bratton,	E. Lyanna,	J. M. Cotton,
David Seigle,	J. B. Wells.	W. W. Keeling,
U. C. Johnson,	J. C. Aylsworth,	D. J. Martin,
William Hoblitzell,	John H. Colhapp,	C. S. Langdon,
Henry Beane,	Jesse Noel,	George Crow,
C. W. Wheeler,	A. J. Richardson,	R. T. Rainey,
J. C. Cline,	Adrian Hoblitzell,	A. H. Alderman,
Robert W. Furnas,	A. O. D. Kelley,	O. B. Hewett.
Frank Ferguson,	John W. Bennett,	Jer. Marlott.
T. W. Bedford,		

FELLOW CRAFT.

Frederick Marlott.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

L. B. Butler,	J. W. Swan.
---------------	-------------

WITHDRAWN.

J. G. Casey,	J. J. Clark.
--------------	--------------

OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI, DAKOTAH COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Saturday on or before full moon.

OFFICERS.

Geo. W. Wilkinson, W. M.	Alexander Ford, Treas.	William Cheney, J. D.
Asa Rathburn, S. W.	W. C. McBeath, Sec'y.	M. Pinkerton, Steward.
A. H. Baker, J. W.	J. H. Hallack, S. D.	Amos Samson, Tyler

MASTER MASONS.

J. H. Hallack,	W. C. McBeath,	William Cheney,
E. G. Samson,	Stephen Ulrey,	A. H. Baker,
Thomas McDermott,	Alexander Ford,	William Henderson.
Amos Samson,	Geo. W. Wilkinson,	T. M. K. Munhall,
M. Pinkerton,	Thomas C. Ryan,	Asa Rathburn.
Harlan Baird,	Wm. D. Smith,	

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Henry M. Hale.

WITHDRAWN.

Mahlon G. Wilkinson,	Albert W. Puett.
----------------------	------------------

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

Stated meetings: first Monday in each month.

OFFICERS.

D. H. Wheeler, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	H. D. Mansfield, J. D.
Jno. W. Marshall, S. W.	Samuel H. Jones, Sec'y.	Geo. Parks, Steward.
Enos Williams, J. W.	Samuel H. Elbert, S. D.	D. M. Coulter, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

E. A. Donelan,	Enos Williams,	Samuel H. Jones,
D. H. Wheeler,	W. D. McCord,	Samuel Hanna,
John W. Marshall,	A. H. Barker,	H. D. Mansfield,
Thomas K. Hanna,	Samuel H. Elbert,	George Parks,
John C. Cummins,	Wm. J. Young,	Loudon Mullen,
Wm. B. Porter,	Joseph Harper,	Thomas J. Jones.
James Minchell,	Wm. B. Warbritton,	

FELLOW CRAFT.

Elbert T. Duke.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Charles. H. Wolcott,	William H. Spratlin.
----------------------	----------------------

WITHDRAWN.

William M. Slaughter,	William H. Bassett.
-----------------------	---------------------

STATEMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON APRIL 1, 1903

REPORTED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON

Printed by the Government Printing Office

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents

Price, 10 cents

Order from the Superintendent of Documents

Washington, D. C.

1903

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT PLATTSMOUTH, JUNE 4, A. L. 5861.

FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, June 4, 1861.

The Grand □ of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its fourth Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Plattsmouth this day. There were present the following

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M . W . . GEO. ARMSTRONG, Grand Master.
R . W . . L. B. KINNEY, Deputy Grand Master.
R . W . . H. C. BLACKMAN, as Senior Grand Warden.
R . W . . D. H. WHEELER, Junior Grand Warden.
R . W . . J. H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.
R . W . . R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary.
W . . HENRY BROWN, as Grand Chaplain.
W . . J. F. KINNEY, Grand Orator.
W . . L. P. GILLETTE, Grand Lecturer.
W . . S. A. STRICKLAND, as Grand Marshal.
W . . G. B. GRAFF, as Senior Grand Deacon.
W . . A. CAHN, as Junior Grand Deacon.
W . . J. W. MARSHALL, Grand Steward.
W . . S. H. JONES, Grand Sword Bearer.
W . . S. D. BANGS, }
W . . E. G. SEARS, } as Grand Pursuivants.
W . . JAMES MINCHELL, as Grand Tyler.

A □ of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M . W . . Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following committee:

On Credentials—Brothers Furnas, Gillette and Wheeler.

Brother Furnas, from committee on Credentials, reported as follows, which report was adopted.

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska :

Your committee on Credentials find the following in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA , NO. 1—L. B. Kinney, 1; S. A. Strickland, 1; D. Leach, 1.

WESTERN STAR , NO. 2—Lee P. Gillette, 2; H. C. Blackman, 1.

CAPITAL , NO. 3—E. G. Sears, 2; A. Cahn, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY , NO. 4—R. W. Furnas, 3.

OMADI , NO. 5—G. B. Graff, 3.

PLATTSMOUTH , NO. 6—D. H. Wheeler, 1; J. W. Marshall, 1; H. D. Mansfield, 1.

The committee also find the following Grand Officers present and entitled to seats:

M. W. : Geo. Armstrong, Grand Master.

R. W. : L. B. Kinney, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. : D. H. Wheeler, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. : J. H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. : R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.

W. : J. F. Kinney, Grand Orator.

W. : L. P. Gillette, Grand Lecturer.

W. : J. W. Marshall, Grand Steward.

W. : S. H. Jones, Grand Sword Bearer.

W. : S. D. Bangs, Grand Pursuivant.

R. W. : H. Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
L. P. GILLETTE, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

A constitutional number of being represented the M. W. Grand Master appointed the following officers, *pro tem.* :

Brother H. C. Blackman, Senior Grand Warden.

“ H. Brown, Grand Chaplain.

“ S. A. Strickland, Grand Marshal.

“ G. B. Graff, Senior Grand Deacon.

“ A. Cahn, Junior Grand Deacon.

“ E. G. Sears, Grand Pursuivant.

“ James Minchell, Grand Tyler.

After which the W.: Grand Marshal, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, declared the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

- On Accounts*—Brothers Maxon, Gillette and Sears.
- On Charters and Dispensations*—Brothers Furnas, Blackman and Wheeler.
- On Foreign Correspondence*—Brothers Furnas, Blackman and Bangs.
- On Ways and Means*—Brothers Maxon, Kinney and Graff.
- On Charity*—Brothers Bangs, Jones and Brown.
- On Grievances*—Brothers Jones, Strickland and Cahn.
- On Unfinished Business*—Brothers Gillette, Wheeler and Leach.
- On Pay Roll*—Brothers Maxon, Furnas and Sears.
- On Masonic Jurisprudence*—Brothers Kinney, Blackman and Wheeler.
- On School Fund*—Brothers Marshall, Graff and Strickland.
- On Subordinate Returns*—Brothers Blackman, Cahn and Leach.
- On Visitors*—Brothers Gillette, Sears and Brown.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand □ of Nebraska:

It is required of the Grand Master that he "communicate in writing, a statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand □, with such other matters as he may deem advantageous to the craft, and also to give information upon subjects of masonic interest, and recommend for its consideration any measures he shall deem expedient." To comply with these requirements a very short communication is only needed at this time, but few official duties having demanded my attention, and as I have not been favored with copies of the proceedings of other masonic bodies, I can give you no information from the craft abroad.

The amendment of our By-Laws made at your last session, reducing the charge for dispensation and charters, has not yet resulted in the establishment of a single new □ in Nebraska. Your former Grand Master, in his last two communications, truthfully sets forth the causes to which the slow progress of our order here is attributable. The unfavorable circumstances by which we were surrounded then, continue to exist in a greater degree at this time; and those of you, my brethren, who know and can appreciate the difficulties and obstructions which have beset the workmen, though earnestly desiring the dissemination of the tenets and principles of our time-honored institution, have the high satisfaction of being assured that it is occasioned by no lack of zeal or want of harmony among the craft. The six □ which have composed this jurisdiction for the last three years, are still performing their labors faithfully and harmoniously. That the number of our □ has not increased is the result of circumstances over which the brethren could exercise no control. The commercial distress

which has affected the whole country for the last three years, remains unmitigated in the sparse and scattered settlements of Nebraska, and remote as we are from the sectional and political influences which surrounded the populous communities of the States, even here the pure and ennobling principles of masonry are chilled and sickened by the deplorable strifes and animosities of parties and sects which distract our beloved country, and which have at length culminated in a wide-spread rebellion against the Government.

From the reports of the subordinate [] it will be seen that the membership has been increased during the past year; yet all our [] are laboring under disadvantages resulting from the absence of many of the older brethren who have abandoned their [] to toil among the leads and gulches of the new Eldorado, or engage in the commerce of the plains.

The tide of emigration, attracted during the past few years towards the gold fields immediately west of our Territory, has carried with it many of the masonic fraternity, who have left their homes and associates in the East to seek their fortunes among the hills and valleys of that auriferous region. Petitions from the craft sojourning there have been received by me for authority to pursue their labors in the land of their adoption. I have accordingly granted dispensations for the following new [] in the Territory of Colorado:

Summit [], at Parkville; Rocky Mountain [], at Gold Hill; Central City [], at Central City. The first two named [] have since forwarded to me petitions for charters, accompanied with copies of their by-laws and proceedings, which are herewith presented. I trust that the work thus sent up for your inspection by our brethren in the West may be found square and acceptable, and entitle them to warrants for the continuance of their labors. Abundant and good material exists in that new land, and there are skillful craftsmen there, well qualified to prepare the rough ashlers and precious stones of the Rocky Mountains, and fit them to strengthen and adorn our noble masonic edifice.

In the proceedings of your last Annual Communication I find the report of the committee on Unfinished Business of the previous session, recommending the reference to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence of the subject of amending the rules and regulations of subordinate [], so that Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Crafts can be balloted for when the [] are open in those degrees. This report was adopted, but the subject has not been disposed of by the Grand []. As a matter of convenience merely the proposed change in the regulation may be deemed advisable; but with due deference to the views of our late Grand Master, I cannot consider that the rule, as it now stands, is a departure from ancient usage. It is claimed that it does "injustice to Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Crafts in not being permitted to ballot and have the privilege of selecting their own associates," but there are many other masonic privileges the propriety of withholding which from Entered Apprentices and Fellow-Crafts has never been questioned by the fraternity, and yet the charge of injustice would apply with equal force in such cases as in the matter of balloting. Our By-Laws and Rules and Regulations were adopted almost entire from those of the Grand [] of Ohio, whose fifty years' experience is a sufficient guaranty of their knowledge of masonic usage; and, except in the Canadian and some of the Kentucky [],

I know of no such regulation as is contemplated in the proposed amendment. I am content to leave the question to the sound judgment and masonic experience of the brethren of this Grand \square .

The subject of fixing permanently the place of meeting of the Grand \square was also postponed for your action at this time. I can see no objection to this measure, if the location is made as central as possible. As a matter of economy simply, it recommends itself to your favorable consideration.

In June last I received from the Grand Master of Louisiana a communication, announcing that the Grand \square of that State had adopted the "Grand \square Representative System," and requesting me, if agreeable to the views of this body, to name some brother here for appointment as representative of that Grand \square near the Grand \square of Nebraska. The Grand Master of North Carolina has designated Brother L. P. Gillette, and the Grand Master of Illinois has selected Past Grand Master Robert C. Jordan, as the representatives of the Grand \square of those States near this Grand \square . This "system" is a kind of masonic diplomacy, which has not heretofore been recognized in Nebraska; and before the representatives of other Grand \square can be accredited by us, I presume that this body should adopt measures of reciprocity with other masonic jurisdictions, and give authority to the Grand Master to recognize the representatives they may designate. This may not be regarded, however, as a matter of any considerable importance, as it is not likely that questions will arise of such immediate consequence to our brethren abroad as to require them to have accredited representatives near this Grand \square , or that the interests of the craft in Nebraska will suffer for want of the interference of some brother especially appointed to look after them at other Grand \square . It is probably more a matter of masonic courtesy than of jurisdictional necessity, and as such is not unworthy of your attention. But if the adoption of this representative system should meet your favorable consideration, the question arises whether it shall be general in its application or confined to \square specially designated. The States of Louisiana and North Carolina, whose Grand \square desire to be represented here, as well as other States of the Union, are now in open rebellion against the Government. Can we fraternize with masons who refuse to "cheerfully conform to the laws of the country," and are "concerned in plots and conspiracies against government?" The right of secession, or the propriety of dividing the Union into separate confederacies, are questions not within the province of a body of masons. But until these questions are determined, and the bloody and fratricidal contest, which is now convulsing our beloved country, is ended, we should be guarded in our affiliations with the masonic organizations of those States who have lifted their bloody hands against the civil authorities, trampled in the dust the banner of the country to which they have pledged their allegiance, and have set on foot the most unnatural and unholy conflict that has ever disgraced a civilized nation. As when Jephtha, Judge of Israel, with the men of Gilead, pursued the rebellious Ephraimites to the passes of the river Jordan, shall we not demand, if among the traitors and conspirators of these latter days there are any who cannot pronounce aright the word of recognition exacted by brethren faithful to their masonic obligations?

In this connection, it is proper to state that I have received a printed circular emanating from the Grand \square of Tennessee, and signed by the Grand and Deputy Grand Master of the Grand \square , and officers of other Grand masonic bodies in that State, commenting upon the sad and mournful spectacle presented in the present unhappy condition of our country—State being arrayed against State, friend against friend, and even brother against brother. Our Tennessee brethren appeal to the five hundred thousand masons in the land, to make their voice heard in one united demand for arresting this terrible fraternal strife. This circular I lay before you for such action as may be deemed proper. Although this effort of our brethren to pour the oil of peace upon the troubled waters of civil war, may prove futile, they are animated by a noble spirit of patriotic love of country and are actuated by a keen appreciation of their masonic obligations and fraternal ties. I doubt not their appeal will enlist your hearty sympathies and ready co-operation.

Before closing, brethren, I must urge upon your attention the great importance of securing a uniformity in the work of the several \square s. Since the organization of this Grand \square , our brethren in the East have been exerting themselves to effect this desirable result throughout the States. The most skillful of the craft have consulted together—venerable masons have compared with each other the designs placed on their respective trestle-boards by the Masters from whom they received their first instruction in the art—and the traditions handed down from the fathers have been examined and studied—for the purpose of arriving at, and determining what constitutes the true work. As the result of these investigations I understand that the lectures and symbolic instructions as taught by Thomas Smith Webb, and now known as "the Webb work," is accepted by most of the masonic bodies of the United States. By the many schools of instruction which have of late years been established throughout the country, where this work is taught, the craft are becoming enlightened in masonic science; and the mysteries of our art, by the uniformity of exemplification, and the simplified, though thorough and comprehensive mode of imparting instruction, is rendered more inviting and attractive to those who are seeking after its hidden beauties or studying the erudition of its expressive signs and symbols. The facilities for traveling between our scattered \square s, deprive us of the advantages which our Eastern brethren enjoy in attending masonic schools of instruction. But much can be effected in the uniformity of the work by receiving instruction only from those who are themselves proficient, and who are master-workmen well skilled in drawing designs for the craft to work by. The services of our worthy Grand Lecturer, Brother Gillette, should be secured by the \square as often as possible. I can vouch as to his proficiency in the work now recognized and accepted by the masonic fraternity generally.

And now, brethren, having submitted to you what few matters I have, worthy of your attention, I close this communication, invoking the Great Master of the Universe to aid you in the work before you, and that, as heretofore, your deliberations may be harmonious and your labors beneficial to the craft.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Wheeler, Gillette, and Graff, were appointed such such committee.

Brother Gillette offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons, in good standing, be invited to witness the deliberations of this Grand

Brother Gillette offered the following, which was referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence :

Resolved, That the Worshipful Masters of subordinate be ordered not to allow non-affiliated masons to visit their unless they declare their intention of joining the and then not oftener than at three regular communications.

Brother Wheeler, from select committee on Grand Master's Address, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska :

The committee to whom was referred the annual communication of the M. W. Grand Master, for designating appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named be referred, report by presenting the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Master's communication as refers to the Grand representative system, and so much as refers to the distracted state of the country, and so much as refers to uniformity of work in the several in this jurisdiction, be referred to the standing committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

That so much as refers to the granting of a charter to Summit No. -, situated in the town of Parkville, Colorado Territory, be referred to the standing committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That so much as refers to the permanent location of the Grand , be referred to a select committee consisting of one brother from each subordinate .

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER,)
L. P. GILLETTE, } Committee.
G. B. GRAFF.)

Brother J. F. Kinney offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the meetings of this Grand be hereafter held at eight o'clock A. M. and two o'clock P. M. of each day, until all the business before it is finished.

Brother G. W. Wilkinson, Junior Grand Deacon, having arrived, took his seat as such.

The select committee provided for in Brother Wheeler's report was filled by the appointment of the following brothers :

Nebraska □, No. 1, L. B. Kinney; Western Star □, No. 2, H. C. Blackman; Capital □, No. 3, E. G. Sears; Nemaha Valley □, No. 4, R. W. Furnas; Omadi □, No. 5, G. W. Wilkinson; Plattsmouth □, No. 6, D. H. Wheeler.

Grand □ called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock.

— — — — —

AFTERNOON SESSION.

TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

The M. : W. : Grand □ was called from refreshment to labor, M. : W. : Grand Master in the chair.

Brother Blackman, from committee on Subordinate Returns, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the returns of subordinate □, respectfully report that we have examined the same, and find the following correct, viz: Western Star □, No. 2; Capital □, No. 3; Nemaha Valley □, No. 4; Omadi □, No. 5; and Plattsmouth □, No. 6. Nebraska □, No. 1, shows a membership last year of fourteen. By referring to the returns from this □ of last year, we find that they reported fifteen. We are informed by the representatives of the □, that last year's report was incorrect, a brother having dimitted, which was overlooked in making their return to the last Annual Communication of the Grand □. With this exception, the report is correct.

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN,)
E. G. SEARS,) Committee.
AARON CAHN,)

Brother Furnas, Grand Secretary, made the following as his report, which was referred to committee on Accounts.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

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

	Dr.
R. W. FURNAS, <i>Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand □ of Nebraska,</i>	
To dues from Nebraska □, No. 1.....	\$ 37 00
“ “ Western Star □, No. 2.....	60 00
“ “ Capital □, No. 3.....	44 00
“ “ Nemaha Valley □, No. 4.....	27 00
“ “ Omadi □, No. 5.....	22 00
“ “ Plattsmouth □, No. 6.....	37 00
“ Colorado Dispensations.....	29 70
	\$256 70
	Cr.
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....	\$256 70

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary.*

Brother Gillette, from the committee on Unfinished Business, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

The committee on Unfinished Business beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings of our last Annual Communication, and find that but little business was postponed at that time for the consideration of this Grand ☐.

The only subject which attracts our attention is that part of Past Grand Master Jordan's address, delivered before the Grand ☐ at Bellevue, in the year 1859, in which he recommends that the fifth paragraph of the Rules and Regulations of subordinate ☐ be so amended that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts "be allowed to ballot for candidates for those degrees, which of course would have to be done in ☐ of those grades."

Your committee are of the opinion that the making of such a rule would be a departure from the ancient usage, and therefore most respectfully recommend that this subject be dismissed without further consideration.

LEE P. GILLETTE, }
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
DAVID LEACH, }

The Grand Secretary presented the following account for printing and postage, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

<i>M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska to R. W. FURNAS,</i>	Dr.
To printing and binding 400 copies Grand ☐ Proceedings (60 pages) for 1860	\$157 00
" " circulars to other Grand ☐	5 00
" postage	8 00
	<hr/>
	\$170 00

Brother Marshall, from committee on School Fund, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

Your committee on School Fund report that no measures have been taken to raise such a fund ; and finding nothing further to claim our attention, we respectfully subscribe ourselves

J. W. MARSHALL, }
G. B. GRAFF, } Committee.
S. A. STRICKLAND, }

Brother Furnas, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

The committee on Foreign Correspondence have received the printed proceedings from thirty Grand ☐, to-wit :

Alabama, December 3, 1860.
 California, May 8, 1860.
 Canada, July 9, 1860.
 Connecticut, May 9, 1860.
 Delaware, January 27, 1860.
 District of Columbia, February 11, 1861.
 Georgia, October 31, 1860.
 Iowa, June 5, 1860.
 Illinois, October 9, 1860.
 Indiana, May 8, 1860.
 Kansas, October 16, 1860.
 Kentucky, October 16, 1860.
 Maine, May 1, 1860.
 Maryland, May 14, 15 and 16, 1860.
 Massachusetts, March 14, 1860.
 Michigan, January 9, 1861.
 Minnesota, October 23, 1860.
 Mississippi, January 21, 22, 23 and 24, 1861.
 Missouri, May 28, 1860.
 New Hampshire, June 13, 1860.
 New Jersey, January 16 and 17, 1861.
 New York, June 5, 1860.
 North Carolina, December 3, 1860.
 Ohio, October 16, 1860.
 Rhode Island, June 25, 1860.
 Tennessee, October 1, 1860.
 Texas, June 11, 1860.
 Vermont, January 9, 10 and 11, 1861.
 Virginia, December 10, 1860.
 Washington Territory, September 3, 1860.

The committee also acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Code of Masonic Jurisprudence and Resolutions now in force in the Grand of Ohio.

Also, documents respecting the controversy between the Grand of Hamburg and New York. Also, a circular letter from the Grand of New York, reviewing the policy of the Grand of Hamburg.

The committee have been favored by Brother Leon Hyneman of New York, with a copy of the "World's Masonic Register," a very valuable bound volume of 562 pages, for which Brother B. is entitled to especial thanks.

The committee are of the opinion that hereafter, or at least until our financial affairs are in a more prosperous condition that it is policy to dispense with the extended duties of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, viz: in making liberal extracts from the printed proceedings of other Grand .

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, Chairman.

Brother Furnas offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand \square are hereby tendered to Brother Leon Hyneman of New York, for a copy of the "World's Masonic Register."

Brother J. H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer, made the following report, which was adopted :

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

	Dr.	Cr.
JOHN H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska :		
Balance in hands of Treasurer, per last report, June, 1860.....	\$375 45	
Received of R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary, 1861.....	256 70	
		\$632 15
1860. Paid order for Grand \square jewels.....	\$104 00	
" Pay Roll, 1860.....	129 48	
" Order to R. W. Furnas.....	170 50	
" Order to Capital \square	4 00	
Balance in hands of Treasurer.....	224 17	
		\$632 15

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. MAXON, Grand Treasurer.

Brother Blackman, from committee on permanent location of Grand \square , reported as follows, which was adopted.

REPORT.

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

The committee to whom was referred the subject of permanently fixing a place for the meeting of the Grand \square , respectfully report, that, in their opinion, it would not be policy for the present, to permanently fix any place. Our population is sparse, our \square s are few, and should a place be now fixed, it might work great injustice and hardship to \square s to be hereafter formed.

The committee recommend that no action of the kind be taken at this Communication.

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN, No. 2.	}	Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, " 6.		
G. W. WILKINSON, " 5.		
E. G. SEARS, " 3.		
L. B. KINNEY, " 1.		
R. W. FURNAS, " 4.		

Brother Maxon offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand \square be held at Omaha City, on the first Tuesday in June, 1862.

Brother Maxon, from committee on Accounts, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your standing committee on Accounts, have examined the account of R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary, and J. H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

We also find the following account of Brother Furnas, correct:

To printing and binding 400 copies Grand \square proceedings (60 pages) for 1860.....	\$157 00
" " Circulars to other Grand \square	5 00
" Postage	8 00
	\$170 00

And therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of R. W. Furnas for one hundred and seventy dollars, amount in full of his account to date.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
LEE P. GILLETTE, } Committee.
E. G. SEARS, }

Brother Blackman, from committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, presented the following report, which was postponed until to-morrow :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom was referred that portion of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address relating to uniformity of work, respectfully report, that the committee deem uniformity of work of the first importance, and while the members of the Grand \square have not had sufficient opportunity to witness the exemplification of the work recommended by the M. . W. . Grand Master and taught by the Grand Lecturer, to express fully their views in all particulars, yet considering the fact that this work has been adopted by most of the Grand \square of the United States, and for the purpose of securing some system of work, recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN, }
J. F. KINNEY, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

Brother Kinney, from committee on Grand Master's address, reported as follows, which was adopted.

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the Grand \square Representative system, submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand \square it is inexpedient, under the present position of the affairs of the country, for this Grand \square to adopt the

Representative system at this time, and that the further consideration of this subject be postponed until the next Annual Communication of this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN, }
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
J. F. KINNEY, }

Brother Blackman, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, reported the following, which was adopted.

REPORT.

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

The committee earnestly recommend the adoption of the resolution for the exclusion of non-affiliated masons. Many reasons might be urged for this course. Indeed, we cannot conceive of any good reason for a different course. It is enough, however, to say that, as we understand it, masonry knows no such thing as a non-affiliated mason. It is the duty of every mason to belong to some \square , and the fact that a man announced himself as non-affiliated, for any other purpose than that of becoming a member, is, in the opinion of your committee, sufficient to cast a shade of suspicion upon his masonic standing.

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN, }
J. F. KINNEY, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

On motion of Brother Maxon, it was

Resolved, That the election of Grand officers take place to-morrow morning at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock. Carried.

Brother J. F. Kinney offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand \square be and the same are hereby tendered to Brother M. J. Drummond, editor and publisher of the Masonic Messenger of New York City, for the zeal he has manifested in the cause of masonry, and particularly for his activity and energy in procuring and forwarding \$300.00 for the relief of Western Star \square , No. 2, Nebraska City. And also to other \square s and brethren who responded to the call of said \square .

Brother Blackman announced the death of Brother Fountain Pearman, Senior Warden of Western Star \square , No. 2, and referred in an appropriate and feeling manner to the many social and masonic accomplishments of the deceased brother. As a mark of respect on the part of the Grand \square it was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 5, 1861.

Grand □ called from refreshment to labor.

M. W. Grand Master presiding.

Brother Maxon, from the committee on Ways and Means offered the following amendment to the Grand □ By-Laws, which was duly seconded by five members. Laid over under the rules.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Ways and Means would ask that Section 16 of the By-Laws be so amended that the Grand Secretary's salary shall be reduced from \$150 to \$50 per annum.

Respectfully submitted.

J. F. KINNEY,
J. H. MAXON, } Committee.
G. B. GRAFF, }

The report of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence relative to the adoption of a uniform system of work having been made the special order for this hour, was taken up and unani- mously adopted.

Brother J. F. Kinney, from the committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relative to the distracted state of the country, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the M. W. Grand Mas- ter's address as relates to the unhappy state of the country, beg leave to report: That the time allotted to the committee is inadequate to give the subject such reflection as its importance deserves; we would, however, briefly state, that we view with alarm, the unfortunate troubles in which our common country is in- volved; that we deeply deprecate the evils of civil war, threatening the over- throw of our Government; and while we will not now stop to inquire the causes which have produced the dire calamity which has befallen us, we hold at the same time, that every mason is bound by the highest obligation to be loyal to the Government in which he lives, and to discountenance disloyalty and rebel- lion.

Believing that civil war ought, if possible, to be avoided, proving, as we fear it would, disastrous in the extreme to the spread and success of masonry, and, being of the opinion that the entire masonic fraternity ought to put forth a vig- orous effort to save the country and prevent the effusion of blood, we therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That this Grand \square do recommend that a National Masonic Convention be held at Washington City on the first Monday of December next, to take into consideration the deplorable state of the country, and co-operate in endeavoring to cement more closely the bonds of fraternal love between the brethren North and South, and do all in their power to restore the Government to its proper position by a re-union of all the States.

Resolved, That we cordially invite all the Grand \square s, North and South, to send representatives to said Masonic Convention.

Respectfully submitted.

H. C. BLACKMAN, }
J. F. KINNEY, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

On motion of Brother J. F. Kinney, the Grand Secretary was ordered to have printed one hundred copies of the report of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, relative to the disturbed condition of the country, and that he send one copy to each Grand \square in the United States.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the representatives here assembled, are hereby empowered and authorized to enforce in their respective \square s, the work adopted by this Grand \square .

Brother Maxon, from the committee on Pay Roll, reported as follows, which report was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Pay Roll beg leave to report the following as the amounts due the officers and members of the Grand \square , for the year 1861:

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand \square of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held at Plattsmouth, June, 1861.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.				TOTAL.
		Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	
Geo. Armstrong, M. W. Grand Master.....	Omaha	20	\$2 00	\$ 2 25	\$ 4 25
L. B. Kinney, Deputy Grand Master.....	Bellevue.....	10	1 00	2 25	3 25
John H. Maxon, Grand Treasurer.....	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	2 25	5 25
*R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary.....	Brownville.....	..	..	..	..
J. F. Kinney, Grand Orator.....	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	2 25	5 25
L. P. Gillette, Grand Lecturer.....	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	2 25	5 25
G. W. Wilkinson, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Omaha.....	110	11 00	2 25	13 25
J. W. Marshall, Grand Steward.....	Plattsmouth.....	..	..	2 25	2 25
S. H. Jones, Grand Sword Bearer.....	Plattsmouth.....	..	..	2 25	2 25
S. D. Bangs, Grand Pursuivant.....	Bellevue.....	10	1 00	2 25	3 25
James Minchell, Grand Tyler.....	Plattsmouth.....	..	..	2 25	2 25
			\$24 00	\$22 50	\$46 50

*Drew mileage and per diem as representative.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.	
1.	Nebraska □.....	Bellevue.....	10	\$ 1 00	\$ 2 25	\$ 3 25	S. A. Strickland...	
2.	Western Star □.....	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	2 25	5 25	H. C. Blackman...	
3.	Capital □.....	Omaha	20	2 00	2 25	4 25	E. G. Sears.....	
4.	Nemaha Valley □.....	Brownville	57	5 70	2 25	7 95	R. W. Furnas.....	
5.	Omadi □.....	Omadi.....	110	11 00	2 25	13 25	George B. Graff...	
6.	Plattsmouth □.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	2 25	2 25	D. H. Wheeler.....
			\$22 70 | \$13 50 | \$16 20 |					

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. MAXON, }
 R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.
 E. G. SEARS, }

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the R. : W. : Grand Secretary be instructed to procure the printing of two hundred copies of the proceedings of this session of the Grand □ of Nebraska, and to forward three of said copies to each of the Grand officers, one to each of the Grand □ with which this Grand □ is in correspondence, and five copies to each subordinate □ within this jurisdiction.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. : W. : Grand □ of Nebraska:

The committee on Charters and Dispensations to whom was referred the applications for charters from the petitioners at Parkville, Colorado, to be called Summit □, No. 7; and the application from the brethren at Gold Hill, to be called Rocky Mountain □, No. 8; also, the By-Laws of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, and Western Star □, No. 2, have had the same under consideration, and recommend that a charter be granted to Joshua Miller, H. E. Delph, J. H. Delph, J. S. Lewis, F. E. Lewis, P. Ashbury, James Emery, D. P. Sparks. M. C. White, D. L. Rolly, George Swald, O. A. Whittemore, Geo. Oldham, N. Berry, George Rader, C. C. Carpenter, N. Toucy, L. Pollard, G. W. Gillson, W. Turner, C. C. Schollkoff, S. M. Robinson, for a □ to be located at Parkville, in Colorado, to be called Summit □, No. 7.

Also, for a □ at Gold Hill, to be called Rocky Mountain □, No. 8.

The committee also find the By-Laws of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, and Western Star □, No. 2, in form, and recommend their approval.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
 H. C. BLACKMAN, } Committee.
 D. H. WHEELER, }

Brother Jones, from the committee on Grievances, reported as follows, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the subject matter of Grievances, beg leave to report that they have held the same under consideration during this session of the Grand \square , and are happy to say that no matters of a grievous character, have been presented for their deliberation.

Respectfully submitted.

S. A. STRICKLAND, }
S. H. JONES, } Committee.
AARON CAHN, }

Brother J. F. Kinney offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Grand \square to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand \square , and the rules and regulations for the government of subordinate \square s, to report the same at the next regular communication of this Grand \square .

Brothers J. F. Kinney, Wheeler, Gillette, Furnas, and Blackman, were appointed said committee.

Brother Bangs, from the committee on Charity, offered the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The standing committee on Charity beg leave to report that no business has been presented for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN D. BANGS, }
S. H. JONES, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

The hour fixed for the election of officers having arrived, the Grand \square proceeded to an election, which resulted as follows:

- GEORGE ARMSTRONG, of Omaha, M. W. Grand Master.
- L. B. KINNEY, of Bellevue, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
- D. H. WHEELER, of Plattsmouth, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.
- H. C. BLACKMAN, of Nebraska City, R. W. Junior Grand Warden.
- S. H. JONES, of Plattsmouth, R. W. Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. FURNAS, of Brownville, R. W. Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments, which were confirmed:

- Brother HENRY BROWN, W. Grand Chaplain.
- “ J. F. KINNEY, W. Grand Orator.
- “ L. P. GILLETTE, W. Grand Lecturer.
- “ G. B. GRAFF, W. Grand Marshal.
- “ G. W. WILKINSON, W. Senior Grand Deacon.
- “ S. D. BANGS, W. Junior Grand Deacon.
- “ AARON CAHN, W. Grand Tyler.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which being seconded by five members, was laid over under the law :

Resolved, That Article V. of the Constitution of the Grand □ of Nebraska be so amended as to add the following Grand officers: Grand Steward; Grand Sword Bearer; two Grand Pursuivants.

The following bond of Grand Treasurer, S. H. Jones, was presented and approved :

HALL OF GRAND □, PLATTSMOUTH, June 5, 1861.

Know all men by these presents, That we, S. H. Jones as principal and D. H. Wheeler and H. D. Mansfield, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand □ of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, assigns and each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, the said S. H. Jones has been elected Treasurer of the Grand □ of Nebraska for one year, now if the said Jones, shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as required by the Grand □ and pay over all moneys in his possession as Treasurer, to his successor in office, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

SAMUEL H. JONES,
D. H. WHEELER,
H. D. MANSFIELD.

The brethren of Plattsmouth having made arrangements for the Grand oration to be delivered in public, and the hour having arrived, the Grand □ called from labor, and repaired in procession to the court room, where the Grand Orator, Brother J. F. Kinney, delivered the following

ORATION.

Brethren of the Grand □, and Ladies and Gentlemen :

Time, in its ever onward course, has again brought together the Grand □ of Nebraska, and the honor of addressing it has been assigned to me. The subject selected, and appropriate to the occasion—Masonry—is vast, intricate and sublime, full of thought, replete with scientific and moral instruction. A subject so vast, cannot be comprehended in a single address. Time, and the circumstances under which you are assembled, will only justify a passing notice.

The most sublime exhibition of power ever revealed to man, was the creation of the heavens and the earth by the Divine will. This earth was spoken into existence, adapted to the habitation and wants of the human family. It is true, it was at first without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, but the Spirit of God moved upon the waters, and God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for

signs and for seasons, for days and for years, and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth; and it was so. And God made two great lights, the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also; and God saw that it was good.''

Here we see displayed the first exhibition of creative power. The earth moulded into form by the hand of the Almighty; suspended in the air without foundation or support. The sun, moon and stars hung in the heavens, and the Divine character that performed this most stupendous and wonderful work, has been, and is, by our order justly called the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Here we received our first lessons in both operative and speculative masonry.

In operative, as God created the heavens for His throne and especial abode, and placed man upon His footstool, the earth; so man, created in His image, should, in imitation of Him, erect temporal thrones or habitations, not only for the purpose of affording shelter and protection, but where he can more securely worship his Maker, and cultivate the faculties of the soul, thereby enabling him to understand and appreciate the wisdom and goodness of God.

Operative masonry and architecture are synonymous—simply meaning the science of building—and from it has arisen speculative masonry. As the earth germinates and forms the foundation of the towering oak, so speculative masonry was breathed into life by operative masonry; but, as the oak could not long exist without the aid of air, light, and the refreshing showers from heaven, so is speculative masonry dependent upon that Great Light, the Holy Bible, and moral and religious influences, for its growth and sustenance. In order that we may properly understand and appreciate that branch of masonry taught in all well-governed [] , we must dwell more at length upon operative masonry.

At an early day in the history of man, geometry or architecture, was encouraged and practiced; at first, it is true, imperfectly—the dwellings built and occupied being exceedingly rude, and scarcely affording shelter, but as the inhabitants of the earth increased in knowledge and wisdom, they made rapid advancement in the science of geometry or masonry. Adam, our great progenitor, after his expulsion from the Garden of Eden, built him an habitation. Cain, being instructed in the principles of architecture, built a city and called it *Dedicate*, or *Consecrate*. Other cities were built, and temples and edifices erected before the flood. The ark was built by the direction and under the supervision of the Almighty, strictly in accordance with the principles of masonry.

About one hundred years after the flood, "it came to pass, as the descendants of Noah journeyed from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly; and they made brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build a city, and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven. And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the children of men builded. And he confounded their language, and scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of the earth.'"

From this description given by the great luminary of masonry, the Holy Bible, the descendants of Noah were well skilled in masonry, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that they were scattered throughout the whole earth by Jehovah, for

the purpose of extending the science over the inhabited parts thereof. Following the science down to the building of King Solomon's temple, we find it penetrating all the corners of the globe inhabited by man. Temples and pyramids, with their crests pointing into the very heavens, standing for ages, monuments of wisdom and the skill attained in masonry. But nowhere does it appear in all its beauty, harmony and perfection as in the building of that temple, where operative masonry attained its name under the direction of the Supreme Architect, with the craftsmen presided over by King Solomon, our first Worshipful Master. King David had designed building a temple to the Lord, and for this purpose had amassed a large amount of treasure; but as his hands were stained with blood, he was not permitted by the Almighty to carry his designs into effect. It was reserved for his son, King Solomon, to erect this, the most remarkable edifice of ancient or modern times. Stupendous in design, perfect in execution, gorgeous in workmanship and adornment, proudly defying comparison, and mocking at competition, it stood forth the admiration of all beholders and the wonder of the world. Solomon King of Israel, Hiram King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff, a builder ("the widow's son"), a Tyrean by birth, but of Israelitish descent, were the three Grand Masters in the building of this incomparable structure. They were not only the three principal officers in superintending the work, but they occupied the three stations in the \square of Master Masons which was there fully inaugurated; and from the designs laid down on the masonic trestle-board, in the middle chamber, where the craftsmen assembled each day, was the entire edifice constructed. In addition to these Grand Masters, there were engaged upon the temple three thousand three hundred Master Masons, eighty thousand Fellow-Crafts, and seventy thousand Entered Apprentices. Seven years were occupied in its building; and so much was the work favored by the Almighty, that in the entire time no rain fell during the day to interrupt the workmen. There was not heard the sound of axe, hammer, or tool of metal, the stones of the edifice having been hewed, squared, and numbered in the quarries where they were raised; the timbers felled and prepared in the forests of Lebanon, and conveyed by floats to Joppa, whence they were taken to Jerusalem, and put together by means of wooden mauls; and when raised, they fitted with such exact nicety, that the building, when completed, had more the appearance of the handiwork of the Supreme Being than that of human hands.

Whatever, my brethren, may be the speculations of masons as to the origin of our order antecedent to this period, there can be no doubt about the fact that a \square was fully organized by the three Grand Masters mentioned, with King Solomon, the wisest of all men, as its presiding officer. In the building of this temple, dedicated to the Most High, operative and speculative masonry were combined; and while the cement, uniting the marble, forming it into one solid mass, was spread by the craftsmen, the cement of brotherly love was spread among the Master Masons by the three Grand Masters, so that the heart of all became as the heart of one man. King Solomon, being the acknowledged founder of our order, our \square were anciently dedicated to him; but since the death of St. John the Evangelist, an eminent patron and supporter of masonry, they have been dedicated to that holy evangelist.

Truly we may claim antiquity for our institution. We find it flourishing three thousand years ago, adorned with those three christian and masonic virtues, Faith, Hope, and Charity—the greatest of which is Charity; for faith may be lost in sight, hope ends in fruition, but *charity* endures beyond the grave. The order has flourished in all parts and ages of the civilized world, from that time to the present. It has embraced within its ample folds men of all nations, kindreds and tongues, under the whole heavens. The king upon his throne, the bishop from the sacred desk, the priest, the scholar, the poet, statesman, historian, philosopher and hero, have all drank from the same fountain; all bowed before the same altar, passed through the same trying ordeal, worshipped at the same shrine, and been taught the same lesson—“*Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.*” Prominent among its members are the names of St. Austin, Alfred, Prince Edwin, James I., Frederick the Great, Newton, Locke, Essex, Woolsey, Howard, Wren, Napoleon, Lafayette, Marshal Blucher, Cowper, and Burns; and among our own notable men, we proudly point to Washington—“first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen”—Warren, Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Hancock, Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry, Clinton, Livingston, Tompkins, Franklin, Marshall, and Jackson, and to the honored names of Greene, Knox, Lee, Montgomery, Gates, and every other American general of the revolution, save the traitor Arnold, who attempted to sell his country, and in doing so sold himself to eternal infamy and disgrace. With such illustrious supporters and patrons; with the Holy Bible always open upon the altar of every \square , sending forth its scintillations of light to the remotest corner of the hall, as the sun in the heavens diffusing light and life upon the earth; the working tools and symbols of the \square either representing some christian and masonic virtue, or constantly reminding the brother of his mortality, and the way to gain admittance into the Grand \square above; it is not strange that good and holy men are found within the portals of our ancient and honorable fraternity, nor is it strange that the order has withstood the ravages of time.

The ancient temple of King Solomon has crumbled into ruins; obelisks and pyramids, built for the purpose of defying the mutations and decay of ages; temples and cities perfected by the science of masonry (the glory and pride of the world for centuries), have gone to decay since our order has had a name and place upon the earth. Nay, *nations* have risen and fallen, kingdoms and empires established and overthrown; but the *order* still survives—the most ancient, the most honorable, and the most humane, since the foundation of the earth.

Our order has been patronized by the great and good of all ages and nations, who have delighted to honor it with their presence and influence. It has withstood the fiercest persecution, and triumphed over the vilest slanders of bad and designing men, producing as little effect as the troubled and angry waters casting up mire and dirt as they dash against the defiant rock. Such is the general history and outline of the order we have met to commemorate.

For the information of those present who are not initiated into the mysteries of masonry, we propose to point out more specially its object: First, it is not in any sense, nor has it ever been, a political organization. Politics are never permitted to cross the threshold of a well-tyled \square . The brethren cannot take with

them into the "holy of holies," or the place representing the innermost parts of King Solomon's temple, their political notions or creeds. Neither is there, nor can there be, any disposition to obtrude upon the □ political subjects. The place is so sacred, the exercises and lectures so pure and elevated, the object so refined and christian in character, as of necessity to exclude from the minds of the members while assembled, all political sentiment. As well, and with the same propriety, might the subject be introduced by the members of any evangelical church, when convened upon the Sabbath to listen to the words of salvation. With an experience of over twenty years, as a mason, and during that time passing through some fierce and exciting political contests, I can truthfully assert that I never heard the subject of politics mentioned in the □, nor was I ever requested to vote for a candidate because he was a mason. Second—it is not a sectarian institution. As with politics, so with religion, the members are allowed to enjoy their own opinions. Among masons are to be found men of all religious views. Scarcely a church in christendom that is not represented in our ancient and honorable fraternity; and all here, as nowhere else, find a platform broad enough, long enough and firm enough, for the different sects of the whole religious world to stand upon and preach from, which, my friends, is the *Holy Bible*, the inestimable gift of God to man. Masonry has accomplished that which the christian churches have failed to do—united, harmonized and cemented sects and creeds that were, and would otherwise have remained at variance. In masonry, all bow before the same altar, believe in the same Bible, worship the same God, and conjointly engage in the same work of mercy—"Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth." No one can become a mason unless he believes in the existence of a Supreme Being, and that the Bible is His revealed will to man. This is the only religious test required. But, my friends, because the order is not sectarian, do not infer that is not a co-worker in the cause of religion. What virtue was more thoroughly taught and enforced by the early christians, than charity? The Apostle Paul well said, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal; and though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge: and though I have all faith so that I could remove mountains and have not *charity*, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself; seeketh not her own; is not easily provoked; thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity; but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things; believeth all things; hopeth all things; endureth all things. And now abideth Faith, Hope, Charity—these three; but the greatest of these is charity." These three christian virtues form the three principal rounds in the ladder by which all good masons expect to reach heaven—faith in God, hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind. Nothing more distinguishes our order than charity, as understood in its most comprehensive sense. Not mere alms-giving or contributing of our substances to relieve the physical wants of a distressed brother—although this is strictly enjoined and sedulously practiced by all good masons—but a charity that embraces the whole human family; and while we administer to all needy and destitute persons, according to our means, we, at the

same time palliate and forgive the errors and imperfections of human nature everywhere. Charity was that divine and infinite love which induced the Father to send the Son into the world to die, "the just for the unjust, that we might live." It was charity that forgave the thief upon the cross, and gave to him, in his hour of trial and death, the merciful assurance—"this day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." It was charity in its most sublime and impressive form when our Saviour, suffering torture upon the cross from the hands of cruel and wicked men, exclaimed, in his last beseeching and earnest prayer—"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!" This is charity in its purest, highest, holiest attribute,—loving, forgiving, comforting charity, which we as masons inculcate and endeavor to practice. "Do good unto all men, more especially unto the household of the faithful," is not only Bible but masonic charity, and embraces the very object of our order. Could we unseal the great masonic record of the past three thousand years and witness the secret charities ever flowing from this fountain of love—the suffering brethren it has comforted—the sick it has restored—the houses of misery and want it has visited and cheered—the widows and orphans it has supported—the children it has educated—the fatal blow it has suspended—the wounded upon the battlefield it has nursed and saved—the dying it has rescued—the female virtue it has protected—oh! could we but obtain a glimpse of the human suffering relieved by masonic charity, methinks a voice would be heard from the burning bush, speaking to us as to Moses: "Take off thy shoes, for the ground on which thou standest is holy." Many individual instances might be referred to to illustrate this great principle in masonry,—one only I will mention, not because it is particularly striking, but because it fell under my own observation. A few years since, while traveling in a crowded car of one of our eastern railroads, a passenger was taken suddenly and violently sick—his groanings must have been distinctly heard by those occupying seats near him, but with that selfishness which is proverbial on the cars, no attention was paid to the sick stranger. His sickness increased until it caused alarm. It was soon evident that he was suffering from an attack of cholera. This, of course, frightened all near the unfortunate traveler, and their seats were suddenly vacated. In the confusion, a single individual actuated by charity, was attracted to the sick man, who soon observed a ring on his finger bearing the mystic and significant emblem of the order. The news was at once spread that a brother was in distress, and the friends gathered around, anxious to relieve him. It was said that he could not live, but the brethren were unwilling to give him up without a vigorous effort. The train was immediately stopped and backed to a city some miles behind—medical attendance procured,—that, and brotherly love did their work, and in a few hours the relieved brother was traveling with his companions, rejoicing in that "charity which suffereth long and is kind; which seeketh not her own; is not easily provoked; beareth all things; endureth all things," and with an additional evidence of the blessings of Freemasonry. No one has more reason to be thankful to masonic charity than he who addresses you—having had his life saved by the kind brethren, the circumstances of which I have just related. Charity, then, is the ruling virtue of our order. It is true it has its lesser lights revol-

ing around it, as has the sun, but as these all borrow their light from the luminary, so are all our other virtues illuminated by the light of charity, as taught by the Divine Revelation, the great light in masonry.

Some of you may be curious to learn why the members appear clothed with aprons usually adorned with emblems. These are silent, constant teachers of moral truths, as well as connecting links between operative and speculative masonry. In the □, the brethren all wear a lambskin or white apron. This is constantly to remind them of that purity of life and conduct which is so essentially necessary to their gaining admission into the celestial □ above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides. From the working tools of operative masons, we derive the following instruction:

“The Twenty-four-inch Gauge is an instrument made use of to measure and lay out the work; but we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of dividing our time. It being divided into twenty-four equal parts, is emblematical of the twenty-four hours of the day, which we are taught to divide into three equal parts; whereby we find a part for the service of God and a distressed worthy brother, a part for our usual avocations, and a part for refreshment and sleep.

“The common Gavel is used to break off the rough and superfluous parts of stones, the better to fit them for the builder’s use; but we are taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious purpose of divesting our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our bodies as living stones for that spiritual building, ‘that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.’

“The Plumb is made use of to try perpendiculars; the Square to square the work; the Level to prove horizontals. But the plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, squaring our actions by the square of virtue, ever remembering that we are traveling upon the level of time, to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler ever returns.

“The Trowel is used by operative masons to spread the cement which unites the building into one common mass; but we are taught to use it for the purpose of spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection, that cement which unites us as one sacred band or society of friends and brothers.”

In addition to these, the Pot of Incense, the Bee-Hive, the Sword, the All-seeing Eye, the Anchor and Ark, the Spade and Coffin, the Hour-Glass and Scythe, are emblems of our order, and all inculcate solemn and useful lessons.

But it is said that ours is a *secret* society. This is a stale and oft-repeated objection, and at this day almost unworthy an answer. Go, objector, and lay your complaints before the United States Senate. Reorganize and change that body, as that is a secret assembly, with closed doors, whenever engaged in executive session. When you have accomplished this, visit the presidential mansion, and break up the secret cabinet meetings; throw open the doors of the white house, and make all the proceedings of the president and his cabinet public. While engaged in your good work of reform, visit all the grand jury rooms of the country, for you will find them occupied by a body of men who have taken a solemn oath to conduct all their deliberations in secret, and keep

whatever may occur before them, veiled from the public. Do not weary in well-doing, or faint while engaged in a supposed good cause. Throw open the doors that lead to the "love feast," where the spirit of the Most High is often copiously manifested, and overthrow this custom of our Methodist brethren. In the prosecution of your efforts, enter and destroy the secrecy and sanctity of the family circle, and publish them upon the housetops; destroy and prevent all secret correspondence, and, in place of allowing people to *think*, compel them to *talk*, so that every thought may be known. When you have overthrown all the secret societies and institutions of men, and exposed all that is said, done and written, to the hearing and gaze of the whole world, your work of reform has scarcely commenced. So far, you have only been dealing with the works of man. The Supreme Being is veiled in mystery; His ways are inscrutable and past finding out; His counsels are secret, and not revealed to the children of men. *Who* can penetrate His secret thoughts, or even have the courage to break down the partition wall between himself and the grave, to explore the hidden mysteries that God has wisely concealed? *Who* could endure the sight, and live? God, heaven, eternity, our immortal spirits, are all secrets, which we can neither see nor fully understand. Well did the poet exclaim—

"Lord, how mysterious are Thy ways!
How blind are we! how mean our praise!
Thy steps no mortal eyes explore;
'T is ours to wonder and adore.

Thy purposes, from creature sight,
Are hid in shades of awful night;
Amid the lines, with curious eye,
Not angel minds presume to pry."

But, in your opposition to our order, on the ground that it is a secret society, do not forget that its object is charity, as here defined, including alms-giving. We think we have divine authority for performing this christian duty in secret. He who taught as never man taught, said: "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them; otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore, when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily, I say unto you, they have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth, that thine alms may be in secret, and thy Father, which seeth in secret, Himself shall reward thee openly." This constitutes Freemasonry a secret society; and in encouraging, sustaining, and carrying out charity in its broadest sense, consist the secrets of the order. How often do we hear the remark, "The cold charity of the world!" and how many suffering widows and orphans can, alas! bear testimony to the truth of the remark. To remedy this evil, so far as possible, to enlist, concentrate and intensify the sympathies, is the great object of masonry.

Companions and brethren of the Grand \square , I cannot close this address, without calling your attention to the circumstances under which you are assembled, and your duty, as masons.

In 1855, the seeds of our order were first planted on the west side of the

Missouri river, (at Bellevue,) by a handful of devoted brothers, and a dispensation granted by the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand of Illinois, with Bro. L. B. Kinney as its Master, L. L. Bowen and A. Lockwood as its Senior and Junior Wardens. The country being inhabited mostly by Indians, the soil was very unpropitious for its growth, but it was fertilized by the constant care, labor and expense of faithful brethren, who skillfully applying the working tools of the craft, soon enabled it to produce fruit. None but those experienced in organizing in sparsely populated settlements, can be aware of the perseverance, and I may add, self-abnegation required. But such is the love for the order that no brother feels as though he had a home, a shelter from the cold and cheerless atmosphere of the world, until he is safely lodged within the halls of devoted friends, where, if distressed, he will be relieved; naked, clothed; hungry, fed; and sick, comforted. Hence, we find, in this new territory within six years, six organized and successfully at work and all represented in this Grand at this its fifth Annual Communication.

The circumstances under which you have assembled are, in one respect, painfully peculiar. That government which was given to us by our fathers is in disorder, "wounded in the house of its friends," and a rebellious effort is being made to overthrow it. Ruthless hands are stretched forth to tear from our national escutcheon the "stars and stripes," fashioned and planted by the father of his country—the synonym of victory whenever unfurled upon the battle-field. The work of the revolution is sought to be destroyed, the ashes of her patriots desecrated, the achievements and progress of three-fourths of a century in the cause of human liberty blotted out. The rainbow of hope and promise to millions of the down-trodden of the old world has suddenly been overshadowed by dark and portentous clouds in the South, which, while emitting lurid, frightful lightnings, send forth peals of thunder, threatening an overthrow of our happy government by a deluge of blood.

In this hour of our country's peril, what is the duty of the entire masonic fraternity of the country? Every true mason has no difficulty in answering this question. On entering the very threshold of masonry, you promise to be a quiet, peaceful subject, true to your country. You promise not to countenance disloyalty or rebellion, but patiently submit to legal authority, and conform with cheerfulness to the government of the country in which you live. This obligation you cannot throw off; loyalty to your government is next in importance to fidelity to your God. Both are taught and should be rigidly enforced by our order. No mason can conscientiously take up arms against his government; if he does, he forfeits the friendship and protection of all good masons. I do not hesitate to hazard the remark, that the large conservative element of the Southern States is composed chiefly of masons, and of the three hundred and fifty thousand brethren in the Northern States, far more than their proportion, according to their population, have rushed to the defense of our glorious republic. Brethren, let me exhort you to remain steadfast supporters of the government, and if necessary for its protection, exchange the gavel for the musket, the trowel for the sword, and labor according to the designs which may be laid down upon the military trestle-board, in perpetuating the civil and religious liberties handed down to us by our fathers and brethren of the revolution. In that great strug-

gle it was no unusual thing for Washington and his compatriots in arms to assemble in some secure tent, open a □, offer up their devotions to Deity, and draw their designs upon the trestle-board of the ensuing day. In this way were our liberties achieved, and, by the co-operation of masons, may they be maintained. But, my brethren, we ought to be fervent in our prayers to the Almighty to avert the deplorable necessity of civil war. A war with a foreign power should be dreaded as the pestilence that walketh at noonday, but in comparison to the evils of a fratricidal war, it is but as a gentle storm to the desolating tornado which buries friends and families in the ruins of one common grave. Who can paint upon the canvas of the imagination, even a faint picture of the horrors of such a war? To do justice to the subject, the battle-field must be the easel; the great heart of the American people the canvas; contending and intrepid armies of brothers, the artists; the sword the pencil; the background the tears of broken hearts; the coloring and shading, the bravest blood that ever fell upon battle-field.

Take this picture, place it in a frame gilded with the sighs and sufferings of widows and orphans; suspend it upon the broken column of our falling republic so that the spirit of Washington, draped in mourning, may point to it as the bitter result of internal strife against which he warned the American people in his farewell address, and as all that remains of our glorious heritage; then you will have some faint conception of the horrors of civil war that are now being forced upon us. Cannot the masons of the United States, by concert of action, stay the hand of the desolator, and turn back the mighty flood? Already propositions have been made by some of the Grand Masters of the Southern States for the accomplishment of this great object. Allow me to recommend the passage of a resolution, calling a National Convention of the fraternity to hold up the falling column, and cement more closely the bonds of brotherly love. Great results have often been attained by the use of feeble means. Oh! how can brother meet brother in deadly conflict upon the field? Would not the same voice speak to us as to Cain: "What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth to me from the ground."

But, my brethren, let our hopes and prayers be that we may be spared this painful duty, and, if obliged to go forth to sustain the honor of that flag which is the pride of every true American, may we do so in the strength of Israel's God, actuated by no spirit of revenge, and satisfied to exchange the implements of war for the more peaceful ones of the craft, as soon as the honor of the country shall be fully restored.

Finally, let me exhort you to be true to the high trust confided to you as masons; not only to learn well your lesson, but to exemplify, in your lives, the principles of the order. Cultivate the heart; this is the seat of all masonry. Unless the affections are refined and expanded so as to embrace the whole human family, and produce the fruits of brotherly love, your masonry is as "sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." May you discharge every religious, national and masonic duty in life, so that when the Supreme Architect of the Universe shall call for you, you may be prepared to obey the summons, and become "living stones in that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

After the delivery of the address, the following named Grand Officers elect were publicly installed into their respective offices; R.: W.: Henry Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master; M.: W.: George Armstrong, Grand Master, and W.: G. B. Graff, Grand Marshal, officiating:

- Brother GEORGE ARMSTRONG, M.: W.: Grand Master.
- “ L. B. KINNEY, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master.
- “ D. H. WHEELER, R.: W.: Senior Grand Warden.
- “ H. C. BLACKMAN, R.: W.: Junior Grand Warden.
- “ S. H. JONES, R.: W.: Grand Treasurer.
- “ R. W. FURNAS, R.: W.: Grand Secretary.
- “ HENRY BROWN, W.: Grand Chaplain.
- “ J. F. KINNEY, W.: Grand Orator.
- “ L. P. GILLETTE, W.: Grand Lecturer.
- “ G. B. GRAFF, W.: Grand Marshal.
- “ G. W. WILKINSON, W.: Senior Grand Deacon.
- “ S. D. BANGS, W.: Junior Grand Deacon.
- “ AARON CAHN, W.: Grand Tyler.

After which the Grand □ returned to the hall, and was called to labor, M.: W.: Grand Master Armstrong in the East, and the newly-installed officers at their stations.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the order are due and are hereby tendered Brother Kinney for the very able and excellent address delivered on this occasion.

Resolved, That this Grand □ request of the orator, Brother Kinney, a copy of the address for publication with the proceedings of this Grand □.

No further business appearing, the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska was closed in peace and harmony.

Prayer by the W.: Grand Chaplain.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

ROBERT W. FURNAS, *Grand Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

L. B. Kinney, W. M.	Thomas Clifton, Treas.	Lewis Driskell, J. D.
David Leach, S. W.	Joseph E. Pray, Sec'y.	S. W. Y. Schimonsky, Tyler.
Louis F. Bartels, J. W.	J. M. Whitted, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

L. B. Kinney,	David Leach.	Silas A. Strickland,
Henry T. Clarke,	Stephen D. Bangs,	Thomas Clifton,
J. M. Whitted,	Thomas Boyer,	S. W. Y. Schimonsky,
Stephen H. Wattles,	Joseph E. Pray,	Lewis Driskell,
John Q. Goss,	Lyman S. Latham,	J. H. Preston,
C. D. Keller,	Louis F. Bartels,	Juo. A. Nye.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

Samuel G. Beman,	John N. Chase.
------------------	----------------

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

Stated meetings: Friday preceding the full moon in each month.

OFFICERS.

Lee P. Gillette, W. M.	John H. Maxon, Treas'r.	Solon N. Johnson, J. D.
Fountain Pearman, S. W.	Robert Lorton, Sec'y.	Wm. E. Hill, Steward.
Harvey C. Blackman, J. W.	Henry Brown, S. D.	G. H. Hail, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Sylvester Redfield,	H. N. Cornell,	Geo. W. Bailey,
I. L. Gibbs,	Edward Henry,	G. H. Hail,
W. W. Soper,	John B. Bennett,	J. S. Place,
T. E. Thompson,	John F. Kinney,	S. P. Sibley,
John H. Maxon,	Henry Brown,	Wm. H. Brodhead,
C. W. Wyatt,	H. B. Horton,	G. G. Gillette.
John A. Goodlett,	D. H. Warran,	W. C. Ransom,
Chas. F. Holly,	W. L. Boydston,	Andrew Beardsley,
H. C. Blackman,	W. E. Hill,	Daniel Whiting,
J. S. Carr,	Samuel Henderson,	S. M. Johnson,
George W. Sroat,	Joseph F. Bennett,	J. F. Hoyle,
W. Bradway,	S. F. Nuckolls,	Peter Y. Morse,
Stephen Kent,	H. J. Kent,	Wm. E. Pardee,
Alfred Mathias,	Albert Tuxberry,	Robert Lorton,
William Anderson,	Geo. A. Gillette,	J. B. Boulware,
H. P. Downs,	W. P. Birchfield,	Lee P. Gillette.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Robert R. Andrews, Joseph Saunders, Lewis C. Davenport.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

A. G. Cavans,	M. Mahan,	J. F. Hoyle,
Edward Smith,	Chas. F. Holly,	Daniel H. Warran,
H. B. Horton,	R. H. Miller,	William H. Brodhead,
W. W. Soper,	William Dorsey,	John C. Campbell,
Thomas Donohoo,	Geo. W. Boulware,	H. P. Downs,
John Boulware,	H. B. Baker,	J. C. Cook,
Simon Hooper,	C. A. Goshen.	J. P. Cook.

REINSTATED.

William Anderson,	M. Mahan,	J. F. Hoyle,
Edward Smith,	Chas. F. Holly,	Daniel H. Warran,
H. B. Horton,	R. H. Miller,	Wm. H. Brodhead,
H. B. Baker,	S. Hooper,	John C. Campbell,
W. W. Soper,	John Boulware,	H. P. Downs.

WITHDRAWN.

Isaac Chivington, Geo. M. Smith,

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Monday on or before each full moon.

OFFICERS.

Elias G. Sears, W. M.	P. H. Windheim, Treas.	Ernest A. Frenzell, J. D.
Aaron Cahn, S. W.	Robert C. Jordan, Sec'y.	James F. Taylor, Tyler
Geo. W. Forbes, J. W.	John Logan, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

George Armstrong,	E. A. Allen,	James E. Boyd,
E. H. Clark,	Aaron Cahn,	Wm. A. Demarest,
Geo. W. Forbes,	Addison R. Gillmore,	Joel T. Griffin,
Charles W. Hamilton,	Gustavus A. Hess.	M. Hellman,
Robert C. Jordan,	A. D. Jones,	Lorin Miller,
John Logan,	Francis Lusignan,	James G. Mcgeath,
S. M. Owens,	Jno. R. Porter	J. W. Pattison,
P. A. Preston.	Samuel E. Rogers,	John Peck,
Augustus Roeder,	John H. Sahler,	E. A. Frenzell,
H. G. Spencer,	Charles Turner,	James F. Taylor,
Philip H. Windheim,	H. H. Vischer,	James K. Wall,
Elias G. Sears,	William Ruth,	A. J. Emery,
E. V. Smith,	H. P. Deuel,	James K. Ish.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Francis G. Beeker, A. J. Harman,

REINSTATED.

A. A. Egbert, George L. Miller

WITHDRAWN.

Nelson Baker,	George L. Miller,	T. H. Dodd,
Geo. W. Kassler,	A. D. Luce,	Frank L. Kemp.
Hiram P. Bennett.		

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Robert W. Furnas, W. M.	R. T. Rainey, Treasurer.	David Siegel, J. D.
G. W. Bratton, S. W.	John L. Colhapp, Sec'y.	John W. Bennett, Tyler.
T. W. Bedford, J. W.	J. C. Aylsworth, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

G. W. Bratton,	David Seigle,	U. C. Johnson,
C. W. Wheeler,	R. T. Rainey,	Robert W. Furnas,
Franklin Ferguson,	T. W. Bedford,	L. E. Lyanna,
J. C. Aylsworth,	A. H. Alderman,	Jesse Noel,
Jer. Marlott.	W. W. Keeling,	George Crow,
O. B. Hewett.	D. J. Martin,	C. S. Langdon,
Frederick Marlott.	J. L. Colhapp,	John W. Bennett.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

J. W. Swan,	Aaron Conner.
-------------	---------------

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

M. C. Kelly.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

J. B. Wells.

WITHDRAWN.

J. C. Cline,	Henry Beane,	A. O. B. Kelley,
A. J. Richardson,	Adrian Hoblitzell,	William Hoblitzell.
J. M. Cotton,		

OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI, DAKOTAH COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Saturday on or before full moon.

OFFICERS.

G. W. Wilkinson, W. M.	Alexander Ford, Treas.	M. Pinkerton, J. D.
Asa Rathburn, S. W.	J. H. Hallack, Sec'y.	W. A. Amsbury, Steward.
Amos Lamson, J. W.	A. H. Baker, S. D.	Harlan Baird, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

J. H. Hallack,	W. C. McBeath,	M. Pinkerton,
Harlan Baird,	Thomas C. Ryan,	Alexander Ford,
Geo. W. Wilkinson,	A. H. Baker,	Asa Rathburn.
William Cheney,	Geo. B. Graff,	William Henderson.
T. M. K. Munhall,	Wm. A. Amsbury,	J. N. H. Patrick.
A. Lamson,		

REINSTATED.

Henry M. Hale.

WITHDRAWN.

Thomas McDermott,	Stephen Ulrey,	W. D. Smith,
H. M. Hale.		

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

D. H. Wheeler, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	Charles. H. Wolcott, J. D.
Jno. W. Marshall, S. W.	Samuel H. Jones, Sec'y.	James Minchell, Tyler.
H. D. Mansfield, J. W.	Elbert T. Duke, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

D. H. Wheeler,	Wm. B. Porter,	Thomas K. Hanna,
John C. Cummins,	Enos Williams,	Joseph Harper,
James Minchell,	Thomas J. Jones.	W. D. McCord,
Samuel H. Elbert,	Samuel Hanna,	Wm. B. Warbritton,
Samuel H. Jones,	E. T. Duke,	H. D. Mansfield,
George Parks,	Loudon Mullen,	C. H. Wolcott,
W H. Spratlin.	Joseph Schlater,	R. R. Livingston.
John W. Marshall,		

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Samuel R. Johnson,	J. D. Simpson,	T. M. Marquett,
William Garrison.		

WITHDRAWN.

E. A. Donelan,	A. H. Barker,	William J. Young.
----------------	---------------	-------------------

At Rest:

Brother E. G. LAMSON, Omadi □, No. 5.

“ P. G. PETERSON, Capital □. No. 3.

“ AUGUSTUS HALL, Nebraska □, No. 1.

“ FOUNTAIN PEARMAN, Western Star □, No. 2.

THE HISTORY OF THE

ISLAND

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT OMAHA, JUNE 3, A. L. 5862.

FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, June 3, 1862.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its fifth Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Omaha, this day. There were present the following

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. W. : GEO. ARMSTRONG, Grand Master.
R. W. : L. B. KINNEY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. : D. H. WHEELER, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. : S. REDFIELD, as Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. : J. W. MARSHALL, as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. : R. C. JORDAN, as Grand Secretary.
W. : HENRY BROWN, Grand Chaplain.
W. : L. P. GILLETTE, Grand Lecturer.
W. : G. B. GRAFF, Grand Marshal.
W. : G. W. WILKINSON, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. : S. D. BANGS, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. : AARON CAHN, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. W. : Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

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

On Oredentials—Brothers Jordan, Gillette and Graff.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Brothers Brown, Redfield and Spencer.

Brother Jordan, from committee on Credentials, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials find the following in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA , No. 1—L. B. Kinney, 1; David Leach, 1; Joseph E. Pray, 1.

WESTERN STAR , No. 2—Henry Brown, 1; J. A. Goodlett, 1; S. Redfield, 1.

CAPITAL , No. 3—R. C. Jordan, 1; H. G. Spencer, 1; John Logan, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY , No. 4—Not represented.

OMADI , No. 5—G. W. Wilkinson, 1; G. B. Graff, 1; A. H. Jackson, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH , No. 6—D. H. Wheeler, 1; J. W. Marshall, 1; E. C. Adams, 1.

The committee also find the following Grand Officers present and entitled to seats, and one vote each:

M. W. Geo. Armstrong, Grand Master.

R. W. L. B. Kinney, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. D. H. Wheeler, Senior Grand Warden.

W. L. P. Gillette, Grand Lecturer.

W. Henry Brown, Grand Chaplain.

W. G. B. Graff, Grand Marshal.

W. G. W. Wilkinou, Senior Grand Deacon.

W. S. D. Bangs, Junior Grand Deacon.

W. Aaron Cahn, Grand Tyler.

Also, Past Grand Master R. C. Jordan, and Past Deputy Grand Master Henry Brown.

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
L. P. GILLETTE,
G. B. GRAFF. } Committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

A constitutional number of being represented the M. W. Grand Master appointed the following officers, in accordance with the By-Laws:

Brother E. C. Adams, Grand Steward.

Brother A. H. Jackson, Grand Sword Bearer.

Brothers J. E. Pray and John Logan, Grand Pursuivants.

The W. Grand Marshal then, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, made proclamation that the M. W. Grand of Nebraska was duly opened for the dispatch of business.

The M. W. Grand Master then appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

- On Accounts*—Brothers Redfield, Leach and Graff.
On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Gillette, Kinney and Wilkinson.
On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Jordan, Bangs and Wheeler.
On Ways and Means—Brothers Marshall, Jackson and Goodlett.
On Charity—Brothers Wilkinson, Adams and Pray.
On Grievances—Brothers Wheeler, Logan and Graff.
On Unfinished Business—Brothers Bangs, Adams and Kinney.
On Pay Roll—Brothers Jordan, Marshall and Brown.
On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Redfield, Jordan and Kinney.
On School Fund—Brothers Brown, Leach and Jackson.
On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Gillette, Spencer and Wilkinson.
On Visitors—Brothers Redfield, Goodlett and Jackson.

On motion of Brother Wilkinson, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing are hereby invited to witness the deliberations of this Grand ☐.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

By permission of our Supreme Grand Master we have again assembled in Annual Communication for the interchange of brotherly greetings, to counsel together for the benefit of the masonic institution, and to draw such designs for the craft as may be required in the pursuit of their labors and in disseminating the pure and ennobling principles of our order. Our grateful thanks should ascend to Him for the manifold blessings we have received. Disease nor death have visited us, and the fruits of the earth have been bountifully yielded for our "nourishment, refreshment and joy." Among the brethren, harmony, the strength and support of all societies, prevails; and our ☐ are flourishing in a greater degree than we could have anticipated in the present distracted state of the nation. The prosperity and usefulness of most, if not all, of them, have been somewhat retarded by the absence of members who have answered their country's call and are now fighting under the old flag for the restoration and integrity of the government; yet we have progressed to an unexpected extent, and the number of initiates, during the past year, will compare favorably with that of any preceding year.

While the harmonious condition of our subordinate ☐, for whose advancement we have met to deliberate, excites within our breasts emotions of pleasure, the absence of familiar faces sadly reminds us of the continued discordant and wretched condition of our beloved country. The blood-stained banner of war still waves aloft in the fratricidal contest, and the horrid spectacle which excited our most poignant grief a year ago, has been rendered more ghastly by the many bloody tragedies which have succeeded. In vain have our fraternity stretched forth their hands to calm the troubled waves of civil strife. The gentle counsels of masonry are unavailing. When I laid before you, at our last

session, the circular of our Tennessee brethren, asking our co-operation in a peaceful solution of our national difficulties, you responded to the appeal by adopting a resolution recommending that a national masonic convention be held in the city of Washington, in December, "to take into consideration the deplorable state of the country, and co-operate in endeavoring to cement more closely the bonds of fraternal love among the brethren North and South, and to do all in their power to restore the government to its proper position by a re-union of all the States." A similar masonic convention was proposed at Louisville, Kentucky, by Past Grand Masters hailing from the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana and Massachusetts, who invited "the present and Past Grand Masters of all the Grand [] of Freemasons in all the States," to meet in Louisville, "to recommend some plan to heal the woes of the country, or to make suggestions which may lead to such a result." I have yet to learn whether either of these propositions have been favorably entertained by the masonic authorities of other States; and if the proposed convention which was to have met in Louisville on the 23d of October last, was held, I have not been informed of its action. These laudable projects may have been, on maturer consideration, deemed unfeasible and never carried into execution. There is no line of policy I can conceive of which the masonic fraternity could advise, that would be mutually acquiesced in by the belligerent parties, and I coincide in the views of the Grand Master of New York, "that the relations of masonry to the civil governments, both of the United States and the so-called Confederate States, are not such as to permit its interference with any line of policy either may see fit to adopt." To Him "who doeth all things well," therefore, must we leave the solution of the great calamity which now afflicts our nation. May the bright sun of peace soon dispel the thick clouds which now overshadow our beloved land, and send his cheering rays again upon a peaceful, united and happy people.

During the past year I have granted dispensations for the formation of two new [], namely: Peru [], at the town of Peru, in Nemaha County, and Decatur [], in the town of Decatur, in Burt County.

A dispensation was also issued soon after our last Communication, authorizing Past Master J. M. Chivington to organize and install the officers of Summit [], No. 7, and Rocky Mountain [], No. 8, in the Territory of Colorado, under the charters granted by this Grand []. The Grand [] of Colorado having since been organized, these [] are no longer within the jurisdiction of this body. In this connection I may state that the "Proceedings of the Masonic Convention to organize the Grand [] of Colorado Territory," are herewith presented for such action as you may deem proper, to recognize and welcome our Colorado brethren into the family of Grand [].

In April last I granted a dispensation authorizing the Master and Wardens of Western Star [] to confer the second and third degrees on several brethren who were moving westward and had not sufficient time to comply with the requirements of the fourth and ninth rules for the government of subordinate []. Being reluctant to grant dispensations in such cases, the brethren of that [] were strictly enjoined to see that these newly admitted brethren were properly instructed before commencing their travels. It is not only great injustice to the

novice thus to send him forth without the ability to work or prove himself a mason, giving him no equivalent for his pecuniary outlay, but it is calculated to degrade our institution in the minds of those from whom light has been withheld, and who are incapable of appreciating the most valuable tenets of our profession, or of availing themselves of the advantages of fraternal intercourse.

In December last I installed the officers of Nebraska \square , No. 1, at Bellevue, and Capital \square , No. 3, at Omaha. In the former the ceremonies were public, and addresses were delivered by Deputy Grand Master L. B. Kinney and Brother J. Q. Goss.

Some progress has been made in effecting a uniformity of work in the subordinate \square . Our Grand Lecturer, who holds a commission in the Nebraska regiment of Volunteers, having been absent a greater part of the year, Brother S. Redfield, at my request, has acted in his stead; but only two or three of the \square have had the benefit of his services, from the pecuniary inability of the brethren and the lack of Grand \square funds for that purpose. The system of work which is now so generally recognized as the true and ancient work, and which was adopted at our last Communication for the regulation of the craft of this jurisdiction, is strictly followed and adhered to in "Western Star," "Capital," and "Plattsburgh" \square ; and in several of the others some progress has been made in its elucidation. I trust that during the coming year still greater exertions will be made by the brethren to acquire a perfect knowledge of our beautiful ritual. The more I see the "Webb Work" exemplified, the more I learn of its history and examine the unbroken chain by which it has descended to us from the early fathers, through Webb, Gleason, Fowle and Barney, to the venerable Wilson, of Vermont, who still lives to supply the link between the present generation and the past, the more am I satisfied that it is the genuine Ancient Craft Masonry, and commend your wisdom in adopting it. Then let the Masters of our \square in drawing their designs for the craft, consult the trestle-boards of these accomplished artists, and let the brethren generally avail themselves of the services of those who are qualified to give instruction in accordance with these designs.

A great auxiliary in securing a uniformity of work will be found in the adoption of a uniform text-book. Masonic hand-books are almost as numerous as the \square , and differing materially, as they do, in the arrangement of the work, in the illustrations of the emblems, and in many instances, in the forms of expression, are calculated to confuse and mislead, rather than assist in the elucidation of the work. "The Freemason's Monitor" I consider the best book of the kind that could be adopted for the use of our \square , being conveniently arranged and illustrated, and perfectly agreeing in its phraseology with the esoteric instructions we are seeking to restore. It contains, also, a synopsis of masonic law, a variety of useful forms, odes, etc., indispensable to the Master and his \square , and invaluable to every brother desirous of improving himself in masonry.

Impressed with the paramount importance of early securing a uniformity of work in Nebraska, I cannot leave the subject without again expressing the hope that every officer of this Grand \square and every representative of a subordinate \square present, will put forth their best efforts in its accomplishment during the next

masonic year. The language, land-marks, symbols and principles of masonry, are universal. They are peculiar to no nation, sect or condition. That the ritual, by which all these are explained and inculcated, should be equally universal, is a proposition that would seem self-evident to the mind of every intelligent mason. We have, as yet, but commenced the erection of the masonic edifice in our young Territory. The craft, as it were, are yet toiling upon the mosaic pavement of the ground floor. Then let the designs of our master-workmen be skillfully drawn, and the perfect ashlers made ready and adjusted by the tools of the fellow-crafts, that, as the building shall be raised perpendicularly, its several parts may be cemented and fitted together with that exactness which characterized its great exemplar.

In conclusion, brethren, I desire to express my heart-felt thanks for your partiality in elevating me for two successive years to the highest official position you can confer. Grateful for the distinction you have thus bestowed, as well as for the deference and uniform courtesy which have been manifested towards me by the brethren, I am about to return the jewel of my office, trusting that it has not been unworthily worn, and that my endeavors to discharge the responsible duties confided to me have met with your approbation and proved beneficial to the brethren.

Invoking the blessings of Deity upon your counsels, and pointing you to the great lights upon the altar, I with confidence, leave the concerns of our institution in your hands.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

On motion of Brother Wilkinson, it was

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Wilkinson, Redfield and Wheeler were appointed the committee provided for in the foregoing resolution.

The M. W. Grand Master then laid before the Grand \square the following statement of moneys received by him during the year, which was referred to the standing committee on Accounts :

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, <i>Grand Master</i> , in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska,	Dr.	
To amount received for dispensations.....		\$20 00
“ balance received on charters for Colorado Territory.....		40 30
		<u>\$60 30</u>
	Cr.	
By amount paid Grand Secretary.....	\$45 00	
“ “ “ for express charges.....	2 00	
“ postage paid during the year.....	2 00	
“ amount of balance on hand paid Grand Secretary <i>pro tem</i>	11 30	\$60 30

Vouchers for the above credits are herewith presented.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

OMAHA, June 3, 1862.

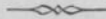
The following account was also presented and referred to the committee on Accounts:

<i>Grand □ of Nebraska to R. W. FURNAS, Grand Secretary,</i>		Dr.
To printing and binding 200 copies Proceedings of 1861.....	\$ 98 00	
" postage and stationery for the year.....	12 33	
		\$110 33
By cash from Grand Master.....	Cr. \$45 00	\$ 45 00
Balance due.....		\$65 33

On motion of Brother Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That the Grand □ shall meet at 8 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M., of each day, until all the business before it be finished.

The Grand □ was then called from labor until 2 o'clock.



AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand □ re-assembled at 2 o'clock, and resumed labor.

Brother Wheeler, from a select committee on the subject, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The select committee appointed at the last Annual Communication of this Grand □, to revise the Constitution and By-Laws and Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate □, would respectfully report: That four of the five members of the committee have been absent from the Territory during almost the whole year, and the undersigned has been unable himself to perform the duties assigned the committee. He would therefore ask that the committee be filled up, and that the time in which their report shall be made be extended to the next Annual Communication of the Grand □.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, *one of the committee.*

The following brethren were added, as requested, to the committee alluded to, viz: Brothers Jordan, Brown and Wilkinson.

The proceedings of Decatur □, under dispensation, together with a copy of its By-Laws, were presented and referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Brother Wilkinson, from the special committee on the subject, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, respectfully report by resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That so much of the address as relates to the Grand \square of Colorado Territory be referred to a select committee of three; and that those portions relating to the uniformity of work, and the adoption of a uniform text-book, be referred to a select committee of three.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. WILKINSON,)
S. REDFIELD.) Committee.
D. H. WHEELER.)

The report was adopted, and Brothers Graff, Goodlett and Redfield, were appointed as the first committee designated in the resolution, and Brothers Gillette, Marshall and Bangs, as the second.

The following report, from the committee on Accounts, was presented and adopted:

REPORT.

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

The standing committee on Accounts, to whom was referred the accounts of the M. W. Grand Master and Brother R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary, find the same correct. The following resolution is therefore submitted:

Resolved, That an order be drawn in favor of Brother R. W. Furnas for the sum of sixty-five dollars and thirty-three cents, amount due him for printing; and hat an order also be drawn for the sum of fifty dollars, his salary as Grand Secretary.

Respectfully submitted.

S. REDFIELD,)
G. B. GRAFF.) Committee.
DAVID LEACH,)

Brother Gillette, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the application from Decatur \square , under dispensation, for a charter, and the application from the brethren at Peru for a continuance of their dispensation, beg leave to report, that they have examined the By-Laws and records of Decatur \square , under dispensation, and find them correct, and accordingly recommend that a charter be granted to the brethren of said \square , to be designated as "Decatur \square , No. 7."

Your committee also find the By-Laws and proceedings of Peru \square correct, and recommend that their dispensation be continued in accordance with the request of its members.

Respectfully submitted.

LEE P. GILLETTE,)
GEO. W. WILKINSON,) Committee.
L. B. KINNEY,)

On motion of Brother Redfield, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a code of By-Laws, which, when adopted, shall be printed for the government of all [] under dispensation in this jurisdiction. Said committee to report at this¹ Communication.

Brothers Redfield, Brown, and Wheeler, were appointed said committee.

Brother Graff, from the select committee on the subject, presented the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand [] of Nebraska:

The select committee, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master as relates to the establishment of a Grand [] in the Territory of Colorado, report: That having examined the proceedings, Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand [] of Colorado, we find them regular and in accordance with the ancient landmarks, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we have received with much satisfaction and sincere pleasure the proceedings of our brethren of Colorado, which have resulted in the formation of a Grand [] in that young and flourishing Territory.

Resolved. That the Grand [] of Colorado be cordially welcomed into the circle of Grand [], and the fraternal correspondence it is our pleasure to cultivate with all good and true masons. May her prosperity equal her largest aspirations.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
J. A. GOODLETT, } Committee.
S. REDFIELD. }

The report and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Brother Graff offered the following, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, the committee on Charters and Dispensations have reported favorably on the application of Decatur [] under dispensation, for a charter, and the report having been adopted; therefore.

Resolved. That the officers of said [], who are present, be admitted to seats during the present session of this Grand [].

Brother Bangs, from the committee on Unfinished Business, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand [] of Nebraska:

The committee on Unfinished Business would report: That, having examined the proceedings of the last Annual Communication of this Grand [], they find the following subjects deferred for future action:

On page 166—*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand [], that it is inexpedient, under the present position of the affairs of the country, for this Grand [] to adopt the representative system at this time, and that the further consider-

ation of this subject be postponed until the next Annual Communication of this Grand \square ."

On page 168—The committee on Ways and Means ask that the By-Laws be amended, reducing the salary of the Grand Secretary to fifty dollars per annum.

On page 172—"Resolved, That Article V. of the Constitution of the Grand \square of Nebraska be so amended as to add the following Grand officers: Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, and two Grand Pursuivants."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. D. BANGS, }
E. C. ADAMS, } Committee.
L. B. KINNEY, }

On motion of Brother Gillette, it was

Resolved, That the proposition to amend the Fifth Article of the Constitution be indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Brother Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That Section 16 of the By-Laws of this Grand \square be so amended that the Grand Secretary's salary shall be reduced from \$150 to \$50 per annum, in accordance with the proposition submitted heretofore.

On motion of Brother Gillette, the Grand \square then went into an election of officers, with the following result:

- Brother GEORGE ARMSTRONG, of Omaha, M. : W. : Grand Master.
 " L. P. GILLETTE, of Nebraska City, R. : W. : Deputy Grand Master.
 " HENRY BROWN, of Nebraska City, R. : W. : Senior Grand Warden.
 " G. W. WILKINSON, of Omaha, R. : W. : Junior Grand Warden.
 " J. W. MARSHALL, of Plattsmouth, R. : W. : Grand Treasurer.
 " R. C. JORDAN, of Omaha, R. : W. : Grand Secretary.

The M. : W. : Grand Master made the following appointments, which were confirmed by the Grand \square :

- Brother H. T. DAVIS, of Nebraska City, W. : Grand Chaplain.
 " G. B. GRAFF, of Dakota City, W. : Grand Orator.
 " S. REDFIELD, of Nebraska City, W. : Grand Lecturer.
 " A. H. JACKSON, of Dakota City, W. : Grand Marshal.
 " S. D. BANGS, of Bellevue, W. : Senior Grand Deacon.
 " E. C. ADAMS, of Plattsmouth, W. : Junior Grand Deacon.
 " AARON CAHN, of Omaha, W. : Grand Tyler.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the installation of the Grand Officers elect take place at ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Brother Bangs, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

The committee on Foreign Correspondence would represent that its chairman, the Grand Secretary, having been commissioned by the President of the United States as colonel of volunteers, is absent from the Territory, and has not furnished the usual report. He has sent up to this Grand the proceedings of the following Grand , viz:

California, May, 1861.

Canada, July, 1861.

District of Columbia, December, 1861.

Indiana, May, 1861.

Missouri, May, 1861.

Massachusetts, December, 1861.

Maryland, May, 1861.

Maine, May, 1861.

Michigan, January, 1862.

New Hampshire, December, 1860.

New York, June, 1861.

Pennsylvania, December, 1861.

Wisconsin, June, 1861.

Washington Territory, September, 1861.

Also, the "Proceedings of the Masonic Convention to organize the Grand of the Territory of Colorado, held in Golden City, August 2, 1861."

Also, the "Reply of the Grand Master of New York to the invitation to attend the proposed peace convention at the city of Louisville, Kentucky."

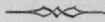
Not having had the opportunity of inspecting the books named, it cannot be expected that your committee will sketch their contents; and, as our chairman remarked last year, it is perhaps the better policy to refrain from these extended reports until the financial affairs of the Grand are in a more prosperous condition.

Respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN D. BANGS.

On behalf of the committee.

The Grand was then called from labor until 8 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.



SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 4, 1862.

The Grand resumed labor at the appointed hour.

Brother Gillette, from the select committee on the subject, presented the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the uniformity of work, respectfully report that they heartily concur in the great importance attached to the subject by the M. W. Grand Master. We have adopted a system of work, which, after an open and fair exemplification before Grand and Lecturers of acknowledged ability, has stood the test of analysis and criticism which no other system has been able to withstand. Believing that the use of a uniform text-book would contribute in a great degree to the securing of a perfect uniformity of the Webb-Preston ritual in this jurisdiction, we would recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the "Freemason's Monitor, or Illustrations of Masonry, by Thomas Smith Webb," be adopted as the text-book to be used by the subordinate within the jurisdiction of this Grand .

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. P. GILLETTE, }
 J. W. MARSHALL, } Committee.
 S. D. BANGS, }

On motion of Brother Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be instructed to procure the printing of two hundred copies of the proceedings of this session of the Grand of Nebraska, and forward three of said copies to each of the Grand officers, and one to each of the Grand with which this Grand is in correspondence, and five copies to each subordinate within this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That the Masters of each of the subordinate in this jurisdiction be required to have the proceedings of this Grand read in their respective for the instruction of the brethren.

The Grand Secretary presented the following as his report of dues received from the several , which was referred to the committee on Accounts:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

OMAHA, June 3, 1862.

R. C. JORDAN, Grand Secretary pro tem., in account with Grand <input type="checkbox"/> of Nebraska,	Dr.
To dues from Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/> , No. 1.....	\$ 22 00
“ “ Western Star <input type="checkbox"/> , No. 2.....	77 00
“ “ Capital <input type="checkbox"/> , No. 3.....	49 00
“ “ Omadi <input type="checkbox"/> , No. 5.....	45 00
“ “ Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/> , No. 6.....	29 00
“ “ Peru <input type="checkbox"/> , U. D.....	20 00
“ “ Decatur <input type="checkbox"/> , for charter.....	25 00
“ “ Grand Master, balance of his account.....	11 30
	\$278 30
	Cr.
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....	\$278 30

Brother Wheeler, from the select committee on the subject, made the following report, which was agreed to:

REPORT.

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

The committee appointed to prepare a code of By-Laws for the government of \square under dispensation, respectfully represent, that it will be impossible for them to complete their labors at this session of the Grand \square , and they therefore ask further time to make their report.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, }
S. REDFIELD, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

Brother Gillette, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the returns of subordinate \square , respectfully report, that we have carefully examined and find the following returns correct:

Nebraska \square , No. 1; Western Star \square , No. 2, Capital \square , No. 3; Omadi \square , No. 5; Plattsmouth \square , No. 6; Peru \square , U. D.; Decatur \square , U. D.

Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, has failed to send in returns.

Respectfully submitted.

LEE P. GILLETTE, }
G. W. WILKINSON, } Committee.
H. G. SPENCER, }

Brother Redfield, from the committee on Accounts, reported the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of five dollars be returned to Nebraska \square , No. 1, as having been overpaid last year by that \square .

The committee on Pay-Roll submitted the following report, which was agreed to :

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand \square of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held at Omaha, June, 1862.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL
Geo. Armstrong, M. W. Grand Master.....	Omaha .....	.....	\$.....	\$ 3 00	\$ 3 00
L. B. Kinney, Deputy Grand Master.....	Bellevue.....	12	1 20	3 00	4 20
D. H. Wheeler, Senior Grand Warden.....	Plattsmouth.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00
S. Redfield, Junior Grand Warden <i>pro tem</i> ...	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00
J. W. Marshall, Grand Treasurer <i>pro tem</i> ...	Plattsmouth.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00
R. C. Jordan, Grand Secretary <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha.....	.....	.....	3 00	3 00
Henry Brown, Grand Chaplain.....	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00
Geo. B. Graff, Grand Marshal.....	Dakota City.....	90	9 00	3 00	12 00
L. P. Gillette, Grand Lecturer.....	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00
G. W. Wilkinson, Senior Grand Deacon.....	Omadi.....	90	9 00	3 00	12 00
S. D. Bangs, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Bellevue.....	12	1 20	3 00	4 90
A. Cahn, Grand Tyler.....	Omaha.....	.....	.....	3 00	3 00
Total			\$39 40	\$36 00	\$75 40

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL	TO WHOM PAID.
1.	Nebraska □.....	Bellevue.....	12	\$ 1 20	\$ 3 00	\$ 4 20	J. E. Pray.....
2.	Western Star □.....	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00	J. A. Goodlett.....
3.	Capital □.....	Omaha.....			3 00	3 00	H. G. Spencer.....
4.	Nemaha Valley □.....	Brownville.....					
5.	Omadi □.....	Omadi.....	90	0 00	3 00	12 00	A. H. Jackson.....
6.	Plattsmouth □.....	Plattsmouth.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00	E. C. Adams.....
		Total.....		\$17 20	\$15 00	\$32 20	

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
J. W. MARSHALL, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

On motion of Brother Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That an order for the sum of twenty dollars be placed at the disposal of the Grand Secretary, for the necessary incidental printing of this Grand □.

On motion of Brother Gillette, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand □ of Nebraska be held at the city of Omaha, on Tuesday, the 23d day of June, 1863.

The Grand Treasurer presented his report, as follows, and it was referred to the committee on Accounts:

J. W. MARSHALL, *Grand Treasurer pro tem.*, in account with the Grand □ of Nebraska, Dr.

To balance in hands of Treasurer June, 1861.....	\$224 17
“ amount received of Grand Secretary <i>pro tem.</i> , 1862.....	278 30
	\$502 47
	Cr.
By amount paid Pay-Roll for 1861.....	\$ 82 70
“ “ “ R. W. Furnas, printing, 1860.....	170 00
“ “ “ for stationery for Grand □.....	1 25
“ “ “ Pay-Roll for 1862.....	107 60
“ “ “ R. W. Furnas, Grand Secretary, printing and salary, 1861.....	115 33
“ “ “ order to Grand Secretary, 1862.....	20 00
“ “ “ order to Nebraska □, No. 1.....	5 00
“ balance in hands of Grand Treasurer.....	59
	\$502 47

On motion of Brother Graff, it was

Resolved, That the name and location of Omadi □, No. 5, be changed, and it shall be called “Dakota □, No. 5,” and located in Dakota City whenever the members of said □ shall desire the same.

The Grand Treasurer elect presented his bond, which was approved.

On motion of Brother Graff, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to correspond with the person from whom our Grand □ jewels were purchased, represent to him the kind and quality of said jewels, for which \$100 were paid, and endeavor to effect an exchange.

The hour fixed upon for the installation of the officers of the Grand □ having arrived, the M. W. George Armstrong was then duly installed into the office of Grand Master by Deputy Grand Master L. B. Kinney, after which the M. W. Grand Master installed the other Grand Officers in ample form.

Brother Redfield, from the standing committee on Accounts, reported back the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary as correct; which report was adopted.

The labors of the Grand □ being ended, after singing a parting ode, it was closed, in ample form, with solemn prayer.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

ATTEST:

R. C. JORDAN, *Grand Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

L. B. Kinney, W. M.	John N. Chase, Treas.	Lewis Driskell, J. D.
Louis F. Bartels, S. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, Sec'y.	John Q. Goss, Steward.
Joseph E. Pray, J. W.	J. M. Whitted, S. D.	Samuel G. Beman, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

L. B. Kinney,	David Leach.	Samuel G. Beeman,
Silas A. Strickland,	Stephen D. Bangs,	Louis F. Bartels,
Henry T. Clarke,	Joseph E. Pray,	J. M. Whitted,
Lewis Driskell,	Martin Prichard,	John Q. Goss.
S. W. Y. Schimonsky,	James H. Preston,	John N. Chase.
C. D. Keller,		

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Green B. Nicholson.

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Henry Brown, W. M.	H. B. Horton, Treas'r.	Albert Tuxberry, J. D.
John A. Goodlett, S. W.	Sylvester Redfield, Sec'y.	Granville H. Hail, Tyler.
Samuel P. Sibley, J. W.	Wm. E. Hill, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Sylvester Redfield,	John H. Maxon,	John A. Goodlett,
T. E. Thompson,	Harvey C. Blackman,	J. S. Carr,
Lee P. Gillette.	W. Bradway,	Stephen Kent,
George W. Sroat,	William Anderson,	H. P. Dowas,
Alfred Mathias,	Edward Henry,	John B. Bennett,
H. N. Cornell,	Henry Brown,	H. B. Horton,
John F. Kinney,	W. L. Boydston,	William E. Hill,
D. H. Warran,	S. F. Nuckolls,	H. J. Kent,
Samuel Henderson,	Geo. A. Gillette,	Wm. P. Birchfield,
Albert Tuxbury,	John S. Place,	S. P. Sibley,
G. H. Hail,	G. G. Gillette.	W. C. Ransom,
Wm. H. Brodhead,	Daniel Whiting,	J. T. Hoyle,
Andrew Beardsley,	Wm. E. Pardee,	Robert Lorton,
Peter Y. Morse,	J. C. Cook,	John Boulware,
John B. Boulware,	John C. Campbell,	H. B. Baker,
Geo. B. Boulware,	A. G. Cavans,	Joseph F. Bennett,
R. H. Miller,	J. P. Cook.	William Dorsey,
C. A. Goshen,	D. P. Rolfe,	Elisha Bennett.
I. L. Gibbs,	W. W. Soper,	

FELLOW CRAFTS.

D. J. Goff,
S. S. Preston,

H. M. Giltner,

L. C. Davenport.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

William Fulton,
Joseph Saunders,W. D. Wier,
R. R. Andrews,W. H. H. Waters,
R. H. Matthews.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Monday on or before each full moon.

OFFICERS.

Robert C. Jordan, W. M.
Horace G. Spencer, S. W.
John Logan, J. W.Jno. R. Porter Sec'y.
P. H. Windheim, Treas.
George Armstrong, S. D.Lorin Miller, J. D.
A. J. Emery, Tyler

MASTER MASONS.

George Armstrong,
E. A. Allen,
James E. Boyd,
Aaron Cahn,
E. H. Clark,
W. R. Demarest,
A. J. Emery,
Geo. W. Forbes,
E. A. Frenzell,
Addison R. Gillmore,
Joel T. Griffin,
Charles W. Hamilton,
G. A. Hess,
M. Hellman,P. W. Hitchcock,
Robert C. Jordan,
A. D. Jones,
James K. Ish.
H. W. Kuhns,
Lorin Miller,
James G. Megeath,
John Logan,
S. M. Owens,
John R. Porter,
P. A. Preston,
William M. Piper,
Wm. Wilder,Samuel E. Rogers,
John Reck,
William Ruth,
Augustus Roeder,
Byron Reed,
John H. Sahler,
H. G. Spencer,
Elias G. Sears,
E. V. Smith,
James F. Taylor,
Philip H. Windheim,
H. H. Vischer,
James K. Wall.

FELLOW CRAFT.

A. J. Harman.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

J. T. Ladd.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.*

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Robert W. Furnas, W. M.
Theo. W. Bedford, S. W.
Jeremiah Marlatt, J. W.Geo. W. Bratton, Treas'r.
John L. Colhapp, Sec'y.
O. B. Hewett, S. D.John H. Morrison, J. D.
John W. Bennett, Tyler

MASTER MASONS.

G. W. Bratton,
Jer. Marlatt,John W. Bennett,
Richard S. Haniford,Hiram Alderman,
Jesse Noel,

* The returns from this □, accompanied with the Grand □ dues, were received since the adjournment of the Grand □.—GRAND SECRETARY.

T. W. Bedford,
O. B. Hewitt,
J. L. Colhapp,
R. T. Rainey,
Cyrus W. Wheeler,

C. S. Langdon,
M. W. Keeling,
Aaron Conner,
David Siegel,
George Crow,

Robert W. Furnas,
Franklin Ferguson,
L. E. Lyanna,
Frederick Marlatt,
John H. Morrison.

FELLOW CRAFT.

William Brightmire.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Thomas Whaley.

OMADI □, NO. 5, OMADI, DAKOTA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Saturday on or before full moon.

OFFICERS.

G. W. Wilkinson, W. M.
Geo. B. Graff, S. W.
Asa Rathburn, J. W.

Wm. Cheney, Treas.
J. H. Hallack, Sec'y.
Amos Lamson, S. D.

A. H. Baker, J. D.
Alexander Ford, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

J. H. Hallack,
Harlan Baird,
Geo. W. Wilkinson,
William Cheney,
T. M. K. Munhall,
A. Lamson,

W. C. McBeath,
Thomas C. Ryan,
A. H. Baker,
Geo. B. Graff,
A. H. Jackson,
M. Pinkerton,

Alexander Ford,
Asa Rathburn.
William Henderson.
J. N. H. Patrick.
Chas. C. Blevin.

FELLOW CRAFT.

Wm. Amsbury.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

C. T. Eckhart.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

D. H. Wheeler, W. M.
Jno. W. Marshall, S. W.
G. H. Black, J. W.
Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.

John D. Simpson, Sec'y.
Elbert T. Duke, S. D.
Charles H. Wolcott, J. D.

J. C. Cummins, }
George Parks, } Stewards
James Minchell, sr., Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

D. H. Wheeler,
J. C. Cummins,
James Minchell, sr.
Wm. B. Warbritton,

Wm. B. Porter,
Enos Williams,
Samuel H. Jones,
Geo. Parks,

Joseph Harper,
Samuel H. Elbert,
Samuel Hanna,
E. T. Duke,

H. D. Mansfield,
C. H. Wolcott,
J. D. Simpson,
John W. Marshall,

Wm. H. Spratlin.
Joseph Schlater,
A. Tutt,
Thomas K. Hanna,

T. M. Marquette,
G. H. Black,
E. C. Adams.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

William Garrison,
Samuel R. Johnson,

J. N. Wise,

Milo Fellows.

PERU □, U. D., PERU, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: second and fourth Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Russel Peery, W. M.
S. P. Majors, S. W.
M. L. Hickman, J. W.

Samuel Long, Treas'r.
J. F. Neal, Sec'y.
M. S. Peery, S. D.

J. B. Butler, J. D.
J. W. Swan, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Russell Peery,
Samuel Long,
J. B. Butler,
S. P. Majors,

M. S. Peery,
J. F. Neal,
S. G. Daily,
M. L. Hickman,

A. S. Richardson,
J. L. Foot,
J. W. Swan.

FELLOW CRAFT.

W. H. Denman.

DECATUR □, U. D., DECATUR, BURT COUNTY.

Stated meetings: second and last Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

O. H. Irish, W. M.
Chas. F. Porter, S. W.
B. R. Folsom, J. W.

Austin Rockwell, Treas'r.
John S. Ramseyer, Sec'y.
Wm. A. Amsbury, S. D.

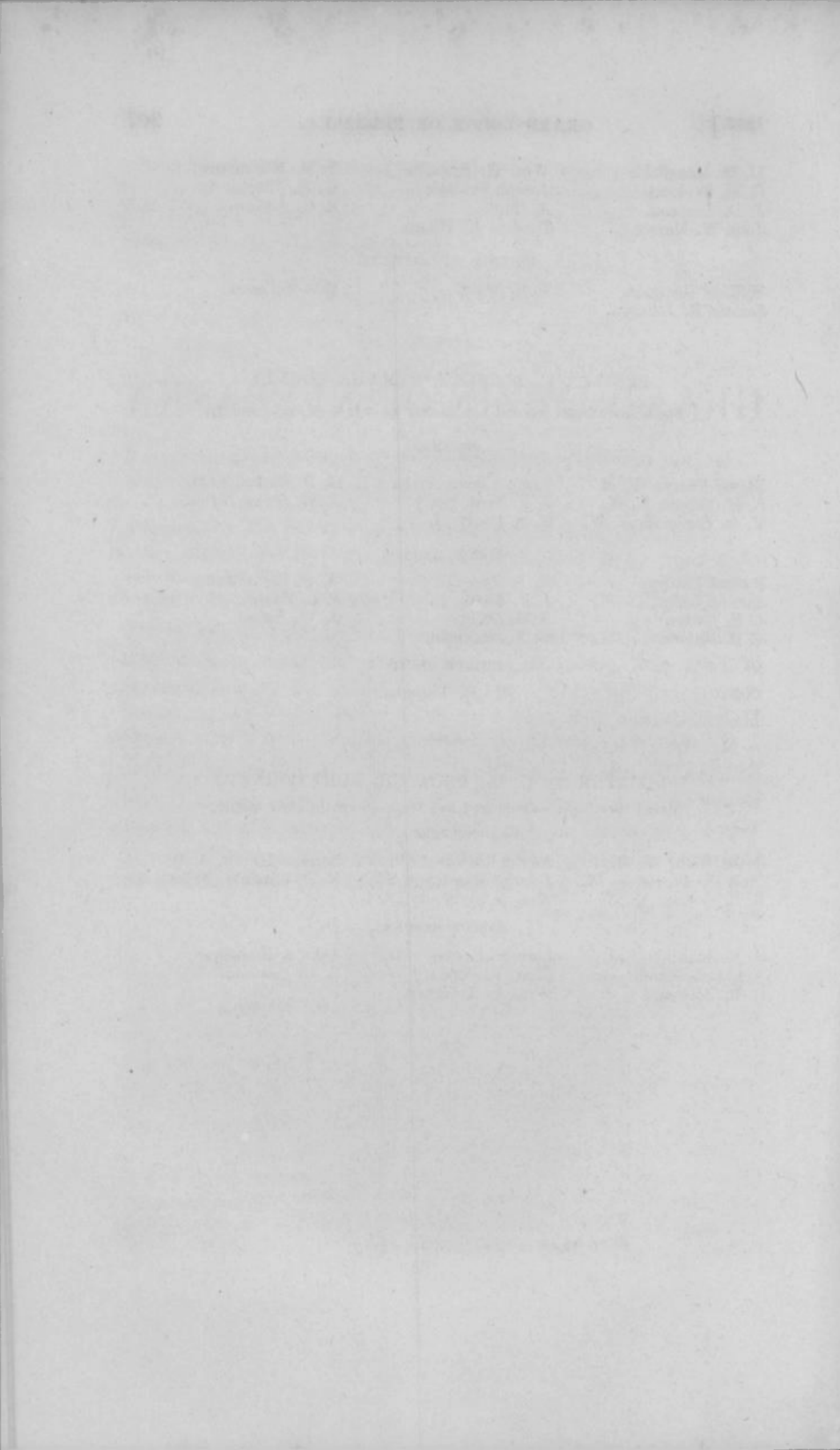
Lorenzo Hobbs, J. D.
E. D. Canfield, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

O. H. Irish,
Austin Rockwell,
B. R. Folsom,

Lorenzo Hobbs,
Chas. F. Porter,
Wm. A. Amsbury,

John S. Ramseyer,
E. D. Canfield.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT OMAHA, JUNE 23, A. L. 5863.

SIXTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, June 23, 1863.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its sixth Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Omaha, this day.

M. W. George Armstrong, Grand Master, R. W. Lee P. Gillette, Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Henry Brown, Senior Grand Warden, and R. W. G. W. Wilkinson, Junior Grand Warden, being all absent, M. W. Past Grand Master Robert C. Jordan, took the East.

The following is a list of the Grand officers present, and those appointed *pro tem*:

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. W. ROBERT C. JORDAN, P. G. M., as Grand Master.
- R. W. O. H. IRISH, as Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. C. W. HAMILTON, as Senior Grand Warden.
- R. W. E. D. CANFIELD, as Junior Grand Warden.
- R. W. AUGUSTUS ROEDER, as Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. D. H. WHEELER, as Grand Secretary.
- W. H. T. DAVIS, Grand Chaplain.
- W. GEORGE B. GRAFF, Grand Orator.
- W. LORENZO HOBBS, as Grand Lecturer.
- W. A. H. JACKSON, Grand Marshal.
- W. S. D. BANGS, Senior Grand Deacon.
- W. E. C. ADAMS, Junior Grand Deacon.
- W. AARON CAHN, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M.: W.: Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Wheeler, Graff and Bangs.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Brothers Irish, Roeder and Canfield.

Brother Wheeler, from committee on Credentials, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Credentials find the following \square in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA \square , No. 1—David Leach, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Senior Warden, 2; Samuel G. Beaman, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

WESTERN STAR \square , No. 2—J. A. Goodlett, Worshipful Master, 1; S. E. Smith, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; Robert Lorton, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

CAPITAL \square , No. 3—C. W. Hamilton, Worshipful Master, 1; P. W. Hitchcock, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; Augustus Roeder, Junior Warden, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY \square , No. 4—C. W. Wheeler, proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden, 3.

DAKOTA \square , No. 5—Geo. B. Graff, Worshipful Master, 1; Wm. A. Amsbury, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; A. H. Jackson, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH \square , No. 6—D. H. Wheeler, Worshipful Master, and proxy for Junior Warden, 2; E. C. Adams, Senior Warden, 1.

DECATUR \square , No. 7—O. H. Irish, Worshipful Master, 1; E. D. Canfield, Senior Warden, 1; Lorenzo Hobbs, Junior Warden, 1.

The committee also find the following Grand Officers present and entitled to seats, and one vote each:

- M.: W.: R. C. Jordan, P. G. M., acting Grand Master.
- R.: W.: O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master *pro tem*.
- R.: W.: L. B. Kinney, Past Deputy Grand Master.
- R.: W.: C. W. Hamilton, Senior Grand Warden *pro tem*.
- R.: W.: E. D. Canfield, Junior Grand Warden *pro tem*.
- R.: W.: Augustus Roeder, Grand Treasurer *pro tem*.
- R.: W.: D. H. Wheeler, Grand Secretary *pro tem*.
- W.: H. T. Davis, Grand Chaplain.
- W.: Geo. B. Graff, Grand Orator.
- W.: Lorenzo Hobbs, Grand Lecturer *pro tem*.
- W.: A. H. Jackson, Grand Marshal.
- W.: S. D. Bangs, Senior Grand Deacon.
- W.: E. C. Adams, Junior Grand Deacon.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER,
GEO. B. GRAFF,
STEPHEN D. BANGS, } Committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

A constitutional number of \square being represented the M.: W.: Grand Master appointed the following officers, in accordance with the By-Laws:

Brother C. W. Wheeler, Grand Steward.

Brother J. A. Goodlett, Grand Sword Bearer.

Brothers S. E. Smith and Robert Lorton, Grand Pursuivants.

The W.: Grand Marshal then, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, made proclamation that the M.: W.: Grand \square of Nebraska was duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers Hamilton, Bangs and Irish.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Wheeler, Graff and Røeder.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Adams, Canfield and Jackson.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Irish, Goodlett and Amsbury.

On Charity—Brothers Jackson, Beaman and Bangs.

On Grievances—Brothers Wheeler, Leach and Canfield.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers Adams, Hobbs and Bangs.

On Pay Roll—Brothers Wheeler, Roeder and Hitchcock.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Graff, Hamilton and Canfield.

On motion of Brother Graff, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing are hereby invited to witness the deliberations of this Grand \square .

The following communication from M.: W.: George Armstrong, Grand Master, was then read by the M.: W.: Grand Master:

OFFICE OF GRAND MASTER OF NEBRASKA, }
Omaha, June 16, 1863. }

R.: W.: ROBERT C. JORDAN, *Grand Secretary Grand \square of Nebraska*:

Dear Sir and Brother—Until a few days since I expected to be present at the Annual Communication of the Grand \square , which assembles in this city on the 23d inst.; but duties connected with my position as an officer in the 2d Nebraska Cavalry, compel me to leave for the West this evening, and it will be impossible to return before the Grand \square has closed its labors.

Not having time now to prepare an official communication to the Grand \square , I send you the enclosed paper connected with the granting of a dispensation for a new \square at Bannock City, Idaho Territory, together with the requisite fee of ten dollars, which is the only official act I have been called upon to perform during the past year. This dispensation was granted in April, and will not reach the brethren in Idaho for three or four months from its date; it would therefore be well for the Grand \square to renew it for another year.

The craft are still harmoniously laboring, and though many of our most skillful craftsmen are absent serving their country in the army, yet some progress has been made in our \square both as regards a uniformity of work and the increase of membership.

With a renewed expression of my heartfelt appreciation of the masonic honors I have received, and hoping the approaching session of the Grand \square may prove both pleasant and profitable to the brethren,

I am, fraternally,

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Grand Master.*

On motion of Brother Hamilton, it was

Resolved, That the communication of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Hamilton, Bangs and Irish, were appointed the committee provided for in the foregoing resolution.

The Grand \square was then called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand \square re-assembled at 3 o'clock, P. M., and resumed labor.

Brother Hamilton, from a select committee on the subject, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

The select committee to whom was referred the communication of M. W. Grand Master George Armstrong, would respectfully report, that the only official act of the Grand Master appears to be the granting of a dispensation for a new \square in Bannock City, Idaho Territory, and recommend that the same be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Respectfully submitted.

C. W. HAMILTON,	}	Committee.
O. H. IRISH,		
S. D. BANGS,		

Brother Adams, from the committee on Unfinished Business, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Unfinished Business would respectfully report, that having examined the proceedings of the last Annual Communication of this Grand \square , find the following subject deferred for future action.

That Section 16 of the By-Laws of this \square be so amended that the Secretary's salary shall be reduced from \$150.00 per annum to \$50.00 per annum.

And we would recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted.

E. C. ADAMS,
S. D. BANGS,
LORENZO HOBBS, } Committee.

Brother Graff offered the following, which was adopted :

Whereas, The Secretary of Peru \square , U. D., having presented a petition setting forth that on account of the small number of members in their \square , they desire that said \square be discontinued, and do herewith return their dispensation to the Grand \square ; therefore,

Resolved, That Peru \square , U. D., be discontinued, and the members thereof be attached to Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, by and with the consent of the members of said Nemaha Valley \square .

Brother Graff, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the matter of renewing the dispensation for a new \square at Bannock City, Idaho Territory, would recommend that the Grand Master be requested to issue a new dispensation for a \square in Bannock City, and that the Grand Secretary be requested to inform said \square of the action of this Grand \square , duly attested by the seal of the Grand \square of Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER,
GEO. B. GRAFF,
AUGUSTUS ROEDER, } Committee.

The Grand Secretary presented the following as his report of dues received from the several \square s, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

REPORT.

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

OMAHA, June 23, 1863.

D. H. WHEELER, Grand Secretary pro tem., in account with Grand \square of Nebraska,	Dr.
To dues from Nebraska \square , No. 1.....	\$ 33 00
“ “ Western Star \square , No. 2.....	71 00
“ “ Capital \square , No. 3.....	67 00
“ “ Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4.....	25 00
“ “ Dakota \square , No. 5.....	55 00
“ “ Plattsmouth \square , No. 6.....	50 00
“ “ Decatur \square , No. 7.....	29 00
“ “ Peru \square , U. D.....	9 00
“ “ Bannock City \square , U. D., for dispensation.....	10 00
“ “ balance from J. W. Marshall, Grand Treasurer, on last year's dues...	59
	\$349 59
Cr.	
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....	\$349 59

The following account was presented and referred to the committee on Accounts:

OMAHA, June 23, 1863.	
	Dr.
<i>The Grand □ of Nebraska to R. C. JORDAN, Grand Secretary,</i>	Dr.
To printing and binding 200 copies of Grand □ Proceedings for 1862.....	\$ 60 00
“ amount paid for postage and stationery.....	2 00
“ “ “ “Nebraskian” for printing notice.....	1 00
“ Grand Secretary's salary.....	50 00
	\$113 00
	Cr.
By amount received last session for incidental expenses.....	\$20 00
“ cash received from Nemaha Valley □, No. 4, after close of last session.....	32 00
	52 00
Balance due	\$61 00

On motion, the account of the Grand Secretary was referred to the committee on Accounts.

On motion of Brother D. H. Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to receive the effects of Peru □, U. D., and hold the same subject to the order of the Grand □ of Nebraska.

The following report from the committee on Accounts was presented and adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Accounts, to whom was referred the account of Brother R. C. Jordan, Grand Secretary, find the same correct. The following resolution is therefore submitted:

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the Grand Treasurer in favor of Brother R. C. Jordan, Grand Secretary, for the sum of \$61, as per account rendered, for printing and his salary as Grand Secretary.

C. W. HAMILTON,
STEPHEN D. BANGS, } Committee.
O. H. IRISH, }

On motion of Brother Irish, the Grand □ then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, with the following result:

- Brother D. H. WHEELER, of Plattsmouth, M. W. Grand Master.
- “ O. H. IRISH, of Decatur, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
- “ GEO. B. GRAFF, of Dakota, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.
- “ C. W. HAMILTON, of Omaha, R. W. Junior Grand Warden.
- “ S. E. SMITH, of Nebraska City, R. W. Grand Treasurer.
- “ S. D. BANGS, of Bellevue, R. W. Grand Secretary.

The M. W. Grand Master made the following appointments, which were confirmed by the Grand □:

- Brother H. T. DAVIS, of Nebraska City, W. : Grand Chaplain.
 " A. H. JACKSON, of Dakota, W. : Grand Orator.
 " E. C. ADAMS, of Plattsmouth, W. : Grand Lecturer.
 " C. W. WHEELER, of Brownville, W. : Grand Marshal.
 " FRANK WELCH, of Decatur, W. : Senior Grand Deacon.
 " J. A. GOODLETT, of Nebraska City, W. : Junior Grand Deacon.
 " C. H. WOLCOTT, of Plattsmouth, W. : Grand Tyler.

Brother Graff, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the returns of subordinate , respectfully report, that we have carefully examined and find the following returns correct:

Nebraska , No. 1; Western Star , No. 2; Capital , No. 3; Nemaha Valley , No. 4; Dakota , No. 5; Plattsmouth , No. 6, and Decatur , No. 7.

Your committee would respectfully suggest that a number of within this jurisdiction are without seals, and therefore recommend that those be instructed to procure the same at the earliest practicable opportunity.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF,
 C. W. HAMILTON, } Committee.
 E. D. CANFIELD,

The hour appointed for the Installation of the Grand Officers having now arrived, W. : C. W. Wheeler presented the Grand Master elect, and said :

M. : W. : Grand Master—I have the honor and pleasure to present to you the M. : W. : D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master elect of the masons of the Territory of Nebraska, and to state that he has assumed the high and responsible obligations appertaining to that office.

The Grand Master then inducted his successor into office and invested him with the insignia and impliments pertaining thereto.

The M. : W. : D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master, then installed the remaining Grand Officers in ample form.

On motion of Brother Irish, the Grand proceeded to select by ballot the place of meeting of the next Annual Communication of this Grand , which resulted in the selection of Plattsmouth.

On motion of Brother Bangs, the Grand took a recess until 8 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee appointed to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand .

EVENING SESSION.

8 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand □ resumed labor.

Present, M.: W.: D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master. Officers and representatives as before.

The Constitution and By-Laws were read and adopted with the amendments as reported by the committee, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of this session of the Grand □.

On motion of Brother Irish, the Grand Secretary and Past Grand Secretary were appointed a committee to compile and prepare for printing the proceedings of this Grand □, the Constitution and By-Laws, the Ancient Constitution, Installation Ceremony, and Burial Service, together with the Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate □□.

Brother Jordan offered the following which was adopted: "

Resolved, That this Grand □, with much pleasure, reiterates the opinion expressed at the last Annual Communication in favor of what is termed the "Webb Work," fully believing it to be the true and ancient work practiced by the fraternity in America a century and more ago, and we earnestly request, and do hereby order, that every □ under the jurisdiction of this Grand □, which has not adopted the said work, be required to do so at their earliest convenience, not alone for its antiquity and beauty, but that strict uniformity in the work of the several degrees may be one of the peculiarities of the Grand □ of Nebraska.

Brother Jordan offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ are justly due, and are hereby heartily tendered to Past Grand Master George Armstrong for the able and faithful manner in which he has presided over and taken care of the interests of the craft in this jurisdiction; and the punctuality and accommodating disposition which he has ever evinced to aid the young craftsman in search of light, will long be remembered by us, and will constitute one of the most pleasant local traditions of the fraternity in this Territory.

Brother C. W. Wheeler was excused from attendance during the remainder of the session of the Grand □.

The Grand □ then took a recess until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 24—9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand □ resumed its session. Present, M.: W.: D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master, and officers and representatives as before.

The minutes of yesterday and last evening were read and approved.

Brother Jackson, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:

The committee on Foreign Correspondence would report that its chairman, the Grand Secretary, has furnished the proceedings of the following States, without the usual report:

Michigan, January 14, 1863.
 Kansas, October 21, 1862.
 Maryland, November 17, 1862.
 Massachusetts, March 12, 1862.
 Colorado, November 2, 1862.
 New Jersey, January 21, 1863.
 Ohio, October 16, 1860.
 Kentucky, October 20, 1862.
 Illinois, October 7, 1862.
 Delaware, June 27, 1862.

Also a list of Grand Officers installed on the 27th of December, 1862, by the Grand □ of the District of Columbia; the annual report of the Troy Orphan Asylum, December 17, 1862; and a historical sketch of the Masonic University of Kentucky.

Not having had time to compile or sketch the contents of these books, your committee cannot be expected to make an extended report.

Respectfully submitted.

A. H. JACKSON, *on behalf of the Committee.*

On motion of Brother Smith, it was

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master, D. H. Wheeler, be appointed a committee of one to ascertain the expense of printing a suitable number of the proceedings of this Grand □, the Constitution and By-Laws, the Installation Ceremony and Burial Service, and the Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate □, for the use of subordinate □. Also enter into correspondence with the Secretaries of subordinate □, and after ascertaining how many they will subscribe for, he shall be empowered to order such number printed as he shall deem necessary, and instruct the Grand Secretary to draw on the Grand Treasurer to pay for the same.

The bond of Brother S. E. Smith, as Grand Treasurer, was

received, and, on motion, approved and ordered to be spread upon the records :

TREASURER'S BOND.

HALL OF THE GRAND □, OMAHA, June 23, 1863.

Know all men by these presents, That we, Silas E. Smith, as principal, and John A. Goodlett and O. H. Irish, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand □ of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, the said Silas E. Smith has been elected Treasurer of the Grand □ of Nebraska for one year, now if the said Smith shall well and truly discharge the duties of said office, as required by the Grand □, and pay over all moneys in his possession as Treasurer to his successor in office, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

SILAS E. SMITH, *Principal.*

J. A. GOODLETT, *Surety.*

O. H. IRISH, *Surety.*

The committee on Pay-Roll submitted the following report, which was agreed to :

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand □ of Nebraska for the Annual Communication held at Omaha, June, 1863.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile-	Per	TOTAL
		age.	Diem		
R. C. Jordan, M. W. Grand Master <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha.....			\$ 3 00	\$ 3 00
*O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master <i>pro tem</i>	Decatur.....				
*C. W. Hamilton, Senior Grand Warden <i>pro tem</i> ..	Omaha.....				
E. D. Canfield, Junior Grand Warden <i>pro tem</i> ..	Decatur.....	60	6 00	3 00	9 00
Aug. Roeder, Grand Treasurer <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha.....			3 00	3 00
D. H. Wheeler, Grand Secretary <i>pro tem</i>	Plattsmouth.....				
H. T. Davis, Grand Chaplain.....	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00
Geo. B. Graft, Grand Orator.....	Dakota.....	95	9 50	3 00	12 50
Lorenzo Hobbs, Grand Lecturer <i>pro tem</i>	Decatur.....	60	6 00	3 00	9 00
A. H. Jackson, Grand Marshal.....	Dakota.....	95	9 50	3 00	12 50
S. D. Bangs, Senior Grand Deacon.....	Bellevue.....	12	1 20	3 00	4 20
E. C. Adams, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Plattsmouth.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00
A. Cahn, Grand Tyler.....	Omaha.....			3 00	3 00

*Drew pay as Representatives.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile-	Per	TOTAL	TO WHOM PAID.
			age.	Diem			
1.	Nebraska □.....	Bellevue.....	12	\$ 1 20	\$ 3 00	\$ 4 20	David Leach.....
2.	Western Star □.....	Nebraska City.....	50	5 00	3 00	8 00	J. A. Goodlett.....
3.	Capital □.....	Omaha.....			3 00	3 00	C. W. Hamilton.....
4.	Nemaha Valley □.....	Brownville.....	75	7 50	3 00	10 50	C. W. Wheeler.....
5.	Dakota □.....	Dakota.....	95	9 50	3 00	12 50	Wm. Ambsbury.....
6.	Plattsmouth □.....	Plattsmouth.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00	D. H. Wheeler.....
7.	Decatur.....	Decatur.....	60	6 00	3 00	9 00	O. H. Irish.....

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, *Chairman of the Committee.*

Brother Welch offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the report of the committee on the Pay Roll be so amended that Brother G. B. Graff, of Dakota □, No. 5, shall draw pay as Grand Orator, and Brother Amsbury as representative of Dakota □; and that for the future the Masters of the subordinate □, or their proxies duly constituted, shall only draw pay as representatives of their respective □, and not for any position as Grand officers.

Brother Jackson offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Masters of subordinate □ under this jurisdiction be required to have the proceedings of the Grand □ read in their respective □, in connection with the Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate □, at the first regular Communication after the same shall have been received.

On motion of Brother Hamilton, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand □ of Nebraska be held on the 23d day of June, A. D. 1864.

Brother Graff, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

PLATTSMOUTH □, No. 6,
vs.
 WM. GARRISON, *Entered Apprentice.* }

Trial was had on the above case before Plattsouth □, September 1, 1862, upon the charge of "gross unmasonic conduct." After hearing all the testimony in the case, the □ voted unanimously to expel the brother—such expulsion to be considered as a suspension only until approved by the Grand □.

The committee on Returns of Subordinate □, to whom was referred the case of Wm. Garrison, an Entered Apprentice of Plattsouth □, No. 6, expelled for "gross unmasonic conduct," would recommend that the action of Plattsouth □, in the expulsion of Wm. Garrison, be approved by this Grand □, and that notice of the same be printed with the proceedings of this Grand □.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF,
 C. W. HAMILTON, } Committee.
 E. D. CANFIELD, }

Brother Graff, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The committee on Returns of Subordinate □, to whom was referred the By-Laws of Plattsouth □, No. 6, have examined the same, and find them in conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand □, and would recommend their approval by the Grand □.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF,
 C. W. HAMILTON, } Committee.
 E. D. CANFIELD, }

The Grand Treasurer presented his report, as follows, which was referred to the committee on Accounts :

S. E. SMITH, <i>Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand □ of Nebraska,</i>	Dr.
To amount received of Grand Secretary.....	\$349 59
	Cr.
By Pay-Roll for 1863.....	\$121 40
By balance.....	228 19
	\$349 59
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer.....	\$228 19

Respectfully submitted.

S. E. SMITH, *Grand Treasurer.*

OMAHA, June 23, 1863.

Brother Hamilton, from the committee on Accounts, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

The standing committee on Accounts beg leave to report that they have examined the account of the Grand Treasurer and find the same correct.

Respectfully submitted.

C. W. HAMILTON,	}	Committee.
O. H. IRISH,		
S. D. BANGS,		

Brother Irish offered the following, which was adopted :

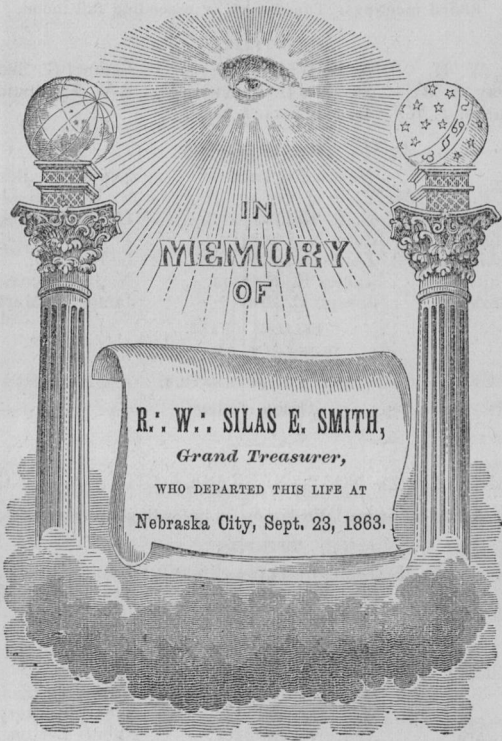
WHEREAS, The late Grand Secretary having failed to correspond with the person from whom the Grand □ jewels were procured, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to correspond with the person from whom our Grand □ jewels were purchased, representing to him the kind and quality of said jewels, for which one hundred dollars were paid, and endeavor to effect an exchange for others.

The labors of the Grand □ being ended, after singing Burns' Adieu, it was closed in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

D. H. WHEELER, *Grand Master.*

S. D. BANGS, *Grand Secretary.*



R. W. SILAS E. SMITH,
Grand Treasurer,

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT
Nebraska City, Sept. 23, 1863.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

David Leach, W. M.	J. M. Whitted, Treas.	Samuel G. Beman, J. D.
Joseph E. Pray, S. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, Sec'y.	S. W. Y. Schimonsky, Tyler.
Henry T. Clarke, J. W.	Lewis Driskell, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

David Leach,	Martin Prichard,	Samuel G. Beeman,
L. B. Kinney, P. D. G. M.	John Q. Goss.	S. W. Y. Schimonsky,
Stephen D. Bangs,	C. D. Keller,	Green B. Nicholson.
Louis F. Bartels,	John N. Chase.	Thomas M. Boyer,
Silas A. Strickland,	Lewis Driskell,	L. H. Case,
James M. Whitted,	James H. Preston,	N. R. Wilcox,
Henry T. Clarke,	Joseph E. Pray,	James M. Martin.

FELLOW CRAFT.

William F. Martin.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Orson Fisher

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

John A. Goodlett, W. M.	John H. Maxon, Treas'r.	John S. Place, J. D.
Wm. E. Hill, S. W.	Silas E. Smith, Sec'y.	Granville H. Hail, Tyler.
Samuel P. Sibley, J. W.	D. P. Rolfe, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Sylvester Redfield,	John A. Goodlett,	J. P. Cook.
J. C. Cook,	Lee P. Gillette, P. D. G. M.	Alfred Mathias,
H. P. Downs,	W. L. Boydston,	Albert Tuxbury,
John B. Boulware,	Andrew Beardsley,	Robert Lorton,
Geo. W. Boulware,	William E. Hill,	Geo. A. Gillette,
I. L. Gibbs,	Daniel Whiting,	D. P. Rolfe,
H. N. Cornell,	Samuel Henderson,	Elisha Bennett.
W. W. Soper,	A. G. Cavans,	David J. Goff,
Edward Henry,	George W. Sroat,	S. E. Smith,
G. H. Hail,	Joseph F. Bennett,	W. H. H. Waters,
T. E. Thompson,	J. T. Hoyle,	S. S. Preston,
John B. Bennett,	Wm. Bradway,	H. T. Davis,
John S. Place,	S. F. Nuckolls,	John Reed,
John H. Maxon,	Peter Y. Morse,	L. C. Davenport,
John F. Kinney,	Stephen Kent,	E. S. Reed,
H. B. Baker,	Wm. E. Pardee,	John Doolittle,
Henry Brown, P. D. G. M.	C. A. Goshen,	H. M. Giltner.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

Joseph Saunders, S. Duncan, S. S. Bonney.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

R. R. Andrews, William Fulton, R. H. Matthews,
Robert Hawke, W. D. Wier, Henry Siegel.
J. E. Lawrence,

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Monday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Chas. W. Hamilton, W. M. P. Windheim, Treas. Lorin Miller, J. D.
Byron Reed, S. W. Jno. R. Porter Sec'y. James F. Taylor, Tyler
Augustus Roeder, J. W. Aaron Cahn, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

Geo. Armstrong, P. G. M.	A. D. Jones,	E. V. Smith,
E. A. Allen,	James K. Ish.	James F. Taylor,
James E. Boyd,	Rev. H. W. Kuhns,	Philip Windheim,
Aaron Cahn,	Lorin Miller,	H. H. Vischer,
E. H. Clark,	John Logan,	James K. Wall.
W. R. Demarest,	S. M. Owens,	F. Court,
Geo. W. Forbes,	John R. Porter,	S. M. Curran,
E. A. Frenzell,	P. A. Preston.	Wm. Wilder,
Addison R. Gillmore,	William M. Pyper,	William Ruth,
Joel T. Griffin,	Samuel E. Rogers,	Elias G. Sears,
Charles W. Hamilton,	Augustus Roeder,	James G. Megeath,
G. A. Hess,	Byron Reed,	John B. Chambers,
M. Hellman,	R. S. Gillis,	N. P. Isaacs,
P. W. Hitchcock,	L. J. Ruth,	Charles Ruter,
R. C. Jordan, P. G. M.	H. G. Spencer,	M. C. Wilber.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

W. H. Connor, Rev. W. H. Smith.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Horace Newman.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Geo. W. Bratton, W. M. J. W. Bennett, jr. Treas'r. Aaron Conner, J. D.
Rev. H. H. Dobbins, S. W. C. W. Wheeler, Sec'y. David Seigel, Tyler.
John H. Morrison, J. W. Jeremiah Marlatt, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

Geo. W. Bratton,	O. B. Hewitt,	John H. Morrison.
David Siegel,	Cyrus W. Wheeler,	William Brightmire,
Jer. Marlatt,	M. W. Keeling,	H. H. Dobbins,
Robert W. Furnas,	John L. Colhapp,	R. T. Rainey,
George Crow,	John W. Bennett,	Frederick Marlatt.
T. W. Bedford,	Aaron Conner,	J. R. Hainford.
Jesse Noel,		

FELLOW CRAFT.

Rev. A. G. White.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Jesse Cole.

DAKOTA □, NO. 5, DAKOTA, DAKOTA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Saturday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Geo. B. Graff, W. M.
Wm. Cheney, S. W.
J. H. Hallack, J. W.

Asa Rathburn, Treas.
A. H. Jackson, Sec'y.
A. H. Baker, S. D.

C. F. Eckhart, J. D.
Barnabas Bates, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Harlan Baird,
A. H. Baker,
Wm. Bouton,
Curtis B. Blevin,
William Cheney,
Benj. F. Chambers,
Chas. F. Eckhart,
Alfred M. Elam,
Alexander Ford,
Geo. B. Graff,

J. H. Hallack,
William Henderson
A. H. Jackson,
Amos Lawson,
Silas T. Leaming,
W. C. McBeath,
John M. Quilkin,
T. McK. Munhall,
Wm. Nixon,
J. N. H. Patrick,

M. Pinkerton,
Asa Rathburn.
Thomas C. Ryan,
Samuel Shull,
Samuel Whitehorn,
Geo. W. Wilkinson,
John B. Zeigler,
James Clark,
Barnabas Bates.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Jacob H. Graff,

Ira Van Camp.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

D. H. Wheeler, W. M.
E. C. Adams, S. W.
T. M. Marquett, J. W.
Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.

J. N. Wise, Sec'y.
A. B. Fuller, S. D.
Charles H. Wolcott, J. D.

Jos. Schlater, }
J. Vallery, } Stewards
Charles H. Wolcott, J. D. J. C. Cummins, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

D. H. Wheeler,
E. C. Adams.
T. M. Marquette,
Thomas K. Hanna,
J. N. Wise,
A. B. Fuller,
C. H. Wolcott,
Jacob Vallery,
Joseph Schlater,
J. C. Cummins,

John W. Marshall,
Wm. B. Porter,
Joseph Harper,
James Minchell,
Enos Williams,
Samuel H. Elbert,
Wm. B. Warbritton,
Samuel H. Jones,
Geo. Parks,
E. T. Duke,

Wm. H. Spratlin,
J. D. Simpson,
G. H. Black,
A. Tutt,
George W. Colvin,
Elias Sago,
J. D. Minchell,
Stephen Spurlock,
Wm. D. Gage,
Wm. L. Thomas.

FELLOW CRAFT.

Milo Fellows.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

William S. Latta,
E. T. Harmon,

Samuel Maxwell,
Myron Moe,

J. W. Chapman.

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

O. H. Irish, W. M.	Austin Rockwell, Treas'r.	E. R. Nash, J. D.
E. D. Canfield, S. W.	John S. Ramseyer, Sec'y.	Michael Evans, Steward.
Lorenzo Hobbs, J. W.	Frank Welch, S. D.	Isaac Black, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

O. H. Irish,	Frank Welch,	Chas. F. Porter,
E. D. Canfield.	E. R. Nash,	B. R. Folsom,
Lorenzo Hobbs,	Wm. A. Amsbury,	F. W. Snow,
Austin Rockwell,	Michael Evans,	J. R. Conklin,
John S. Ramseyer,	Isaac Black,	James Ashley.

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

Henry Fontenelle.

PERU □, U. D., PERU, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: second and fourth Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

S. P. Majors, S. W.	J. F. Neal, Sec'y.	Samuel Long, J. D.
M. S. Peery, J. W.	A. J. Richardson, S. D.	L. B. Butler, Tyler.
J. W. Swan, Treas'r.		

MASTER MASONS.

S. P. Majors,	S. G. Daily,	J. L. Foot,
Samuel Long,	M. S. Peery,	J. W. Swan,
A. J. Richardson,	S. F. Neal,	L. B. Butler.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1925

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT PLATTSMOUTH, JUNE 23, A. L. 5864.

SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, June 23, 1864.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its seventh Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall in Plattsmouth, this day.

The following is a list of the Grand officers present, and those appointed *pro tem* :

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. . W. . DANIEL H. WHEELER, Grand Master.
- R. . W. . O. H. IRISH, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. . W. . GEORGE B. GRAFF, Senior Grand Warden.
- R. . W. . LORIN MILLER, as Junior Grand Warden.
- R. . W. . HENRY BROWN, as Grand Treasurer.
- R. . W. . STEPHEN D. BANGS, Grand Secretary.
- W. . JOHN Q. GOSS, as Grand Chaplain.
- W. . R. W. FURNAS, as Grand Orator.
- W. . E. C. ADAMS, Grand Lecturer.
- W. . T. W. BEDFORD, as Grand Marshal.
- W. . EDWIN R. NASH, as Senior Grand Deacon.
- W. . JOHN A. GOODLETT, Junior Grand Deacon.
- W. . C. H. WOLCOTT, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. . W. . Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Furnas, Adams, and Hill.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Brothers Hill, Leach, and Seymour.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Credentials, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska :

Your committee on Credentials find the following ☐ in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA ☐, No. 1—David Leach, Worshipful Master, 1 vote; John Q. Goss, Senior Warden, 1.

WESTERN STAR ☐, No. 2—J. A. Goodlett, Worshipful Master, 1; W. E. Hill, Senior Warden, 1; C. W. Seymour, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

CAPITAL ☐, No. 3—W. E. Harvey, proxy for Worshipful Master and Senior Warden, 2; Lorin Miller, Junior Warden, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY ☐, No. 4—T. W. Bedford, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1.

DAKOTA ☐, No. 5—George B. Graff, Worshipful Master, proxy for Senior Warden, 2; J. S. Ramseyer, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH ☐, No. 6—E. C. Adams, Worshipful Master, 1; E. T. Duke, Senior Warden, 1; C. H. Wolcott, Junior Warden, 1.

DECATUR ☐, No. 7—O. H. Irish, Worshipful Master, 1; E. R. Nash, Senior Warden, 1; R. W. Furnas, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

Your committee also find the following named Grand Officers present and entitled to seats, and one vote each:

M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master.

R. W. O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Henry Brown, Past Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Geo. B. Graff, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. Lorin Miller, Junior Grand Warden *pro tem.*

R. W. Henry Brown, Grand Treasurer *pro tem.*

R. W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.

W. J. Q. Goss, Grand Chaplain *pro tem.*

W. R. W. Furnas, Grand Orator *pro tem.*

W. E. C. Adams, Grand Lecturer.

W. T. W. Bedford, Grand Marshal.

W. E. R. Nash, Senior Grand Deacon *pro tem.*

W. J. A. Goodlett, Junior Grand Deacon.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS,
E. C. ADAMS,
WILLIAM E. HILL, } Committee.

The report of the committee was adopted.

A constitutional number of ☐ being represented the M. W.:

Grand Master appointed the following officers, in accordance with the By-Laws:

Brother C. W. Seymour, Grand Steward.
 Brother W. E. Harvey, Grand Sword Bearer.
 Brothers J. S. Ramseyer and David Leach, Grand Pursuivants.

The W.: Grand Marshal then, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, made proclamation that the M.: W.: Grand ☐ of Nebraska was duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers Harvey, Leach and Goodlett.
On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Irish, Furnas and Brown.
On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Furnas, Hill and Graff.
On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Irish, Hill and Goss.
On Ways and Means—Brothers Graff, Adams and Bedford.
On Charity—Brothers Adams, Goss and Miller.
On Grievances—Brothers Nash, Seymour and Leach.
On Unfinished Business—Brothers Miller, Harvey and Duke.
On Pay Roll—Brothers Bangs, Irish and Goss.
On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Furnas, Goodlett and Brown.

On motion of Brother Adams, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing are hereby invited to witness the proceedings of this Grand ☐.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand ☐ :

Another masonic year has passed away, and we are again assembled in Grand ☐ Communication. We have abundant reason to be thankful to the Grand Architect of the Universe for his kindness and watchful care over us for the masonic year just closed. We have been blessed beyond our most sanguine expectations. Although war, with all its terrible, desolating and heart-rending scenes, is abroad in our once united, happy and prosperous nation, still we see but little of its terrible reality in our young and beautiful Territory. We most devoutly pray to the Grand Master of the Universe, that ere another anniversary of the annual meeting of this Grand ☐ comes upon us, this cruel and unjust rebellion may be effectually crushed, and our people become again united under one common flag. In this connection, I can justly refer you to the charge delivered to every brother upon his initiation into our order, viz: "In the State you are to be a quiet and peaceable subject, true to your government, and just to your country; you are not to countenance disloyalty or rebellion, but patiently submit to legal authority, and conform with cheerfulness, to the government of

the country in which you live," and ask that the brethren with one accord adopt it as their rule of action. I would at the same time refer all brethren to the second chapter of the Ancient Constitutions, that they may not act unadvisedly or unjustly toward any brother.

Yet my brethren, the cause and interest of our ancient and charitable institution have been advancing. Our lives have been spared; death, the king of terrors, has been abroad in our land, and many of the craft have fallen its victims; for them we mourn; we will ever keep the memory of their virtues green in our hearts.

It is a solemn thought, that in the natural course of human life we cannot all expect to meet again in our next annual anniversary. Which of us may be selected to go hence as representative to the Supreme Grand above, we now know not. It is therefore meet and proper that each brother should keep his lamp trimmed and ready for the journey to that "bourne from which no traveler returns."

In relation to the transactions of the year just closed within this jurisdiction, I have but little information to impart to you. Freemasonry has proceeded steadily onward, increasing in numbers; its course has been marked by no unnatural growth indicating a diseased instead of a healthy condition. The additions to our numbers are, so far as my knowledge extends, such as we may well be proud of, and such as will, I trust, insure the prosperity and perpetuity of our order in this jurisdiction.

My duties during the past year, as your executive officer, have not been performed satisfactorily to myself. My business and my duties to my family have prevented me from devoting as much time to the subordinate as I had desired.

Immediately after the close of our last Grand Annual Communication, June 24, A. L. 5863, and in accordance with the instructions of this Grand , I issued a new dispensation to Brother N. P. Langford, and others at Bannock City, Idaho Territory. I have learned from Brother Langford that the has convened and is working. I had expected to submit to this Grand a report from Bannock , U. D., but as yet no report has been received by me. The petition for dispensation named, is herewith submitted and marked exhibit "A."

On the 30th [day of July last, I granted a dispensation to Brother R. R. Livingston, L. P. Gillette, G. W. Wilkinson, S. M. Curran, and five others, Master Masons, authorizing them to open "Monitor " in the 1st Nebraska Regiment Infantry, located in the field; recommended by Plattsmouth , No. 6. Petition submitted marked "B."

On the 24th day of August, I granted a dispensation to Brother E. C. Adams, J. S. Carr, N. R. Hays, and six others, Master Masons, authorizing them to open "Loup Fork " in the town of Columbus, N. T.; petition recommended by Plattsmouth , No. 6. Petition submitted and marked "C."

On the 17th day of November, I granted a dispensation to Brothers Mark A. Moore, Samuel W. Stanley, Levi J. Russell, and thirteen others, Master Masons, authorizing them to open "Idaho , at Nevada City, Idaho Territory; petition recommended by Plattsmouth , No. 6. Petition submitted, and marked "D."

I was at somewhat of a loss, when petitioned for a dispensation for a \square in the 1st Nebraska Infantry, whether to grant the petition or refuse it. Our Constitution is entirely silent upon the subject. After deliberation, and consultation with many of the brethren, I concluded to grant the dispensation, knowing well that the interests of the fraternity would never be allowed to suffer, nor the fraternity brought into disrepute, when confided to the care of as bright and trusty brethren as Gillette, Wilkinson, and Livingston. Brother Gillette informs me that the brethren of Monitor \square , under dispensation, desire their dispensation continued for another year. The brethren intended to be present with their report and dues, but are unable to be here, military duties interfering. I would therefore recommend that they be granted a dispensation for another year.

I have the melancholy and sorrowful duty to perform, of formally announcing to this Grand \square the decease of R. . W. . Brother Silas E. Smith, Grand Treasurer of this Grand \square , who died at Nebraska City, September 23d, 1863. It is by such dispensations of Providence that we are continually reminded of the mortality of man, and our dependence upon the Supreme Master of the Universe. I filled the office of Grand Treasurer by nominating Brother Henry Brown, of Western Star \square , No. 2, and he was duly installed into the office by R. . W. . Brother O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master.

I observe in the proceedings of four or five Grand \square s, that Grand Masters have spoken in a deprecating manner of the formation of a society styled "The Conservators," whose purpose is said to be the introduction of the ancient Webb-Preston work. As this Grand \square has twice, formally and solemnly, affirmed its faith in that work as the only ritual extant which corresponds with that used by our masonic fathers, it is unnecessary for me to allude to this subject further than to say that any measure proposing to extend and strengthen the establishment of this ritual deserves your favorable consideration. We do not find that Grand \square s generally have business upon their "trestle boards" at all comparing in importance with that of uniformity of work, and why any should make it their business to interfere with the right of their members to combine in societies for a good purpose, surpasses my comprehension. I cannot but think that some motive less pure and noble than that which masonry inculcates, lies at the bottom of these attacks upon Conservators.

In these remarks I allude particularly to the States of Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, and New Jersey. When the subject has been discussed, and regulations adopted prohibiting masons from joining a society, which I am credibly informed consists of more than three thousand members, including many Grand and Past Grand Masters, will the candid, unprejudiced student of masonic history attribute such legislation to entirely disinterested motives? Will he not rather draw the conclusion that the re-election of certain officers, or the maintenance of certain parties in power, is the mainspring of it? I candidly confess that such is the conclusion irresistibly forced upon my mind—one fact tends to confirm it, viz: That while the entire masonic press have published and teemed with their attacks upon the "Conservators' Association," only one masonic paper has copied our resolutions of 1863, approving of the "Webb-Preston work." Fortunately it is not a matter of the least importance to the maintenance of the

“Webb-Preston work,” whether the Conservators’ Association lives or not. The Grand □ of Nebraska will, I am sure, not feel impelled to build up or cast down any brother’s reputation by taking part in this unfortunate and unnecessary quarrel.

Feeling and knowing my inability to present the many matters which need the attention of this Grand □, I will close this hastily written address, knowing that this Grand □ will zealously attend to all matters of interest to the craft at large in this jurisdiction.

I am, my brethren, fraternally yours,

D. H. WHEELER, *Grand Master.*

Brother Furnas offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Furnas, Irish, and Goodlett, were appointed a committee as provided in the foregoing.

The Grand □ was called from labor to refreshment until two o’clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

TWO O’CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: Grand □ was called from refreshment to labor, M.: W.: Grand Master in the chair; officers and representatives as before.

The Grand Master presented the following account, which was referred to the committee on Accounts:

D. H. WHEELER, <i>Grand Master, in account with the Grand □ of Nebraska:</i>		Dr.
To amount received from dispensations.....		\$ 30 00
“ “ “ “ Grand Treasurer.....		150 00
		Cr.
By amount paid Taylor & McClure, for printing 1,000 copies		
Grand □ proceedings of 1863.....	\$150 00	
“ “ “ Grand Secretary.....	30 00	
“ “ “ For Stationery.....	2 30	
To amount due Grand Master.....		2 30
	\$182 30	\$182 30

On motion of Brother Harvey, the Grand □ proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, with the following result:

- Brother D. H. WHEELER, of Plattsmouth, M. . W. . Grand Master.
 " R. W. FURNAS, of Decatur, R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master.
 " GEO. B. GRAFF, of Dakota, R. . W. . Senior Grand Warden.
 " J. A. GOODLETT, of Nebraska City, R. . W. . Junior Grand Warden.
 " W. E. HARVEY, of Omaha, R. . W. . Grand Treasurer.
 " S. D. BANGS, of Bellevue, R. . W. . Grand Secretary.

The M. . W. . Grand Master made the following appointments, which were confirmed by the Grand ☐ :

- Brother A. G. WHITE, of Brownville, W. . Grand Chaplain.
 " O. H. IRISH, of Decatur, W. . Grand Orator.
 " HENRY BROWN, of Nebraska City, W. . Grand Lecturer.
 " E. R. NASH, of Decatur, W. . Grand Marshal.
 " T. W. BEDFORD, of Brownville, W. . Senior Grand Deacon.
 " L. MILLER, of Omaha, W. . Junior Grand Deacon.
 " G. W. BRATTON, of Brownville, W. . Grand Tyler.

Brother Furnas, from the select committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

Your select committee to whom was referred the annual communication of Grand Master D. H. Wheeler, have had the same under consideration, and recommend the reference of the several portions thereof as follows, viz:

That portion referring to dispensations granted to "Bannock," "Monitor," and "Idaho" ☐, to the standing committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That portion referring to the death of Brother Silas E. Smith, late Grand Treasurer, to a select committee of three.

That portion referring to the work adopted by this Grand ☐, to a select committee of five.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
 O. H. IRISH, } Committee.
 J. A. GOODLETT, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

The M. . W. . Grand Master then appointed the following select committees, in pursuance of the foregoing :

On that portion of the address of the Grand Master referring to the death of R. . W. . Silas E. Smith, Brothers Graff, Seymour and Brown.

On work referred to by Grand Master, Brothers Furnas, Goodlett, Irish, Adams, and Goss.

On motion of Brother Goodlett, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand ☐ of Nebraska be held at Brownville, June 22, A. D. 1865, A. L. 5865.

Brother Furnas offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Master appoint a committee of three, to be denominated the committee on Printing, to whom all matters pertaining to printing for this Grand \square shall be referred.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Furnas, Brown, and Harvey, said committee.

Brother Furnas, from the select committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to work, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

The genealogy of what is called here "The Webb-Preston Work," has been thoroughly traced out, and in our opinion admits of as direct proof as it is possible for any esoteric system to do. No man who understands the peculiar structure of the masonic arcana (partly esoteric or concealed, and partly exoteric or public,) will expect the same directness of proof that is applicable to an ordinary subject. But all the evidence that, under the circumstances, could be asked for, can be given. We give it in a connected form and as much abbreviated as possible. For convenience the subject may be divided into four parts :

1st. *The Lectures were arranged by Preston.* About the year 1775, William Preston, of London, applied himself to arrange the lectures into systematic form. It is impossible at this period to say *how much* of the *ritual* he supplied. Our own opinion (gathered from all the masonic history we can find,) is that he originated very little, but pieced together the fragments that had come to his hand, and perhaps supplied a few missing links. At all events, his work was generally adopted, and in 1813, it is known, that all the British \square s were working it. We are informed that Preston originated a society for the purpose of teaching and perpetuating his work. He (Preston,) operated entirely outside of Grand \square influences.

In the year 1859, Brother Elisha D. Cooke, who spent several years traveling and visiting British \square s, testified that the work in the old \square of Scotland and Ireland was almost literally the same that is taught here under the name or term "Webb-Preston," and this is the same that has been adopted and re-affirmed by the Grand \square of Nebraska.

2d. *The Preston Work was acquired by Thomas Smith Webb.* About the year 1795, Thomas Smith Webb, then a resident of Albany, New York, received the Preston work in its purity. There is ample reasons for believing that he thus acquired it—all but the actual secret and unwritten portions, which are very brief—through notes in cryptic character, a method that has always been in use for transmitting such things from generation to generation, and which some twenty years later was officially endorsed by the Grand \square of Maryland in the publication of "Cole's Masonic Library."

Webb began to promulgate this work first by the preparation of a monitor, which conveyed all the exoteric portions, and suggested the remainder in a way

that the instructed craftsman could well understand. Webb followed up this publication by preparing lecturers who should impart the esoteric or unwritten portions. Amongst these, the best known were Gleason, Fowle, Snow, Barney, Cushman and Cross, each of whom had the work now called "Webb-Preston," and communicated it orally to , and (with the restrictions before named) in cryptic character to their confidential friends. Webb himself gave but little time to instruction. He was immersed in business in which he suffered great reverses. He was therefore compelled to confine his masonic labors chiefly to correspondence and the instructing of lecturers.

3d. *The Webb-Preston Work was acquired by Barney.* About the year 1815, John Barney, a Vermont lecturer, went to Boston and acquired the work directly from Fowle (a deputy of Webb's,) and indirectly from Webb himself, who from day to day heard his recitations and pronounced them correct. The history of this matter has been carefully noted down, and is attested by a still living witness, Brother Samuel Willson, Grand Lecturer of Vermont, and by one who died in 1861, Hon. P. C. Tucker, Grand Master of Vermont. The latter in his addresses of 1859, 1860 and 1861, gives, in great detail, the entire transaction, and leaves upon record irrefragable testimony to the genealogy of the "Webb-Preston" rituals. As a part of this testimony, a set of cryptic notes, still preserved by Brother Willson, is alluded to, which were made in 1815, and do unquestionably reflect the teachings of Webb himself. With those notes many in this Grand are familiar and can bear witness that they correspond almost exactly with the work now practiced in this Grand jurisdiction.

These three periods in the history of our rituals then are clearly defined, viz:

- 1st. Their preparation by William Preston.
- 2d. Their reception by Thomas Smith Webb.
- 3d. Their communication to John Barney.

Now, to explain how this Grand and many of its members received the work. In 1857, Brother Morris, then a Grand Officer of Kentucky, and a most laborious investigator of masonic history, acquired these rituals in person at Vergennes, Vermont, from Brothers Samuel Willson and P. C. Tucker. To this we have not only Brother Morris' own testimony, but the published testimony of Brothers Willson and Tucker, placing the matter beyond dispute.

In the summer of 1860, Brother Morris held a National School of Instruction at Cleveland, Ohio, very numerously attended from all sections of the Union. This was the last in a series of ten sessions, held by him in different parts of the United States, at which many thousands of brethren heard the lectures and witnessed the rehearsals. At Cleveland, three of our Nebraska brethren were present, viz: Brother S. Redfield, Grand Warden, Brother L. P. Gillette, Grand Lecturer, and Brother F. Pearman, now deceased. These brothers acquired the work according to Brother Morris' certificates with literal accuracy, and brought it here where we have since acquired it.

Our present Grand Master, Brother D. H. Wheeler, informs us that he recently called upon Brother Morris in New York, where his own belief in these facts was amply confirmed, and there are many of us in Nebraska who have heard, through other witnesses, the same testimony to the correctness of our work.

In the proceedings of various Grand [] we see much said in deprecation of a society called *Conservators*. It would seem by the wild and reckless legislation of Missouri, that the Conservators are undermining all that is holy in the masonic institution. How unfounded is this fear, may be inferred from the fact that such a man as Philip C. Tucker was one of its founders, and that in its membership are numbered many thousands of the most noted names in our order. We allude to the subject here because this matter of Webb-Preston rituals has been intentionally mixed up by some with the matter of Conservators, as if the two were inseparable; we do not view them as having any connection with each other. If the Conservators, as they claim, teach the Webb-Preston work, (as is most likely from the admitted facts that Tucker was one of its founders and Morris its chief,) that only proves the popularity of the work; but, we Nebraska masons ask no odds of Conservators, and care nothing for the reckless assertions of anti-conservators. We received our rituals upon different testimony from that, and we know the truth of that which we affirm. The only opposition the Webb-Preston work is meeting, outside of the Conservator muddle, grows out of an attempt to revive an exploded system styled "The Baltimore Work of 1843." This attempt seems to be, at present, confined to Illinois and Michigan, and we apprehend it will go no farther. It is so feeble a subject in itself, and so far passed from the memory of the men of this generation, that we only need say concerning it, in a few words, that a convention at Baltimore in 1843, arranged a system of work in the space of *eight days*, then went home. After getting home no two of them agreed as to what they had done. A manual was published professedly reflecting the labor of those eight days; the president of the convention denounced the "book" a swindle. A few Grand [] professedly adopted the Baltimore work, but have long since dropped all that was "Baltimore" out of it, and the only tangible results of the convention are a bitter personal quarrel between the two leaders of the convention, and a handsome fortune acquired by the party who got up the manual in question. Certainly no sane man, examining this subject, will claim that there is a ghost of a chance for the "Baltimore work" ever to become the work of this country. In this report, we have made free use of the writings of the following brethren, viz: Thomas R. Austin, Past Grand Master of Indiana,—a most lucid writer; John B. Fravel, Past Grand Master of Indiana; Francis Darrow, Past Grand Master of Michigan, who is exceedingly full and conclusive in his remarks; Thos. H. Benton, jr., and Edward A. Guilbert, each Past Grand Master of Iowa, who have devoted much care to the subject; Rob. Morris, Past Grand Master of Kentucky, whose exhaustive reviews of this theme cover hundreds of pages; J. A. Williams, of Kentucky, a most learned and elegant writer; P. C. Tucker, Grand Master of Vermont, whose untimely death in 1861 can never be too much deplored by those who value sound rituals; Elisha D. Cooke, of Kentucky; Samuel Willson, Grand Lecturer of Vermont, who got his work orally from Barney; John Sheville, of New Jersey, and many others.

Our conclusions, then, are these :

1st. That the work of Nebraska is that which Barney received from Webb, in 1815; Webb from Preston, about 1795; Preston from his predecessors, about 1775.

2d. That no other work practiced in this country has a genealogy that will bear a moment's consideration, or claim the attention of a reflecting mason.

3d. That nothing which has been elicited in the discussions of this subject has shaken our confidence in the work heretofore adopted by this Grand \square .

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
O. H. IRISH, } Committee.
J. Q. GOSS, }

Brother Miller, from the committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Unfinished Business respectfully beg leave to report, that the Grand Secretary was instructed at your last Annual Communication to effect an exchange of Grand \square jewels, but failed to effect such exchange.

The letter herewith submitted will explain more fully the situation.

LORIN MILLER, }
W. E. HARVEY, } Committee.

The following account was presented and referred to the committee on Accounts:

PLATTSMOUTH, June 23, 1864.

<i>The Grand \square of Nebraska, to</i>	<i>STEPHEN D. BANGS, Grand Secretary,</i>	Dr.
To amount paid Taylor & McClure for printing 500 circulars to other Grand \square ...		\$ 6 00
" Traveling expenses and express charges.....		6 75
" Postage and stationery.....		4 75
" Grand Secretary's salary.....		50 00
		<hr/>
		\$67 50

Brother Goss submitted the following, which was referred to committee on Masonic Jurisprudence :

Does a sentence of expulsion, made by subordinate \square , operate fully and effectually before such expulsion is reported to the Grand \square , and a ratification of such sentence by that body? If yes, what action is necessary to be taken by a \square expelling one of its members, in reference to notifying other \square , in and out of the jurisdiction of this Grand \square , of such expulsion?

Brother Harvey offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to prepare the proceedings of this Communication of the Grand \square of Nebraska, at as early a day as practicable, and deliver the same to the committee on Printing, who are authorized to procure the printing of three hundred (300) copies in pamphlet form for the use of this Grand \square .

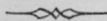
Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to send two copies of the proceedings to each Grand Secretary with whom this Grand \square is in communication, file two copies in the Territorial Library, and furnish each Grand Officer three copies, and each subordinate \square in this jurisdiction with five copies.

Brother Bedford submitted the following, which was referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Under a resolution passed at the last session of this Grand □, was it the intention of the □ to attach the members of Peru □, under dispensation, to Nemaha Valley □ as a body, or to be received upon individual application?

The Grand □ then took a recess until to-morrow at 8 o'clock A. M.



SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY, June 24—8 o'clock A. M.

The Grand □ resumed its session. Present, M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master, and officers and representatives as before.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Grand Secretary presented the following as his report of dues received from the several □, which was referred to the committee on Accounts:

REPORT.

STEPHEN D. BANGS, <i>Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand □ of Nebraska,</i>		Dr.
To dues from Nebraska □, No. 1.....		\$18 00
“ “ Western Star □, No. 2.....		65 00
“ “ Capital □, No. 3.....		63 00
“ “ Nemaha Valley □, No. 4.....		43 00
“ “ Dakota □, No. 5.....		44 00
“ “ Plattsmouth □, No. 6.....		52 00
“ “ Decatur □, No. 7.....		20 00
“ “ Columbus □, and charter.....		55 00
To amount from Grand Master.....		30 00
		<hr/>
		\$390 00
	Cr.	
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....		\$390 00

Brother Harvey offered the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, Peru □, under dispensation, has been discontinued; therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the Worshipful Master of Nemaha Valley □, No. 4, be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to receive the property of said □, dispose of the same to the best advantage, and report the proceeds to the Grand Treasurer, and pay over the funds so received upon the order of the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Goss offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That all subordinate □, under the jurisdiction of this Grand □ be, and they are hereby instructed to procure a sufficient number of lamb-skin or white leather aprons, for the purpose of initiation in their respective □.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Foreign Correspondence regret that they cannot make such a report as the subject demands. The duty of this committee should be to present to the ☐ of this jurisdiction a *resume* of the proceedings of other Grand bodies in correspondence with this, of all matters of interest to the craft at large, that correct ideas of masonry and its progress may be arrived at by the brotherhood. This duty cannot be performed within the limited time allotted your committee. The printed volumes of other Grand ☐ came into our hands since the convening of this Grand ☐. It would be both a pleasing and profitable duty to peruse these proceedings, and report in detail, but circumstances prevent. Your committee, therefore, will attempt nothing further than to report a mere catalogue of the proceedings of other Grand ☐. They are as follows:

- Connecticut, May 13 and 14, 1863.
 - Colorado, special session, May 6, 1863.
 - Colorado, regular session, November 2 and 3, 1863.
 - Delaware, June 27, 1863.
 - Delaware, June 27, 1863.
 - Illinois, October 6, 7, 8, 1863.
 - Indiana, May 25, 1863.
 - District of Columbia, May 13 and 15, and June 23 and 26, 1862, and September 28, October 30 and 31, and November 3, 1863.
 - Iowa, June 2, 1863.
 - Kansas, Oct. 20, 1863.
 - Kentucky, October 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1863.
 - Louisiana, February 8, 1864.
 - Maine, May, 1863.
 - Michigan, January 13, 1863.
 - Missouri, May 25, 1863.
 - Maryland, May 11, 1863.
 - Maryland, August 17, 18, 1863.
 - New Hampshire, December 30, 1862, June 10, 1863.
 - New Jersey, January 21, 22, 1863.
 - New York, June 2, 1863.
 - Rhode Island, May 25th. 1863.
 - Vermont, January 14, 1863.
 - Washington Territory, December 1, 1863.
 - Wisconsin, June 9, 1863.
- Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
GEO. B. GRAFF, } Committee.

The report was adopted.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Subordinate Returns, respectfully report that they have performed the duties assigned them, and find the returns of the following named correct, and the statistical condition of each, as follows:

No.	NAME OF LODGE.	Master Masons.	Fellow Crafts.	Entr'd Apprent.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	Amount Dues.
1	Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/>	18	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	3	\$ 18 00
2	Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	55	5	5	3	6	4	2	3	...	3	3	65 00
3	Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	51	...	...	6	4	6	4	1	3	...	1	63 00
4	Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/>	22	...	...	7	5	3	2	...	6	...	...	43 00
5	Dakota <input type="checkbox"/>	32	1	1	6	7	7	...	1	...	...	...	44 00
6	Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/>	33	1	8	8	5	5	2	2	1	...	1	52 00
7	Decatur <input type="checkbox"/>	14	...	1	2	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	20 00
8	Columbus <input type="checkbox"/>	11	3	4	10	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	30 00
Total		236	10	21	43	37	32	10	8	10	1	5	\$335 00

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
 J. A. GOODLETT, } Committee.
 HENRY BROWN, }

Brother Irish, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following questions:

"Does a sentence of expulsion made by a subordinate operate fully and effectively before such expulsion is reported to the Grand and a ratification of such sentence by that body? If yes, what action is necessary to be taken by a expelling one of its members, in reference to notifying other , in and out of the jurisdiction of this Grand , of such expulsion?"

Would respectfully report in answer to the first question: That expulsion from a subordinate does operate fully and effectively until the member shall be reinstated as is provided for in the By-Laws of this Grand , Section 25.

In reply to the second interrogatory we would respectfully refer to Sections 23 and 24 of the By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted.

O. H. IRISH, }
 JOHN Q. GOSS, } Committee.
 WM. E. HILL, }

Brother Irish, from committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the questions as to the effect of the resolution passed at the last session of this Grand \square with reference to Peru \square , U. D., would respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the M. . W. . Grand Master and R. . W. . Grand Secretary be and they are hereby authorized to grant dimitts in the usual form, as near as the case will admit of, to each individual member of Peru \square , U. D., who at the time of the surrender of the dispensation was in good and regular standing to unite with Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, or any other just and legally constituted \square , which said dimit when presented, to be regarded and acted upon under the same rules and regulations as are provided for in their By-Laws, in cases where a dimitted brother from one subordinate \square petitions to become a member of another.

O. H. IRISH,
JOHN Q. GOSS, } Committee.
W. E. HILL, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

Brother Irish, from committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, made the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, would respectfully recommend the propriety of amending Section "thirty-four" of the By-Laws of this Grand \square by striking out the term "for non-payment of dues," occurring in the fourth and fifth lines of said section as printed in the report of this Grand \square for 1863.

Respectfully submitted.

O. H. IRISH,
JOHN Q. GOSS, } Committee.
W. E. HILL, }

Brother Irish from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the matter of the dispensation of "Bannock," "Monitor," "Idaho" and "Loup Fork" \square , would respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the M. . W. . Grand Master be, and he is hereby, requested to issue new dispensations to "Bannock," "Monitor" and "Idaho" \square , upon the payment of the proper dues and fees, and the R. . W. . Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, ordered to notify them of our action, duly attested by the seal of the Grand \square of Nebraska.

Your committee having also examined the By-Laws and proceedings of Loup

Fork , U. D., find the same correct, and would therefore respectfully report the following resolution:

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers N. R. Hays, James S. Taylor, Richard Bard, J. A. Boker, B. F. Lushbaugh, G. C. Brown and A. J. Arnold, constituting them a of Free and Accepted Masons under the name and style of Columbus , No. 8, to be located at Columbus, N. T.

O. H. IRISH,
R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

Brother Adams, from the committee on Charity, made the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Charity would beg leave to report that no business has been presented for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

E. C. ADAMS, }
JOHN Q. GOSS, } Committee.
L. MILLER, }

Brother Nash, from the committee on Grievances, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Grievances would respectfully report that no business has been presented for their consideration at this session.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. NASH, }
C. W. SEYMOUR, } Committee.
DAVID LEACH, }

The report was adopted.

Brother Seymour, from the select committee appointed to draft resolutions on the death of R. . W. . Grand Treasurer, Brother Silas E. Smith, offered the following, which were unanimously adopted :

REPORT.

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

WHEREAS, This M. . W. . Grand of Free and Accepted Masons has been called to mourn the loss of our most worthy Brother Silas E. Smith, deceased, late R. . W. . Grand Treasurer, who departed this life on the 23d day of September, A. D. 1863, at Nebraska City, aged 29 years. Therefore,

Resolved, That in this dispensation of Divine Providence the masonic fraternity of this Territory have lost a most noble and distinguished brother; one who only cherished our institution, who ever patronized our assemblies, and who

loved to meet his brethren on the level and join heart and hand with them in promoting the principles and welfare of our most ancient order, and whose heart was ever open to the calls of distress, and whose hand was ever ready to grant relief. Most deeply do we deplore the loss of one so highly gifted, so upright in his character, and so universally beloved as was our deceased brother.

Resolved, That we most deeply sympathize with the subordinate \square of which the deceased was a member, and while we mourn with those who mourn in this our common bereavement, yet may the noble life and character of our deceased brother ever lead us to emulate his virtues, and be guided by his life of wisdom and goodness.

Resolved, That we tender our sincere condolence to the bereaved mother and brothers and friends of the deceased, who was to them an affectionate son, kind brother, and devoted friend, and may He who said "let there be light and there was light," and who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, be the comforter of the sorrowful and the widow's God.

Resolved, That, in token of our love to our deceased brother, this Grand \square be draped in mourning during the present session, and that a copy of these resolutions, under the seal of the Grand \square , be sent to the mother and brother of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be published with the proceedings of this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

G. B. GRAFF, }
HENRY BROWN, } Committee.
C. W. SEYMOUR, }

Brother Harvey offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand \square of Nebraska *ought* to be amended so as to read as follows:

ARTICLE 7. At each stated Communication of the Grand \square there shall be elected by ballot, from the brethren who are at the time constitutionally eligible to a seat therein, a Grand Master, a Grand Senior Warden, a Grand Junior Warden, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary. All other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, with the advice and consent of the Grand \square .

ARTICLE 11. No warrant or dispensation for the institution of a new \square shall be granted for a less sum than ten dollars, and no charter shall be granted for a less sum than twenty-five dollars, in addition to the dispensation fee herein provided for.

And also wherever the words "Senior Grand Warden," "Junior Grand Warden," "Senior Grand Deacon," and "Junior Grand Deacon," occur in the Constitution, that they be so changed as to read "Grand Senior Warden," "Grand Junior Warden," "Grand Senior Deacon," and "Grand Junior Deacon."

Brother Harvey, from the committee on Accounts, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee beg leave to report back to the Grand the following accounts referred for their consideration, and recommend that they be allowed, as correct:

M. W. GRAND MASTER'S ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	
To amount received for dispensation from Bannock City <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 10 00	
“ “ “ “ “ Monitor <input type="checkbox"/>	10 00	
“ “ “ “ “ Loup Fork <input type="checkbox"/>	10 00	
“ “ “ “ “ Grand Treasurer	150 00	
	<u>180 00</u>	
	Cr.	
By amount paid to Grand Secretary	\$ 30 00	
“ “ Taylor & McClure for printing Grand <input type="checkbox"/> proceedings	150 00	\$180 00

R. W. GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	
To amount received from M. W. Grand Master.....	\$ 30 00	
To dues received from Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/> No. 1	18 00	
“ “ “ Western Star <input type="checkbox"/> No. 2	65 00	
“ “ “ Capital <input type="checkbox"/> No. 3	63 00	
“ “ “ Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/> No. 4.....	43 00	
“ “ “ Dakota <input type="checkbox"/> No. 5.....	44 00	
“ “ “ Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/> No. 6	52 00	
“ “ “ Decatur <input type="checkbox"/> No. 7	20 00	
“ “ “ Columbus <input type="checkbox"/> No. 8,	30 00	
“ “ “ “ Charter fees	25 00	
	<u>390 00</u>	
	Cr.	
Balance on hand		\$390 00

R. W. GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

1863.		
June 23—To amount reported on hand by Brother S. E. Smith, Grand Treasurer.	\$228 19	
June 23—To amount paid order in favor of Brother R. C. Jordan.....	61 10	
Sept. 23—Balance transferred to Brother H. Brown, Grand Treasurer <i>pro tem.</i>	\$167 09	
Sept. 23—To amount received by Brother H. Brown, Grand Treasurer <i>pro tem.</i> , from administrators of the estate of Brother S. E. Smith, Grand Treasurer.....	\$167 09	
By amount paid order of Grand Master in favor of Taylor & McClure, for printing 1,000 copies of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> proceedings, for 1863.....	\$150 00	
Balance on hand.....		\$ 17 09

Your committee also recommend the allowance of the following bills of expenditure, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer therefor:

To M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master, amount paid Tootle & Hanna for Stationery.....	\$ 2 30	
To R. W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary, amount paid Taylor & McClure for printing 500 Circulars.....	\$ 6 00	
To Traveling Expenses and Express Charges.....	6 75	
To Postage and Stationery.....	4 75	
To Grand Secretary's Salary.....	50 00	\$ 67 50
Pay Roll of Grand Officers.....		49 00
“ “ Representatives.....		52 70
Total.....		<u>\$171 50</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Amount in hands of Grand Secretary.....	\$ 300 00
Amount in hands of Grand Treasurer.....	17 09 \$407 09

LIABILITIES.

Amount due M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master.....	\$ 2 30
Amount due R. W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.....	67 50
Amount due Grand Officers, (Pay Roll,).....	49 00
Amount due Grand Representatives, (Pay Roll,).....	52 70 \$171 50

Resources over Liabilities..... \$235 59

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
DAVID LEACH, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

The bond of Brother W. E. Harvey, as Grand Treasurer, was received, and on motion, approved and ordered spread upon the records.

TREASURER'S BOND.

HALL OF THE GRAND OF NEBRASKA, F. AND A. M., }
PLATTSMOUTH, N. T., June 24, 1864. }

Know all men by these presents, That we, William E. Harvey, as principal, and T. W. Bedford and Geo B. Graff, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, and executors, each of them, firmly by these presents.

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

Signed and sealed at the city of Plattsouth, Nebraska Territory, this 24th day of June, 1864.



WILLIAM E. HARVEY, *Principal.*
T. W. BEDFORD, *Surety.*
GEO. B. GRAFF, *Surety.*

Brother Seymour offered the following resolution, which was referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That where any brother belonging to any subordinate in this jurisdiction has been suspended for the non-payment of dues, and said dues shall remain unpaid for the period of six months thereafter, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the of which such suspended brother is a member, to order the Secretary to enter the name of the delinquent brother upon the books as *expelled*, which action shall be final.

On motion, the Grand \square proceeded to the installation of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The Worshipful Grand Marshal presented the Grand Officers to the M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master, who installed them into their respective offices in ample form.

Brother Irish, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following resolution:

“Resolved, That where any brother belonging to any subordinate \square in this jurisdiction, has been suspended for the non-payment of dues, and said dues shall remain unpaid for the period of six months thereafter, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the \square of which such suspended brother is a member, to order the Secretary to enter the name of the delinquent brother upon the \square books as *expelled*, which action shall be final.”

Would respectfully report that they have not time to consider it with the care and deliberation its importance demands, and would therefore ask leave to report at the next stated Communication of the Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

O. H. IRISH,)
JOHN Q. GOSS,) Committee.
W. E. HILL,)

On motion, the report was adopted.

The committee on Pay Roll submitted the following report, which was approved and ordered paid:

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand \square of Nebraska of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, for the Seventh Annual Communication held at Plattsmouth on Thursday June 23, A. D. 1864.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL
D. H. Wheeler, M. W. Grand Master.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	\$ 3 00	\$ 3 00
*O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master.....	Decatur.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*G. B. Graff, Senior Grand Warden.....	Dakota.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lorin Miller, Junior Grand Warden, <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00
Henry Brown, Grand Treasurer.....	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	3 00	6 00
S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.....	Bellevue.....	10	1 00	3 00	4 00
John Q. Goss, Grand Chaplain, <i>pro tem</i>	Bellevue.....	10	1 00	3 00	4 50
R. W. Furnas, Grand Orator, <i>pro tem</i>	Blackbird.....	90	9 50	3 00	12 00
*E. C. Adams, Grand Lecturer.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*T. W. Bedford, Grand Marshal, <i>pro tem</i>	Brownville.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
E. R. Nash, Past Senior Grand Deacon.....	Decatur.....	85	8 50	3 00	11 50
*J. A. Goodlett, Junior Grand Deacon.....	Nebraska City.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C. H. Wolcott, Grand Tyler.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	3 00	3 00
Total.....	.....	.....	\$25 00	24 00	49 00

*Drew pay as Representatives.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile- age.	Per Diem	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
1.	Nebraska □	Bellevue.....	10	\$ 1 00	\$ 3 00	\$ 4 00	David Leach.....
2.	Western Star □	Nebraska City.....	30	3 00	3 00	6 00	J. A. Goodlett.....
3.	Capital □	Omaha.....	20	2 00	3 00	5 00	W. E. Harvey.....
4.	Nemaha Valley □	Brownville.....	57	5 70	3 00	8 70	T. W. Bedford.....
5.	Dakota □	Dakota.....	115	11 50	3 00	14 50	Geo. B. Graff.....
6.	Plattsmouth □	Plattsmouth.....	.....	.....	3 00	3 00	E. C. Adams.....
7.	Decatur.....	Decatur.....	85	8 50	3 00	11 50	O. H. Irish.....
Total.....				\$31 70	21 00	52 70	

Respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN D. BANGS,)
JOHN Q. GOSS,) Committee.
O. H. IRISH,)

Brother Irish offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee on Printing be and they are hereby directed to have printed with the proceedings of this Grand □ the funeral service in large type.

Brother Irish offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to examine the installation service of the Grand □, and report to the next Grand □ such additions or alterations as may appear to them needful.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Irish, Furnas and Harvey, said committee.

The Grand □ then took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

—♦—

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand □ re-assembled at 2 o'clock, and resumed labor.

The minutes were then read and approved.

The labors of the Grand □ being ended, after singing a parting ode, was closed in ample form with solemn prayer.

D. H. WHEELER, *Grand Master.*

ATTEST :

S. D. BANGS, *Grand Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

David Leach, W. M.	Lemuel H. Case, Treas.	Jas. M. Martin, J. D.
John Q. Goss, S. W.	Newel R. Wilcox, Sec'y.	Wm. F. Martin, Tyler.
J. M. Whitted, J. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Lathrop B. Kinney,	Lewis A. Driskell,	David Leach,
Lemuel H. Case,	Stephen D. Bangs,	John N. Chase.
John Q. Goss.	Green B. Nicholson.	J. M. Whitted,
Samuel G. Beeman,	S. W. Y Schimonsky,	N. R. Wilcox,
Silas A. Strickland,	James M. Martin,	Henry T. Clarke,
Wm. F. Martin,	Christian D. Keller,	James H. Preston.

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

John A. Goodlett, W. M.	John H. Maxon, Treas'r.	John Reed, J. D.
Wm. E. Hill, S. W.	David J. Goff, Sec'y.	Granville H. Hail, Tyler.
DeForest P. Rolfe, J. W.	Henry Brown, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Sylvester Redfield,	Lee P. Gillette,	Elisha Bennett,
J. C. Cook,	W. L. Boydston,	David J. Goff,
H. P. Downs,	Andrew Beardsley,	W. H. H. Waters,
Geo. W. Boulware,	William E. Hill,	S. S. Preston,
John B. Boulware,	Daniel Whiting,	H. T. Davis,
I. L. Gibbs,	Samuel Henderson,	John Reed,
H. N. Cornell,	Aden J. Cavans,	John Doolittle,
W. W. Soper,	George W. Sroat,	John Boulware,
Edward Henry,	Josh. F. Bennett,	H. M. Giltner,
G. H. Hail,	J. T. Hoyle,	Silas E. Smith,
T. E. Thompson,	S. F. Nuckolls,	Henry O. Stevenson,
John B. Bennett,	Wm. Bradway,	Wm. E. Pardee,
John S. Place,	Peter Y. Morse,	C. A. Goshen,
John H. Maxon,	Stephen Kent,	H. J. Kent,
John F. Kinney,	J. P. Cook,	Henry Siegel,
Samuel P. Sibley,	Alfred Matthias,	Chas. A. Place,
H. B. Baker,	Albert Tuxbury,	Charles W. Seymour,
Henry Brown,	Robert Lorton,	Edward Sheldon,
John A. Goodlett,	Geo. A. Gillette,	Isracl Loomis,
H. B. Horton,	D. P. Rolfe,	E. S. Reed.
G. G. Gillette,		

FELLOW CRAFTS.

Joseph Saunders,
S. Duncan,Jos. E. Lawrence,
H. D. Hathaway,

S. S. Bonney.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

R. R. Andrews,
William Fulton,W. D. Wier,
R. H. Matthews,

Robert Hawke.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Byron Reed, W. M.
Augustus Roeder, S. W.
Lorin Miller, J. W.P. Windheim, Treas.
Jno. R. Porter, Sec'y.
E. A. Allen, S. D.Horace Newman, J. D.
James F. Taylor, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Geo. Armstrong,
E. A. Allen,
James E. Boyd,
Aaron Cahn,
E. H. Clark,
W. R. Demarest,
Geo. W. Forbes,
Addison R. Gillmore,
Joel T. Griffin,
Charles W. Hamilton,
G. A. Hess,
M. Hellman,
P. W. Hitchcock,
R. C. Jordan,
A. D. Jones,
James K. Ish.
H. W. Kuhns,
Lorin Miller,John Logan,
John R. Porter,
P. A. Preston.
William M. Pyper,
Samuel E. Rogers,
Augustus Roeder,
Byron Reed,
E. V. Smith,
James F. Taylor,
Philip Windheim,
H. H. Vischer,
James K. Wall,
Wm. Wilder,
William Ruth,
Elias G. Seats,
James G. Megeath,
John B. Chambers,
N. P. Isaacs,R. S. Gillis,
F. Court,
Charles Ruter,
L. J. Ruth,
S. M. Curran,
M. C. Wilber.
Horace Newman,
W. H. Connor,
C. Bremer,
H. Grebe,
F. A. Hoffman,
T. W. Douglas,
J. F. Simpson,
W. B. Wilson,
Henry Munger,
E. A. Frenzell,
S. M. Owens,
W. E. Harvey.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

W. G. Bowman,

Wm. Bowen,

W. H. S. Hughes.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Geo. W. Bratton, W. M.
A. G. White, S. W.
Jesse Noel, J. W.J. W. Bennett, Treas'r.
Jeremiah Marlatt, Sec'y.
R. W. Furnas, S. D.John H. Morrison, J. D.
Wm. Brightmyer, Steward.

MASTER MASONS.

Geo. W. Bratton,
Jesse Noel,
Jer. Marlatt,
R. W. Furnas,
Franklin Ferguson,
George Crow,
T. W. Bedford,
R. F. Rainey,Hiram Alderman,
M. W. Keeling,
David Siegel,
Frederick Marlatt,
John L. Colhapp,
John W. Bennett,
Aaron Conner,John H. Morrison,
William Brightmyer,
A. J. Richardson,
A. G. White,
Jacob Marhon,
Thomas Kelley,
Isaac Chivington.

DAKOTA □, NO. 5, DAKOTA, DAKOTA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: Saturday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Geo. B. Graff, W. M.	John McQuilkin, Treas.	Samuel Gamble, J. D.
James Clark, S. W.	C. F. Eckhart, Sec'y.	Jacob H. Graff, Tyler.
Benj. F. Chambers, J. W.	Wm. Adair, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

William Adair,	Amos Lamson,	Asa Rathburn.
Wm. W. Armour,	Silas T. Leaming,	Samuel Shull,
Harlan Baird,	Wm. C. McBeath,	Samuel Whitehorn,
A. H. Baker,	John M. Quilkin,	Geo. W. Wilkinson,
Benj. F. Chambers,	Barnabas Bates,	John B. Zeigler,
James Clark,	Wm. Boulton,	Samuel Gamble,
Chas. F. Eckhart,	Curtis B. Blevin,	Edward B. Murphy,
Alfred M. Elam,	William Cheney,	John M. Phillips,
Alexander Ford,	Wm. Nixon,	Ira Van Camp,
Geo. B. Graff,	Jacob H. Graff,	J. N. H. Patrick.
A. H. Jackson,	M. Pinkerton,	

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

John A. Pinnegar.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

E. C. Adams, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	J. Vallery, J. D.
E. T. Duke, S. W.	S. Spurlock, Sec'y.	W. L. Thomas, Steward
Chas. H. Wolcott, J. W.	A. Tutt, S. D.	J. S. Carr, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

D. H. Wheeler,	James Minchell,	Elias Sage,
E. C. Adams,	Enos Williams,	J. D. Minchell,
J. N. Wise,	Wm. B. Warbrinton,	Stephen Spurlock,
A. B. Fuller,	Samuel H. Jones,	Wm. L. Thomas,
C. H. Wolcott,	E. T. Duke,	Wm. D. Gage,
Jacob Vallery,	T. M. Marquette,	A. B. Smith,
Joseph Schlater,	Thomas K. Hanna,	J. W. Chapman,
J. C. Cummins,	Wm. H. Spradlin,	A. G. Scranton,
John W. Marshall,	G. H. Black,	E. C. Lewis,
Wm. B. Porter,	A. Tutt,	S. S. Billings,
Joseph Harper,	George W. Colvin,	R. G. Doom.

FELLOW CRAFT.

Milo Fellows.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Harry Howland,	Elijah Barker,	William S. Latta,
W. P. Davis,	B. Spurlock,	Myron Moe.
Isaac Wiles,	Samuel Maxwell,	

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

O. H. Irish, W. M.	Isaac Black, Treas'r.	E. D. Canfield, J. D.
Ed. R. Nash, S. W.	John S. Ramseyer, Sec'y.	Michael Evans, Steward.
Frank Welch, J. W.	F. W. Snow, S. D.	Henry P. Cline, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

O. H. Irish,	E. D. Canfield.	Isaac Black,
Chas. F. Porter,	Ed. R. Nash,	James Ashley,
B. R. Folsom.	Frank Welch,	J. R. Conklin,
Austin Rockwell,	Michael Evans,	Henry P. Cline,
John S. Ramseyer,	F. W. Snow,	Hiram Chase.
Lorenzo Hobbs,		

LOUP FORK □, U. D., COLUMBUS, PLATTE COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

E. C. Adams, W. M.	G. C. Barnum, Treas'r.	A. J. Arnold, J. D.
N. R. Hays, S. W.	R. Bond, Sec'y.	Reuben Gaucher, Tyler.
J. S. Taylor, J. W.	J. S. Carr, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

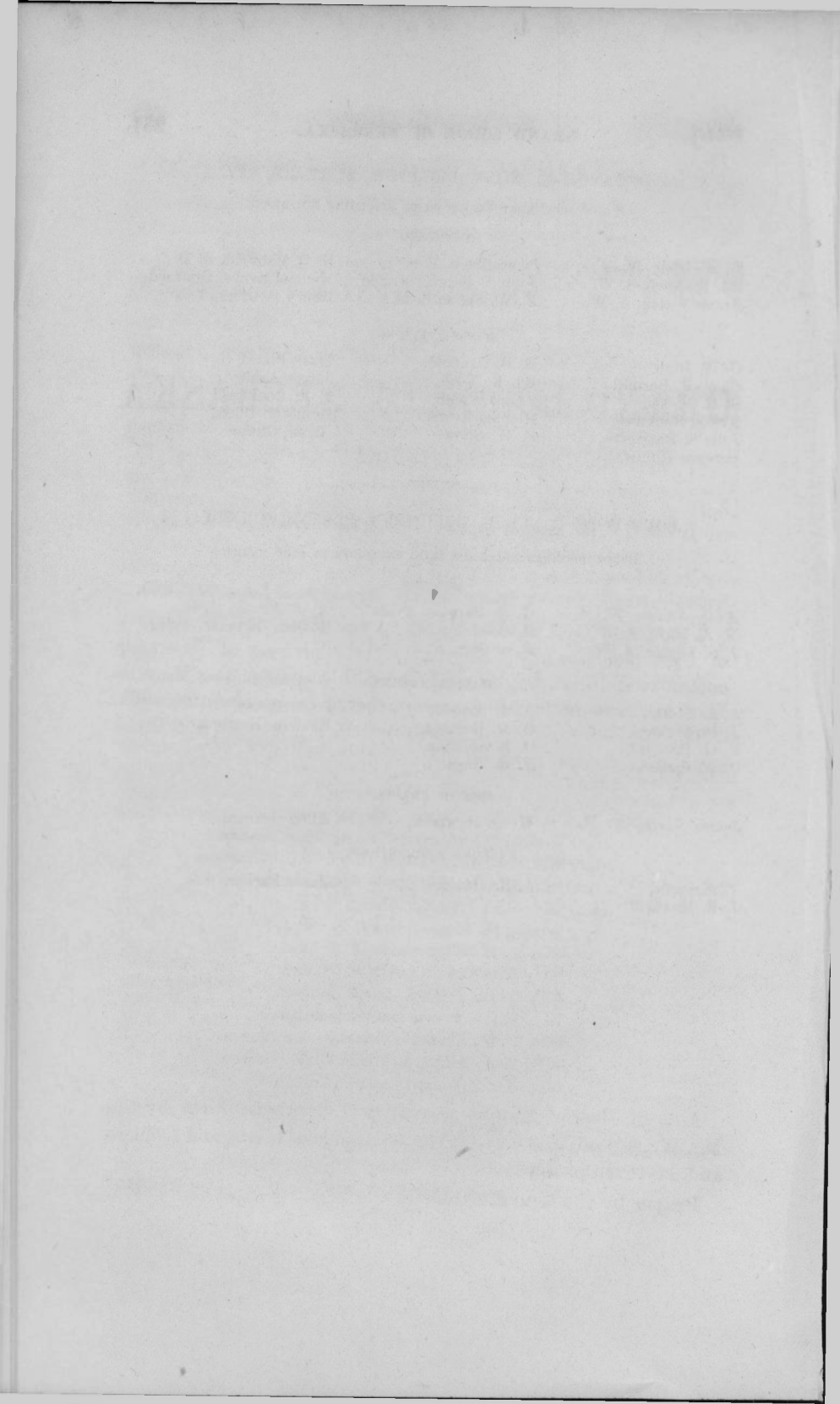
J. S. Taylor,	A. J. Arnold,	J. A. Baker,
J. P. Becker,	G. C. Barnum,	Reuben Gaucher,
F. G. Beecher,	C. B. Stillman,	G. W. Haywood.
C. A. Speice,	N. R. Hays,	

FELLOW CRAFTS.

James North,	W. G. Bowman,	Allen Gerrard.
--------------	---------------	----------------

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

V. Krumer,	J. B. David,	Jason Parker.
J. B. Maxfield,		



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT BROWNVILLE, JUNE 22, A. L. 5865.

EIGHTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA, June 22, 1865.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its eighth Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall at Brownville, on Thursday the 22d day of June, 1865.

The following is a list of the Grand officers present, and those appointed *pro tem*:

GRAND OFFICERS.

- M. . W. . DANIEL H. WHEELER, Grand Master.
- R. . W. . R. W. FURNAS, Deputy Grand Master.
- R. . W. . GEORGE B. GRAFF, Grand Senior Warden.
- R. . W. . JOHN A. GOODLETT, Grand Junior Warden.
- R. . W. . W. E. HARVEY, Grand Treasurer.
- R. . W. . J. N. WISE, as Grand Secretary.
- W. . A. G. WHITE, Grand Chaplain.
- W. . G. C. BETTS, as Grand Orator.
- W. . HENRY BROWN, Grand Lecturer.
- W. . A. ROCKWELL, as Grand Marshal.
- W. . T. W. BEDFORD, Grand Senior Deacon.
- W. . E. A. ALLEN, as Grand Junior Deacon.
- W. . WM. BRIGHTMYER, as Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. . W. . Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Furnas, Welch and Duke.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Brothers Hill, Bratton and Chambers.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Credentials, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials find the following in this jurisdiction represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are correct; also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA , No. 1—S. D. Bangs, proxy for Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden, 3.

WESTERN STAR , No. 2—W. E. Hill, Worshipful Master, 1; C. A. Place, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; John Reed, Junior Warden, 1.

CAPITAL , No. 3—W. E. Harvey, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; E. A. Allen, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; W. E. Harvey, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

NEMAHA VALLEY , No. 4—T. W. Bedford, Worshipful Master, 1; A. P. Cogswell, Senior Warden, 1; O. B. Hewitt, Junior Warden, 1.

Omadi , No. 5—B. F. Chambers, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; B. F. Chambers, Senior Warden, 1; A. Rockwell, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH , No. 6—E. T. Duke, Worshipful Master, 1; J. N. Wise, Senior Warden, 1; Jacob Vallery, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

DECATUR , No. 7—F. Welch, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; F. Welch, Senior Warden, 1; F. Snow, Junior Warden, 1.

FALLS CITY , U. D.—Represented by H. O. Hanna and Wm. H. Mann.

Your committee also find the following named Grand Officers present and entitled to seats, and one vote each:

M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master.

R. W. R. W. Furnas, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Geo. B. Graff, Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. J. A. Goodlett, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. W. E. Harvey, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary, *pro tem*.

W. A. G. White, Grand Chaplain.

W. G. C. Betts, Grand Orator, *pro tem*.

W. Henry Brown, Grand Lecturer.

W. A. Rockwell, Grand Marshal, *pro tem*.

W. T. W. Bedford, Grand Senior Deacon.

W. E. A. Allen, Grand Junior Deacon, *pro tem*.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS,
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
E. T. DUKE,

The report of the committee was adopted.

A constitutional number of ☐ being represented the M.: W.: Grand Master appointed the following officers, in accordance with the By-Laws:

Brother John Reed, Grand Steward.

Brother Jacob Vallery, Grand Sword Bearer.

Brothers W. E. Hill and A. P. Cogswell, Grand Pursuivants.

The W.: Grand Marshal then, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, made proclamation that the M.: W.: Grand ☐ of Nebraska was duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers Graff, Reed and Chambers.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Furnas, Graff and Allen.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Furnas, Betts and Harvey.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Harvey, Goodlett and Welch.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Brown, Duke and Bedford.

On Charity—Brothers Hill, Bedford and Hewitt.

On Grievances—Brothers Place, Vallery and Cogswell.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers Snow, Bratton and White.

On Pay Roll—Brothers Harvey, Allen and Hill.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Betts, Bedford and White.

On motion of Brother G. B. Graff, it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good standing are hereby invited to witness the proceedings of this Grand ☐.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand ☐:

It is with feelings of profound gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of all things, that I congratulate you on being permitted to meet for the eighth time in Grand Communication. And at the commencement of this annual gathering let me invite you to unite in thankfulness to the Giver of all good for His merciful preservation, and in prayer for "still increasing light" to diligently discharge our duties and practice the tenets of our beloved order.

The fraternity in Nebraska have been blessed beyond the expectations of the most sanguine. While in many of the States our brethren have suffered the dread horrors of war, we have enjoyed comparative peace, and from the throne of the Grand Master of all, we have reason to believe, blessed answers have been sent to petitions offered from our altar one year ago; the darkness of war's night is fast passing away, and the angels of mercy and peace are descending upon our nation. God grant that their mission be speedily accomplished, and order once more established over all the land.

I am happy to inform you, that, during the past masonic year, the order within this jurisdiction has steadily increased, and among the initiates are some of the best men in the territory,—such as we always welcome, and such, too, as we doubt not, give and receive honor by association with us, and it is with pleasure I record the fact, that at no period in the history of Freemasonry in Nebraska, have the prospects of the order been more cheering than at the present.

On the 4th day of October last, I issued a dispensation to Brothers H. O. Hanna, Nelson Snyder, W. H. Mann, Isham Reavis, and five other Master Masons, authorizing them to open Falls City □, at Falls City, Nebraska. Their petition was recommended by Nehama Valley □, No. 4, which petition, with accompanying documents, are herewith submitted.

At the last Annual Communication of this Grand □, the Grand Master was requested to issue new dispensations to “Bannock,” “Monitor” and “Idaho” □, upon the payment of the proper dues and fees, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to notify them of the action of the Grand □. No report has been received from “Bannock” and “Monitor” □. The Grand Secretary forwarded to me the necessary report from Idaho □, but I have utterly failed to learn from him whether the necessary funds accompanied the report. I have, therefore, refused to issue the dispensation, for the reason that the funds were not forthcoming. The papers and reports are herewith submitted to you.

At your last Communication you ordered a charter issued to Brothers N. R. Hays, James S. Taylor, and other brethren at Columbus, Nebraska, and requested the Grand Master to forward the same to them upon receipt of the funds due the Grand □. The necessary funds were paid to the Grand Secretary, but it appears that no charter was signed by the Grand Officers. I therefore issued a dispensation to the brethren, and I would recommend that a charter be issued bearing date June 24, 1864, signed by the present Grand Officers to said brethren.

At your last Communication you ordered that Grand □ dimits be issued to each member of the late Peru □, under dispensation. No dimits have been issued, so far as I am informed. I deem this an injustice to those brethren, and would recommend that the necessary dimits be issued during the sitting of this Grand □.

Section 7 of the Constitution of this Grand □ provides that “at each stated Communication of the Grand □, there shall be *elected by ballot* a Deputy Grand Master, in addition to the regular officers of the □.” This manner of selecting the Deputy Grand Master, I consider irregular and unmasonic. Masonic *custom and law* teach that he is the representative of the Grand Master, and for his acts the Grand Master is responsible. Would it not, then, be much better to follow the usual and regular custom, and permit the Grand Master to appoint his own Deputy? I would therefore recommend that the Constitution be so changed as to favor the view herein expressed. Believing that everything which can be of general interest to the fraternity in Nebraska will be well looked to by the representatives of the several □ here assembled, I leave the various matters of interest which will be brought before the Grand □ in your hands, confident that

you will bring to your deliberations good counsel, excellent experience, and sound judgment.

In conclusion, my brethren, allow me to express my heartfelt thanks for your partiality in elevating me for two successive years to the highest position which a mason can hope to attain. Grateful for the distinction you have conferred, as well as for the deference and uniform courtesy which have ever been manifested toward me by the brethren in the Territory, I now return you the jewel of my office, trusting that it has not been unworthily worn, and that my endeavors to discharge the responsible duties of my position have met with your approbation, and proved beneficial to the craft.

I now, my brethren, invoke the blessing of the Grand Architect of the Universe upon your labors. May the work prepared by this Grand \square be good work and square work—such work as will be eminently successful in spreading the cement of brotherly love among the craft in your care, and such as will be received by the Master Overseer above.

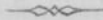
D. H. WHEELER, *Grand Master.*

On motion of Brother Furnas, it was

Resolved, That the address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to whom the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Furnas, Hill, and Welch, were appointed such committee.

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



SECOND DAY.

FRIDAY, June 23—8 o'clock A. M.

The M. W. Grand \square was called from refreshment to labor, the M. W. the Grand Master in the East. Officers and representatives as on yesterday.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations made the following partial

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the application of Falls City \square , under dispensation, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said \square , and find the same correct and in conformity with masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Falls City , under dispensation, be, and the same are hereby, approved by the Grand .

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers H. O. Hanna, Nelson Snyder, Wm. H. Mann, W. R. Cain, H. J. Vandal, J. R. Dowty, Isham Reavis, W. T. Stout, and John R. Brooke, constituting them a of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Falls City , No. 9, to be located at Falls City, Nebraska. And that the representatives thereof, present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand .

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
E. A. ALLEN, } Committee.
GEO. B. GRAFF, }

Brother G. C. Betts, from the committee on Subordinate Returns, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska :

Your committee to whom was assigned the returns of subordinate , for examination, respectfully report that the duty has been performed, and the annexed statement presents a correct view of the statistical condition of each :

No.	NAME OF LODGE.	Master Masons.	Fellow Crafts.	Entr'd Apprent.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Dimitted.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	Amount Dues.
1	Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/>	20	2	3	4	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$ 31 00
2	Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	52	3	7	3	1	2	6	2	7	9	12	9	61 00
3	Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	76	4	7	31	27	24	8	6	2	2	24	2	155 00
4	Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/>	44	3	4	16	12	11	5	2	1	1	1	1	81 00
5	Dakota <input type="checkbox"/>	34	1	6	11	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	62 00
6	Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/>	46	2	15	19	9	9	7	3	1	1	1	1	96 00
7	Decatur <input type="checkbox"/>	19	1	2	5	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	31 00
8	Columbus <input type="checkbox"/>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1 00
	Falls City <input type="checkbox"/> , U. D.	27	7	15	36	21	14	4	1	1	1	1	6	116 16
	Total	318	21	59	125	82	70	31	18	7	9	2	61	\$633 16

All of which is submitted.

GEO. C. BETTS, }
A. G. WHITE, } Committee.
T. W. BEDFORD, }

Brother R. W. Furnas, from the select committee on Annual Address, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska :

Your select committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, for the purpose of designating appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred, submit the following report:

That that portion of the address referring to Falls City, Bannock, Monitor,

Idaho, and Columbus , be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That portion referring to the brethren of Peru , to a select committee.

That portion referring to the *appointment* of Deputy Grand Master, be referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
 WM. E. HILL, } Committee.
 F. WELCH, }

A select committee, consisting of Brothers Bedford, Hanna and Harvey, was appointed as recommended in foregoing report.

Notice of an appeal taken by Brothers C. W. Wheeler and O. B. Hewitt, from the decision of Nemaha Valley , No. 4, was presented to the Grand , and on motion the matter was referred to the committee on Grievances, with instructions to report as early as practicable.

Brother Harvey, from the committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the following resolution, "That where any brother belonging to any subordinate in this jurisdiction has been suspended for the non-payment of dues, and said dues shall remain unpaid for the period of six months thereafter, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the of which such suspended brother is a member, to order the Secretary to enter the name of the delinquent brother upon the books as *expelled*, which action shall be final," would respectfully recommend its adoption with the following amendments:

1st. By striking out the following words, "which action shall be final," at the end of the resolution.

2d. By inserting the following clause after the word in the fourth line of said resolution, "By and with the consent of said .

3d. By striking out the word "he" in the fourth line, and substituting the words "said delinquent," so that the resolution shall read as follows:

Resolved, That where any brother belonging to any subordinate in this jurisdiction, has been suspended for non-payment of dues, and said dues shall remain unpaid for the period of six months thereafter, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the by and with the consent of said of which such suspended brother is a member, to order the Secretary to enter the name of the delinquent brother upon the books as *expelled*."

And your committee further recommend that Section 22 of the By-Laws, as appearing in the printed proceedings of the Grand of 1863, be amended as follows:

By striking out the clause "which shall be considered sufficient notice to each member," and inserting "and if any member shall fail to pay such dues at such

stated times, he shall be considered delinquent, and it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to cause a notice to be served on the delinquent member in person, if a resident of the county in which said \square is situated, at least ten days before any other action shall be taken. And if the brother shall reside outside of the county, notice shall be mailed to the post office nearest his residence, at least thirty days before any further action is taken, which notice shall be deemed sufficient."

So that said Section 22 as amended, shall read as follows:

"The subordinate \square shall have authority to assess such dues upon their members from time to time, as they shall deem just and expedient, and the By-Laws of each \square shall designate the amount so assessed, and the time for the payment thereof. And if any member shall fail to pay such dues at such stated times, he shall be considered delinquent, and it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to cause a notice to be served on the delinquent member in person, if a resident within the county in which said \square is situated, at least ten days before any other action shall be taken. And if the brother shall reside outside of the county, notice shall be mailed to the post office nearest his residence, at least thirty days before any further action is taken, which notice shall be deemed sufficient. And it is hereby made the imperative duty of the Worshipful Master, by and with the consent of the \square , to cause the Secretary to enter 'suspended' every member who shall be in arrears, and forthwith to notify him of the same, and if within a reasonable time thereafter, as the \square may determine, the member so suspended does not discharge his dues, he may be expelled."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY,
FRANK WELCH,
JOHN A. GOODLETT, } Committee.

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Credentials, made the following additional report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Credentials find the following \square represented by the following named delegates whose credentials are correct. Also the number of votes to which each is entitled:

NEBRASKA \square , No. 1.—S. D. Bangs, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1 vote; S. D. Bangs, proxy for Senior Warden, 1 vote; S. D. Bangs, proxy for Junior Warden, 1 vote.

Your committee also find the following named Grand Officer present, not included in our former report, and entitled to a seat: R. W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary, 1 vote.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS,
F. WELCH, } Committee.

Brother Place, from the committee on Grievances, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the appeal of Brothers C. W. Wheeler and O. B. Hewitt, from the decision of Nemaha Valley , beg leave to submit the same without recommendation.

CHAS. A. PLACE, }
 JACOB VALLERY, } Committee.
 A. P. COGSWELL, }

On motion, the matter of the appeal of Brothers Wheeler and Hewitt, from the decision of Nemaha Valley , No. 4, was referred to a select committee.

Brothers Graff, Hill, and Duke, were appointed such committee.

On motion of Brother Goodlett, the M. : W. : Grand proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, which resulted as follows :

- Brother R. W. FURNAS, of Brownville, M. : W. : Grand Master
- “ GEO. B. GRAFF, of Dakota, R. : W. : Deputy Grand Master.
- “ JOHN A. GOODLETT, Nebraska City, R. : W. : Grand Senior Warden.
- “ G. W. BRATTON, of Brownville, R. : W. : Grand Junior Warden.
- “ W. E. HARVEY, of Omaha, R. : W. : Grand Treasurer.
- “ J. N. WISE, of Plattsmouth, R. : W. : Grand Secretary.

Brother Graff offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand of Nebraska be held at Nebraska City, commencing on the 21st of June, 1866, A. L. 5866

Brother Furnas offered a resolution, which, when amended, read as follows :

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay the bill for printing the proceedings of this Grand for the year 1864, when audited by the chairman of the committee on Printing, and that he render an account of the same at the next session of this Grand .

The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Brother Snow, from the committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Unfinished Business would respectfully report, that no business has appeared before them at this session of the Grand .

F. M. SNOW, }
 GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
 A. G. WHITE, }

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

AFTERNOON SESSION.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: Grand resumed labor.

Present, M.: W.: Grand Master. Officers and representatives as before.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Brother Harvey, from the committee on Pay-Roll submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Pay-Roll respectfully report the following list of officers and members of the M.: W.: Grand of Nebraska, entitled to the several sums set opposite their respective names, and recommend the payment of the same.

PAY ROLL

Of the Officers and Members of the Grand of Nebraska of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, for the Eighth Annual Communication, held at Brownville, on June 22, A. D. 1865.

GRAND OFFICERS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCES.	Miles	Mile-	Per	TOTAL
		age.	Diem		
D. H. Wheeler, M.: W.: Grand Master.....	Plattsmouth.....	57	\$ 5 70	\$ 4 50	\$10 20
R. W. Furnas, Deputy Grand Master.....	Omaha Agency.....	145	14 60	4 50	19 00
Geo. B. Graff, Grand Senior Warden.....	Dakota.....	170	17 00	4 50	21 50
John A. Goodlett, Grand Junior Warden.....	Nebraska City.....	27	2 70	4 50	7 20
*Wm. E. Harvey, Grand Treasurer.....	Omaha.....				
J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary, <i>pro tem</i>	Plattsmouth.....	57	5 70	4 50	10 20
A. G. White, Grand Chaplain.....	Fort Calhoun.....	95	9 50	4 50	14 00
Geo. C. Betts, Grand Orator.....	Plattsmouth.....	57	5 70	4 50	10 20
Henry Brown, Grand Lecturer.....	Nebraska City.....	27	2 70	4 50	7 20
A. Rockwell, Grand Marshal, <i>pro tem</i>	Omaha Agency.....	145	14 60	4 50	19 00
*T. W. Bedford, Grand Senior Deacon.....	Brownville.....				
E. A. Allen, Grand Junior Deacon.....	De Soto.....	100	10 00	4 50	14 50
Wm. Brightmyer, Grand Tyler.....	Brownville.....			4 50	4 50
Total.....			\$88 00	49 50	137 50

*Drew pay as Representatives.

MEMBERS.

NO.	NAME OF <input type="checkbox"/> .	WHERE HELD.	Miles	Mile-	Per	TOTAL.	TO WHOM PAID.
			age.	Diem			
1.	Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/>	Bellevue.....	65	\$ 6 50	\$ 4 50	\$11 00	S. D. Bangs.....
2.	Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	Nebraska City.....	27	2 70	4 50	7 20	Wm. E. Hill.....
3.	Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	Omaha.....	75	7 50	4 50	12 00	W. E. Harvey.....
4.	Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/>	Brownville.....			4 50	4 50	T. W. Bedford.....
5.	Dakota <input type="checkbox"/>	Dakota.....	170	17 00	4 50	21 50	B. F. Chambers.....
6.	Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/>	Plattsmouth.....	57	5 70	4 50	10 20	E. T. Duke.....
7.	Decatur.....	Decatur.....	135	13 50	4 50	18 00	Frank Welch.....
9.	Falls City.....	Falls City.....	28	2 80	4 50	7 30	H. O. Hanna.....
	Total.....			\$55 70	36 00	91 70	

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY,
E. A. ALLEN,
WM. E. HILL, } Committee.

Brother Bedford, from the special committee to whom was referred the matter of Peru \square , submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution passed at the last session of the Grand \square , authorizing the M. . W. . Grand Master and the R. . W. . Grand Secretary to grant dimits to the individual members of Peru \square , who were in good standing at the time of the surrender of their dispensation, beg leave to report the following: That said resolution has been fully complied with during the present session of this Grand \square , and that dimits have been duly executed to the said members respectively.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. W. BEDFORD, }
H. O. HANNA, } Committee.

Brother Graff, from special committee to whom was referred the appeal of Brothers Wheeler and Hewitt from the decision of Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your select committee, to whom was referred the matter of appeal of Brothers C. W. Wheeler and O. B. Hewitt, from the decision of Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, beg leave to report :

That by examination of the proceedings of Nemaha Valley \square , it appears that on June 20, 1864, it is found that O. B. Hewitt and C. W. Wheeler, with two others, are reported as "suspended."

In the statement furnished the committee by the brethren appealing, they concede that they were in arrears at the date above recited. This being conceded, we append from the By-Laws of the \square , Chapter V., Sec. 2, as follows :

"Should any member, by neglect or any other cause, save sickness, suffer his \square dues to go unpaid over one year, he shall be entered on the Secretary's book as suspended."

The case at this point would appear regular and in order. But on further examination of the By-Laws of said \square , we find in Chapter VII., Section 1, a definition of *offenses*, among which is "non-payment of dues." And further, in Section 2, occurs the following: "When an offense shall be committed by any member or members of this \square , they shall be cited to appear upon notice of not less than ten days." No evidence is furnished that such notice was given, and your committee believe no such notice was ever given the appealing brethren, although it is clear that an offense was committed. And further, that the duty of the \square was to cite them for trial in accordance with the last recited section.

Wherefore, your committee would recommend that Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, be directed to remove the suspension complained of, provided all dues shall have

been paid; and if not discharged, said □ should proceed to trial in accordance with Section 2, Chapter VII., of By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
W. E. HILL, } Committee.
E. T. DUKE, }

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. . W. : Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, having had under consideration the matter of Columbus, Idaho, Monitor and Bannock □□, report that at the last session of the Grand □, a charter was granted the applicants for Columbus □, but for some reason it has not been furnished. Your committee therefore offer, for adoption, the following:

Resolved, That a charter be issued to the brethren at Columbus in compliance with the previous action of this Grand □, to date June 23, 1864, and signed by the then proper officers of the Grand □.

Your committee have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of Idaho □, U. D., and find the same correct and in conformity with masonic law and usage, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That the By-Laws of Idaho □ be and the same are hereby approved by the Grand □.

2d. *Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Brothers Mark A. Moore, Samuel W. Stanley, Levi J. Russell, Robert Hereford, Joseph G. Steele, John F. Cowan, G. W. Cleveland, T. H. Clewell, W. H. Patten, John M. Wood, Daniel Elliott, Freeman H. Shaw, Julius Hewes, Wm. R. Wheeler, J. L. Damon and Cornelius Griswold, constituting them a □ of Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Idaho □, No. 10, to be located at Nevada City, Idaho Territory.

The Secretary of Idaho □ has forwarded to the Grand Secretary of the Grand □ the sum of sixty-five dollars, twenty-five dollars in payment of charter fee, and asking that the balance—forty dollars—be expended in the purchase of a Master's Carpet, Masonic Lexicon, and the printing of By-Laws.

Your committee therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be requested to comply with the wishes of the brethren of Idaho □.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to notify the Secretary of Idaho □ to make out and transmit to this Grand □ the annual report up to this date, together with the requisite Grand □ dues.

The brethren of Bannock □, U. D., have returned to the Grand Secretary their dispensation, with no request relative thereto.

Your committee suppose a continuation of the dispensation is desired, and therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the M. . W. : the Grand Master be and is hereby requested to

grant a new dispensation to the brethren of Bannock City, on the reception of their report and the fees due this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, }
GEO. B. GRAFF, } Committee.
E. A. ALLEN, }

Brother Bedford, from special committee appointed to receive the effects of Peru \square , submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

In accordance with a resolution passed at the last session of the Grand \square , directing the Worshipful Master of Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4, to receive and dispose of the property belonging to Peru \square , I beg leave to report the following: That I have received the following property belonging to Peru \square , to-wit: two large columns and two small columns. And further, having had no opportunity to dispose of said property, I still have it in charge, subject to the order of this Grand \square .

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. W. BEDFORD, Worshipful Master,
Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4."

The Grand Secretary submitted his annual report, which was referred to committee on Accounts.

Brother Bedford presented an account for stationery, which was referred to committee on Accounts.

Brother Harvey offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare an address to R. . W. . Brother A. G. Mackey, Grand Secretary of the Grand \square of South Carolina, expressive of the obligations that the masonic fraternity are under, for the noble aid he has extended to distressed brethren, who, as soldiers of the Union, were confined in southern prisons, thereby proving himself a mason in truth.

Brothers Harvey, Furnas and Betts were appointed such committee.

The Grand Treasurer presented his account, which was referred to committee on Accounts.

Brother Bedford offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a public installation of the Grand Officers elect of this Grand \square take place immediately after the oration, to be delivered by the Grand Orator, and at the same place.

The Grand \square was called from labor to refreshment until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRD DAY.

SATURDAY, 24th June, 1865, 8 A. M.

The M. W. the Grand \square resumed labor.

Present, the Grand Master, officers and representatives as on yesterday.

The minutes were read and approved.

Brother Geo. B. Graff, from committee on Accounts, presented the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Accounts and Expenditures beg leave to report back to the Grand \square the following accounts, referred for their consideration, as correct, and recommend that they be allowed:

R. W. GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	
To dispensation fee received from M. W. Grand Master.....	\$ 10 00	
To amount received for charter from Falls City \square , No. 9.....	25 00	
" " " Idaho \square , No. 10.....	25 00	
" dues received from Nebraska \square , No. 1.....	31 00	
" " " " Western Star \square , No. 2.....	61 00	
" " " " Capital \square , No. 3.....	155 00	
" " " " Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4.....	81 00	
" " " " Dakota \square , No. 5.....	62 00	
" " " " Plattsmouth \square , No. 6.....	96 00	
" " " " Decatur \square , No. 7.....	31 00	
" " " " Falls City \square , No. 8.....	116 16	
	<hr/>	\$ 693 16
	Cr.	
By Grand Treasurer's receipt.....		\$ 693 16

R. W. GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	
To amount received from Brother H. Brown.....	\$ 17 09	
" " " Grand Secretary, 1864.....	390 00	
" " " " " 1865.....	693 16	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,100 25
	Cr.	
By amount paid M. W. D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master.....	\$ 2 30	
" " " To R. W. S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.....	67 50	
" " " Pay Roll of Grand \square	101 70	
	<hr/>	\$ 171 50
By balance due Grand \square		\$ 928 75

Your committee further recommend the allowance of the following bills of expenditure, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer therefor:

To T. W. Bedford, for stationery.....	\$ 1 30
To W. E. Harvey, for blank-book and postage.....	2 68
To S. D. Bangs, salary, stationery, &c.....	60 00
To Pay Roll of Grand Officers.....	137 50
To Pay Roll of members.....	91 70
	<hr/>
	\$ 293 18

RECAPITULATION.

Amount in hands of Grand Treasurer.....	\$928 75	\$928 75
LIABILITIES.		
Amount due T. W. Bedford.....	\$ 1 30	
“ “ W. E. Harvey.....	2 68	
“ “ S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.....	60 00	
“ “ Grand Officers.....	137 50	
“ “ Members.....	91 70	
		\$293 18
Resources over Liabilities.....		\$635 57

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
 JOHN REED. } Committee.
 B. F. CHAMBERS, }

The Grand Treasurer elect presented his bond, which was approved, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

TREASURER'S BOND.

HALL OF THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA, A. F. AND A. M., }
 BROWNVILLE, N. T., June 24, 1865. }

Know all men by these presents, That we, William E. Harvey, as principal, and Geo. B. Graff and Jacob Vallery, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand □ of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, and executors, each of them, firmly by these presents.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas, William E. Harvey has been elected Treasurer of the Grand □ of Nebraska, now if the said William E. Harvey shall well and truly discharge the duties of his office as Treasurer, as required by said Grand □, and shall pay over all moneys in his possession as Treasurer to his successor in office, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed and sealed at Brownville, Nebraska Territory, this 24th day of June, 1865.



WILLIAM E. HARVEY, [L. s.] *Principal.*
 GEO. B. GRAFF, [L. s.] *Surety.*
 JACOB VALLERY, [L. s.] *Surety.*

R. W. Furnas, Grand Master elect, made the following appointments for the ensuing year, which were confirmed by the M.: W.: Grand □:

Brother Rev. GEO. C. BETTS, of Plattsmouth, W.: Grand Chaplain.

“ W. E. HILL, of Nebraska City, W.: Grand Lecturer.

“ REV. O. C. DAKE, of Fremont, W.: Grand Orator.

“ FRANK WELCH, of Decatur, W.: Grand Marshal.

“ H. O. HANNA, of Falls City, W.: Grand Senior Deacon.

“ WM. CHENEY, of Dakota, W.: Grand Junior Deacon.

“ G. H. HALL, of Nebraska City, W.: Grand Tyler.

Brother Hill offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand \square it is unwise and irregular for any subordinate \square in this jurisdiction to initiate, pass, or raise more than one candidate at the same time; provided this resolution shall not be construed so as to prevent the giving of the Lectures and Charges to any number at the same time.

Brother Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand \square return thanks to the officers and members of Nemaha Valley \square , No. 4. and the citizens of Brownville, for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained the members of the Grand \square during this session.

Brother Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. : W. : the Grand \square of Nebraska loan to Plattsmouth \square , No. 6, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, the sum of three hundred dollars, without interest, during the pleasure of the Grand \square . to be returned at any time after ninety days notice to said \square , and that R. : W. : J. N. Wise, the Grand Secretary, be, and he is hereby, empowered to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for this amount, and receive from the proper officers at Plattsmouth, the necessary and regular certificates of indebtedness for the same, and file them with the Grand Treasurer.

Brother W. E. Harvey, from the committee appointed to draft an address to the R. : W. : A. G. Mackey, submitted the following address, which was adopted :

ADDRESS.

HALL OF GRAND \square OF A. F. AND A. M., }
BROWNVILLE, NEBRASKA, June 24, 1865. }

To the R. : W. : Albert G. Mackey, Grand Secretary of the Grand \square of South Carolina :

R. : W. : SIR AND ESTEEMED BROTHER:

The M. : W. : the Grand \square of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, having heard of the noble sacrifices made by you in extending relief to brother masons, who, while serving in the armies of the Union, were captured and confined in southern prisons by the power of rebel foes, sends greetings and congratulations, that you, Sir, have maintained the high masonic character you have always sustained, that you have ever remembered, while in the midst of treason, that great principle of masonry—fidelity to the government and laws of your country. And while you have battled against rebellion, you have been so faithful to your vows, even to impoverishing yourself, in furnishing aid and comfort to your unfortunate brethren, by which the lives of many worthy brothers have been saved, and which has endeared you to every true mason's heart.

Such fidelity to high principles cheers our hearts and inspires our courage to press forward in the cause of our beloved institution, the cause of fraternal Love, Charity and Truth.

May you be successful in all your worldly undertakings, and when, after years of enjoyment of peace and prosperity in a Union restored, you are called hence, may you ascend to that Grand \square on high, where the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe forever presides—forever reigns.

W. E. HARVEY, }
R. W. FURNAS, } Committee.
G. C. BETTS, }

The M. W. the Grand \square was then called from labor to refreshment for the purpose of hearing the Annual Oration, and installing the Grand Officers elect.

ORATION.

By R. W. AND REV. GEO. C. BETTS, GRAND ORATOR.

Brethren of the Grand \square of Nebraska:

It is a time-honored custom among masons when met in Grand Communication, that one should set forth the principles of the order—not to combat prejudice or misrepresentation, not so much to restore the wavering brother to a just and upright position, not even to strengthen the edifice we love, but simply that we may together contemplate the matchless symmetry of its proportions, the stupendous height to which it reaches; and, by inculcating the duty of diligent watchfulness, to impress more thoroughly on our minds, and establish more firmly in our hearts, as individual members of the Ancient Brotherhood, those glorious maxims and that hidden knowledge which distinguish us from the rest of mankind.

The interests of the craft have gathered you together from all parts of our Territory, to review the past and take action for the future; and the column of "wisdom" while it presided over your deliberations, has been nobly adorned by the counsels which experience dictated and affection for the order presented.

Prosperity has been with you, and no confusion disturbs the craft, and the sounds which greet you from the quarries tell only of vigorous emulation among the workmen and the rapid growth of the temple under their skillful hands.

To you they have committed the task of putting together the work they have prepared, and well and skillfully has it been done, with a thorough appreciation of the responsibilities connected therewith, and nobly has the Grand \square acquitted itself. And, still it is true, that while your well-doing must advance the glory and usefulness of the order, should you prove recreant to your trust, it is gratifying to know that you cannot dim the lustre of its beauty, or mar the dignity of its position. The honor of Freemasonry does not depend upon individuals. Its reputation is not based upon the conduct of its votaries; its foundations are cemented by the enduring principles of right, and its honor based upon the existence of the Infinite. Take away all that is external of the order, destroy its columns, and trail its ensign in the dust; let legislative enactments be hurled at its gates, and persecuting monarchs drive it from their kingdoms;

when all the malice that human hate begets is expended, and pride and bigotry have trodden it under foot, Phoenix-like, it springs to life, vigorous and strong, and true masonic brethren hear the comforting voice proclaiming—"because I live ye shall live also." As it regards no man for his wealth or substance, so it does not rely upon externals to perpetuate its existence. This is secured to it while "*Truth is mighty*," and on its sublime tenets it rests the vast structure securely; confident that at the last, the glorious lesson of Faith, Hope and Charity, which it teaches, shall prevail, and that they who have seen "*the light*" illuminate every step to the temple, are the best guardians of its mysteries and the most trustworthy keepers of the veils that hide the Holy Place from profanity. "*To attentive ears*," "*instructive tongues*," and "*faithful breasts*," its honor has been committed, and not to the tender mercies of any monarch or community, however great or honored. And so it has endured and withstood the lapse of time and the hour of danger, and to-day stands proud and honored, supplicating no undeserved favor, dreading no earthly power, extending from pole to pole, and from centre to circumference, numbering at its altar the prince and the peasant, the courtier and the ploughman, high and low, rich and poor, who mingle equally on the chequered floor, without a feeling of restraint on the one hand, or of patronizing condescension on the other.

From the lofty pinnacle of perfection to which it has attained, it beckons us onward, and while we are led by regular upright steps, through right angles, horizontals, and perpendiculars, to mount the ladder whose highest round is bathed in celestial light, we are encouraged and warned by the precept "*that they only who trust in God*" may venture to approach, fearing no danger.

What cause have we, my brethren, for gratitude to the G. . A. . O. . T. . U. . in this bright noon-day of civilization, when the arts and sciences flourish everywhere, and the refinement of intellectual cultivation is diffused over the globe, that masonry not only lives but progresses with a rapidity that astonishes even its friends, while it confounds and terrifies its enemies? And in this general appreciation, this universal commendation of a fraternity at once so loved and hated, is there not pregnant cause for all rational men to give ear to its teachings, and all masons to diligently examine their working tools that no rust dim their sheen?

We search the wide world over, but we search in vain, to find an association that dare call itself our rival. Lost in the ages of the past, no history tells the outer world where or by whom it was first established. The rocks of Judea, the Pyramids of Egypt, resurrected cities, the abstruse sciences of the East, only tell us that it lived with them; and not until that masterpiece of beauty, the temple of our first Most Excellent Grand Master, at Jerusalem, was built, do we know of its organization. Here first "*the Mighty Three in Peace, Love and Unity*," resolved into a perfect system the scattered elements of the order, and the particulars left us and preserved to us of that great work, are in the highest degree suggestive of the secret bonds that bind masons to masons, whenever met, of whatever country or kindred, tribe or tongue.

Succeeding ages have witnessed the triumphs of the order. As time rolled itself away into eternity, the oblivion that ignorance and superstition assigned as the ultimate fate of masonry, sought out its own tomb, and the dark shades

of barbarism and the twilight of semi-civilization fled dismayed before the "Great Lights" that, compassing the world, presented "good work, true work and square work" to the astonished multitudes that had prepared themselves to sing its funeral dirge

No persecution however bitter, no hate however terrible, no sycophancy however plausible, succeeded in destroying the principles that underlay the superstructure of our temple, and, "unbiased by improper solicitations, uninfluenced by mercenary motives," it has raised its head proudly above the ruin of a thousand imitations that revolved around it—borrowing its brilliancy, reflecting its glory, but possessing neither themselves. And so, in its journey to its divine original, though "rough and rugged its way," it has distanced all competitors, while the "beauty" that adorns its several parts, and the "strength" that supports the whole, prove conclusively that infinite wisdom superintended its first efforts after life, and a beneficent Creator showered in blessing upon it, the beams of an unwavering and effulgent "Light."

To-day masonry stands in all the splendor of an acknowledged monarch whose sway is world-wide and whose law is love, whose bond is the magnetic chain of clasped hands that encircles the earth, and whose points of order are those holy "Five Points" that touch every obligation of man to man, and man to God, while the heraldry that emblazons the Masonic Crest points us for applause, not to the world, but to the mysterious light that beams over the Mercy Seat in the secret place of the Tabernacle of God. To-day kings, princes and chiefs wait at our doors and humbly sue admittance on terms that must be tried by square and plumb to the level of the chequered floor, and wherever masonic light has been treasured, there the wisest and the best, the most intelligent and the good, have craved to stand where scintillations from its altar may fall upon them, quickening their understanding and displaying to their gaze the hoarded riches of our Arcana.

Dear, then, to every masonic heart, must be the welfare of that temple whose sacred keeping is committed to his trust, and fervent and zealous must every workman be to preserve inviolate, in peace and unity, the ancient landmarks of the order; and whether as Entered Apprentices, by the exercise of the cardinal virtues, *Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice*, or as Fellow Crafts by the steps that bring you nearer to the goal, or as Master Masons, who, having traveled the weary road, now rest in the Sanctum Sanctorum, and contemplate the sublime lessons of its holy mysteries, you give your aid in erecting this edifice to God, remember for humility's sake, though proud the enterprise, that it is not the individual that gives glory to the work, but the work that reflects credit upon you. Let it be well done, then, so that the stones which this jurisdiction prepares may be presented without fear to be tried by the unerring square of the Grand Architect, and that on each the mark will be found that will give it a place, honored and respected, among men, and accepted in the celestial \square above.

Ho! worthy Craftsmen all,
Up, cheerily to your toil,
While strength is given.
Strike boldly for the right,
Drive error from your sight,
Grasp virtue with your might,
And trust in Heaven.

Far be it from us, my brethren, in these days when open and organized opposition, as such, is no longer employed against us, to abandon our stations and forsake the strict duty which is the first great care of masons when convened. Danger is no less imminent because invisible, and well we know that one mis-step of ours at any time will infallibly draw upon us the maledictions of our foes.

The all-conquering genius of Freemasonry has made disreputable and contemptible any public attempt to destroy the temple which we erect. Yet not for this should the Tyler leave her doors, or the Wardens her gates.

There are duties that at all times demand our vigilant attention. To ourselves, our brethren, our God. The sacred principles of the order are themes to engage the *constant* attention of all true brethren, and in the practice of our sublime precepts the mason may most profitably find employment. From the time that as Entered Apprentices we stood trembling before the Orient, the chart of duty has been unfolding, and each step onward opened before us increased and increasing obligations, the remotest of which was still within the charmed circle embordered by the parallel lines that indicated the bounds of our duty to God and man; and whether we meet in *lowly vale* or on *highest hill*, while we tread the chequered floor we are equally illuminated by that celestial light that rescued the world from chaos and darkness, that attended the giving of the law, that rested in the Holy of Holies, that beamed on us from the altar of masonry, and taught us that when there we consecrated ourselves to the purposes of *Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth*, there was no mental reservation that could hold back aught of the sacrifice.

Pledged to universal benevolence as the offspring of *Love*, what a holy mission is before us. Let us not mistake the voice that calls to us from the Grand Orient. My brethren, there is something deeper, holier, higher in these mysteries than the mere association of men in a meaningless, powerless symbolism, as some charge against us; and although good but mistaken men may have supposed that our order was simply a "mutual protection and benefit society," it is not enough that the error be corrected in *words—deeds* must speak for us. The *rough* must give way to the *smooth* ashlar, superfluities and irregularities must be trimmed away by the gavel of truth, and the cement of brotherly love and affection be spread by the trowel of peace; the square of uncorrupted virtue must be applied to all work, and unwavering fidelity demanded that the service of God and distressed worthy brethren be the principal division of our time.

Masonry is a reality that stands invested with powers which no human art can take away. Her robe is the mantle with which we clothe ourselves. But alas! too frequently we imagine that in thus possessing her *vesture* we embrace *herself*. She is a divinity whose alluring graces beckon men to the grotto, where she shrouds herself in symbols to be seen by eyes and understood by hearts from which the scales of prejudice have fallen, and the cold, cheerless suspicion of ignorance has been removed; and when the lights she offers for this holy purpose *fail*, is it any wonder that we find men imagining themselves Gods, knowing good and evil, possessing the key to the secrets of our heart, walking in the light, and yet in whom that light is darkness—and oh! how great is that darkness.

Masonry is a reality, and it is *Divinity*, for the tried stone in the corner is its *head-stone*. The G. . A. . O. . T. . U. . is the Author of its *Faith*; the Lion of the tribe of *Judah* is its *Hope*; and *mankind* the object of its *Charity*.

Masons of Nebraska, another masonic year is closed, another just begun. Notwithstanding the labors of the past, labor is still before you. A noble struggle is yours.

Fight with the arms of love,
Press to the □ above,
Never despair.
Our work is just begun,
Toil till your task is done,
Speed till the goal is won,
The prize is there.

And in your toil remember that

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount the summit round by round."

The coming days call for earnest, faithful labor. The quarries of life for another year must resound to the stroke of gavel and trowel. Our young but rapidly growing Territory is fast taking a noble stand beside other and older jurisdictions. Have faith, have courage, and be this your motto, "*Deo adjuvante non timendum.*" It is well to begin right—it is better to continue right—it is best to end right; but the right ending only comes through right beginning.

"Only in dreams is the ladder thrown
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls,
But the dreams depart and the vision falls,
And the dreamer awakes on his pillow of stone."

Let no untempered mortar mar the beauty of your work, or unskillful hands confuse the designs upon your trestle board. Remember that though in the quarries the sounds of preparation were heard, at the *temple* no noise disturbed the harmonious adjusting of the blocks. So in the celestial □, silently but strictly is the record kept; and when the Chief Overseer comes to inspect your work, let each mark be well defined and true, for

—If impostors are
Mixed with the worthy *there*,
Let them beware
—Of the right hand.

The unsecn influence of Freemasonry is abroad in our land. Thousands whose histories are never given to the world owe much to the order, and the undercurrent of favor to the institution, improperly directed, may be as injurious to its interests, nay, more so, than the rancor of implacable enemies. We have much to dread, I think, from the indiscriminate admission of those who are popularly styled "good fellows." Choice of material is an essential qualification of the true workman; and he who has the glory and stability of the order at heart, will choose only such as he may never be ashamed to own. Still it is very pleasant to know that, abroad among men, there is, to some extent, an appreciation of the ties that bind us together, and a willingness to acknowledge

advantages that have accrued to the profane through the channels of masonry. Who shall estimate its deeds of love during the past four years? What wounds it has bound; what tender hands it has furnished to the sick and dying; what tears it has chased away; what hearts it has gladdened; how many owe their lives to its obligations, and how many the sanctuary of their last resting places to its teachings?

Oh! masonry, from thy holy altar the great light of God's favor has illuminated many a dark pathway, and many a rough and rugged road hast thou smoothed; burdened hearts have brought their sorrows to thy door, and went away forgetting them there. Blessed art thou, thou beautiful temple—thy minarets pierce the heavens above us, and cast no shadow upon the earth. "Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sake I will now say peace be within thee for the Lord of Hosts is with thee, the God of Jacob is thy refuge." Like a beautiful stream, rippling over the rocks and crags and pebbles of its channel, thou dost flow by every door, singing ever the same sweet song of untiring love, gladdening all hearts, while along thy course spring fresh and fragrant the flowers of beauty, innocence and truth, to adorn thy life and lend a lasting perfume to thy work of faith, thy labor of love.

My brethren, I have done. A little while and you will gather up your working tools and part upon the square. You will go back to the duties of your several callings until the sound of the gavel in the Grand East again calls the craft to account for its work. Let not the lessons of these returning seasons be lost upon you, or forgotten in the busy battle of life. They each mark to us the rapid passage of time and the nearing of eternity. They are pleasant spots in memory to which we turn, let us hope, not so much as mementoes of the past as prophecies for the future; but each admonishingly points us to that last gathering that sooner or later will come. And then—what then? Then, my brethren, comes the examination and test. Look well to the East, and see to it that you possess the "true word" that gives admission to the city and temple of our God. And when with each of us the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, when the dust returns to the earth as it was, and our spirits to the God that gave them, may our work be approved, our mark accepted, and we raised to the celestial \square above, where the Grand Architect of the Universe forever presides.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

ONE O'CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: the Grand \square resumed labor; the M.: W.: R. W. Furnas, Grand Master, in the East.

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

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand \square are due and are hereby tendered Rev. Brother Geo. C. Betts, for the very able and excellent oration delivered on this occasion, and that this Grand \square request of the Grand Orator a copy of the address to-day delivered, for publication with the proceedings of this Grand \square .

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

Resolved, That the R. . W. . Grand Secretary be instructed to procure the printing of 400 copies of the proceedings of this session of the Grand \square of Nebraska, and forward three copies to each officer of the Grand \square . two copies to each Grand \square in the United States, two copies to the Secretary of the Territory, to be filed in the Territorial Library, and five copies to each subordinate \square in this Grand \square jurisdiction.

Brother Harvey offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to have the jewels of the Grand \square re-gilded.

Brother Frank Welch presented the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand \square are justly due and are hereby heartily tendered to Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler, for the able and faithful manner in which he has presided over, and taken care of, the interests of the craft in this jurisdiction, and the fraternal and accommodating disposition which he has ever evinced in aiding the young craftsman in search of light, will long be remembered by us, and constitute one of the most pleasant local traditions of the fraternity in this Territory.

The Grand Treasurer presented his annual report as follows, which was adopted :

R. . W. . GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. E. HARVEY, <i>Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska,</i>		
1864.		Dr.
June 24.	To amount received from Brother H. Brown.....	\$ 17 09
June 24.	To amount received from Grand Secretary.....	390 00
1865.		
June 22.	To amount received from Grand Secretary <i>pro tem.</i>	693 16
		<u> </u> \$1,100 25
		Cr.
June 24.	By amount paid D. H. Wheeler, Grand Master	\$ 2 30
"	" " S. D. Bangs, Grand Secretary.....	67 50
"	" " Pay-Roll, Grand \square	101 70
		<u> </u> \$171 50
	Balance due Grand \square	\$928 75

Brother Furnas, from the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand ☐ of Nebraska:

For several years past the committee on Foreign Correspondence, for two reasons, have presented no detailed report. First, our finances ran low, and it was thought not advisable to incur the additional expense of printing. Second, and equally important, the printed proceedings of other Grand ☐ not coming into the hands of the committee until the Grand ☐ had convened, did not give the committee sufficient time to make a report, either satisfactorily to themselves or to the Grand ☐ or respectful to the sister Grand bodies. The committee are unwilling, under the last-named circumstance, to venture a report. To make such an one as would give satisfaction requires time, and careful examination. This your committee have not. The Grand Secretary ought to be the chairman of this committee. He is receiving the proceedings, from time to time, during the year, and has ample time to carefully peruse and digest each proceeding.

The Grand Secretary has handed the committee the following proceedings of other Grand ☐, viz:

CALIFORNIA, October 11, 1864.—William C. Beecher, Marysville, Grand Master; Alex. G. Abell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

COLORADO, May 6, 1863, November 2, 1863, and November 7, 1864.—A. J. Van Doren, Central City, Grand Master; O. A. Whittemore, Denver; Grand Secretary.

CANADA, July 13, 1864.—S. Douglas Harrington, Grand Master on the Throne; Thomas B. Harris, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE, June 27, 1863.—Allen V. Lesley, Grand Master; Benj. N. Ogle, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS, October 4th and 5th, 1864.—Thomas J. Turner, Freeport, Grand Master; H. G. Reynolds, Springfield, Grand Secretary.

INDIANA, May 24th, 25th and 26th, 1864.—Wm. Hacker, Shelbyville, Grand Master; Francis King, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY, October 19, 1863.—Thos. Sadler, Paris, Grand Master; J. M. S. McCorkle, Greensburg, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS, December 20, 1864.—Jacob Saqui, Atchison, Grand Master; E. T. Carr, Ft. Leavenworth, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA, July 13, 1865.—J. Q. A. Fellows, New Orleans, Grand Master; Samuel M. Todd, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

MAINE, May 1, 1864.—W. P. Preble, Grand Master; Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN, January 11, 1865.—Wm. J. Mitchell, Port Huron, Grand Master; James Fenton, Detroit, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND, May 9th, 10th and 11th, 1864.—John Coates, Baltimore, Grand Master; Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, December 29, 1863, and June 8, 1864.—J. E. Sargent, Wentworth, Grand Master; Horace Chase, Hopkinton, Grand Secretary.

NEVADA, January 16th, 17th and 18th, 1865.—Joseph De Bell Virginia City, Grand Master; Charles H. Fish, Virginia City, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY, January 18th and 19th, 1865.—Wm. S. Whitehead, Newark, Grand Master; James H. Hough, Trenton, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK, June 7, 1864.—C. F. Paige, Binghamton, Grand Master; Jas. M. Austin, New York, Grand Secretary.

OHIO, October 18, 1865.—Thos. Sparrow, Columbus, Grand Master; John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati, Grand Secretary.

OREGON, September 15, 1862.—W. W. Fowler, Jacksonville, Grand Master; Wm. S. Caldwell, Portland, Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA, Extracts of proceedings during the year 1863.—D. S. Skerrett, Philadelphia, Grand Master; Wm. H. Adams, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND, May 30, 1864.—A. Ballou, Woonsocket, Grand Master; H. Rogers, Providence, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, June 14, 1864.—G. W. Washburn, Oshkosh, Grand Master; W. S. Palmer, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

The committee, on behalf of the Grand of Nebraska, return to other Grand thanks for kindly notices, and will say in addition that the craft is in a flourishing condition in Nebraska.

Respectfully submitted. R. W. FURNAS, *Chairman of the Committee.*

The minutes were then read and approved.

The labors of the M. W. Grand of Nebraska being ended, it was closed in ample form with solemn prayer.

Attest:

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary.*

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

John Q. Goss, W. M.	Newel R. Wilcox, Treas.	Jas. M. Martin, J. D.
J. M. Whitted, S. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, Sec'y.	Wm. F. Martin, Tyler.
Henry T. Clark, J. W.	Lewis A. Driskell, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

John Q. Goss,	Christian D. Keller,	James M. Martin,
Lathrop B. Kinney,	N. R. Wilcox,	Wm. F. Martin,
David Lench,	S. W. Y. Schimonsky,	Samuel G. Beeman,
Stephen D. Bangs,	Lewis A. Driskell,	John N. Chase,
Henry T. Clark,	James H. Preston.	Charles Clifton,
Silas A. Strickland,	Lemuel H. Case,	William Joyce.
J. M. Whitted,	Green B. Nicholson.	

FELLOW CRAFTS.

Charles Fish,	Aaron Alford.
---------------	---------------

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Horace Rogers,	Orson Fisher,	Geo. Jennings.
----------------	---------------	----------------

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Wm. E. Hill, W. M.	E. S. Reed, Treas'r.	T. E. Thompson, J. D.
John S. Place, S. W.	Chas. A. Place, Sec'y.	Granville H. Hail, Tyler.
John Reed, J. W.	John A. Goodlett, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

H. N. Cornell,	W. L. Boydston,	L. C. Davenport,
G. H. Hail,	William E. Hill,	H. M. Giltner,
T. E. Thompson,	Daniel Whiting,	Geo. A. Gillette,
John B. Bennett,	George W. Sroat,	David J. Goff,
John S. Place,	Samuel Henderson,	D. P. Rolfe,
John F. Kinney,	James Burnett,	S. S. Preston,
I. L. Gibbs,	J. T. Hoyle,	Elisha Bennett,
H. B. Baker.	S. F. Nuckolls,	W. H. H. Waters,
Henry Brown,	Peter Y. Morse,	John Reed,
John A. Goodlett,	Stephen Kent,	H. T. Davis,
H. B. Horton,	Alfred Matthias,	E. S. Reed.
G. G. Gillette,	Robert Lorton,	John Doolittle,
J. E. Lamaster,	Chas. A. Place,	John H. Maxon,
Henry Siegel,	Charles W. Seymour,	Edward Sheldon,
S. Spurlock,	H. D. Hathaway,	Israel Loomis,
F. Cummings,	R. Boggs,	A. Woolsey.
Granville Stevenson,	Sylvester Duncan,	W. G. Langley.
Samuel P. Sibley,		

FELLOW CRAFTS.

S. S. Bonney,

Jos. E. Lawrence,

Joseph Saunders.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

R. R. Andrews,
William Fulton,
J. J. Imhoff,R. H. Matthews,
Robert Hawke,W. D. Wier,
F. B. Harber.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Byron Reed, W. M.

W. H. S. Hughes, Treas.

Henry Grebe, J. D.

Augustus Roeder, S. W.

Harry P. Deuel, Sec'y.

James F. Taylor, Tyler

Jno. R. Porter, J. W.

Wm. E. Harvey, S. D.

MASTER MASONS.

Geo. Armstrong,

John R. Porter,

L. J. Ruth,

E. A. Allen,

P. A. Preston.

S. M. Curran,

James E. Boyd,

Samuel E. Rogers,

M. C. Wilbur,

Aaron Cahn,

Augustus Roeder,

Horace Newman,

E. H. Clark,

Byron Reed,

Addison R. Gillmore,

W. R. Demarest,

Horace Gillis,

Joel T. Griffin,

Geo. W. Forbes,

F. Court,

Charles W. Hamilton,

John Logan,

Chas. D. Center,

G. A. Hess,

M. Hellman,

H. H. Vischer,

H. Grebe,

P. W. Hitchcock,

Wm. Wilder.

F. A. Hoffman,

R. C. Jordan,

William Ruth,

J. F. Simpson,

James K. Ish.

Elias G. Sears,

Henry Munger,

H. W. Kuhns,

James G. Mcgeath,

S. M. Owens,

Lorin Miller,

John B. Chambers,

W. E. Harvey.

E. V. Smith,

N. P. Isaacs,

J. F. Sawyer,

James F. Taylor,

W. H. Connor,

W. R. Bowen,

Philip Windheim,

Chas. Bremer,

W. H. S. Hughes,

M. Dunham,

W. Little,

T. H. DeLoss,

D. F. Richards,

A. Overton,

Geo. Williams,

C. Parcel,

D. M. Stuart,

F. M. Boyer,

A. J. Harmon,

Geo. C. Yates,

H. P. Deuel,

W. Robinson,

H. M. Dickinson,

S. H. Schuyler,

C. B. Hartwell,

Wm. Findley,

John Pratt,

C. F. Catlin,

Alonzo Hutchins,

J. A. Wilcox,

Henry Sherman,

E. B. Chandler,

James S. Gibson,

F. C. Goodell,

Enos Lowe,

T. Pollock.

T. A. Creigh,

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

T. W. Bedford, W. M.

Jeremiah Marlatt, Sec'y.

C. W. Wheeler, }
A. W. Morgan, }
Lewis Walter, Tyler.

A. P. Cogswell, S. W.

J. W. Bennett, S. D.

A. W. Morgan, }

O. B. Hewitt, J. W.

Aaron Connor, J. D.

Lewis Walter, Tyler.

Wm. Breitmyer, Treas'r.

MASTER MASONS.

T. W. Bedford,	John L. Colhapp,	O. B. Hewitt,
Geo. W. Bratton,	Isaac Chivington,	Thomas Kelley,
H. M. Atkinson,	A. P. Cogswell,	E. Lyanna,
Hiram Alderman,	Philip Deuser,	Jacob Marohn,
John W. Bennett,	R. W. Furnas,	A. W. Morgan,
William Breitmyer,	Franklin Ferguson,	Frederick Marlatt,
George Crow,	R. S. Hannaford,	Jer. Marlatt,
Jesse Noel,	C. W. Wheeler,	John H. Morrison,
A. J. Richardson,	A. G. White,	John McNeil,
R. T. Rainey,	Lewis Walter,	Robert Masterson,
Robert Sayers,	M. M. Connor,	Jonas Hacker,
David Siegel,	Jacob Zaring,	A. D. Marsh,
J. G. Skeen,	A. J. Berry,	J. W. Bliss,
J. L. Stanton,	Wm. R. Horn,	M. W. Keeling,
J. B. Wells,	Wm. Bagley,	Eli M. Smith.
Aaron Connor,		

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

Stated meetings: Saturday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Wm. Cheney, W. M.	John McQuilkin, Treas.	Samuel Gamble, J. D.
Benj. F. Chambers, S. W.	Jacob H. Graff, Sec'y.	Wm. W. Armour, Tyler.
Wm. Adair, J. W.	Wm. Bouton, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

William Adair,	William H. Dunn,	Wm. Nixon,
Wm. W. Armour,	Chas. F. Eckhart,	J. N. H. Patrick,
Samuel Aughy,	Alfred M. Elam,	M. Pinkerton,
Harlan Baird,	Geo. B. Graff,	John M. Phillips,
A. H. Baker,	Jacob H. Graff,	Asa Rathburn,
Wm. Bouton,	Samuel Gamble,	Samuel Shull,
Curtis B. Blevins,	A. H. Jackson,	W. H. B. Stout,
Barnabas Bates,	Amos Lamson,	Wm. Tiffany,
William Cheney,	Wm. C. McBeath,	Floris Van Reuth,
Benj. F. Chambers,	John McQuilkin,	Geo. W. Wilkinson,
James Clark,	Edward B. Murphy,	Samuel Whitehorn.
John B. Zeigler,		

ENTERED APPRENTICE.

J. H. Martin,	G. W. Ellsworth,	D. J. Whitman,
Wm T. Davis,	Geo. H. Smith,	Samuel Petrie.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

E. T. Duke, W. M.	Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.	W. L. Thomas, J. D.
J. N. Wise, S. W.	E. C. Lewis, Sec'y.	Andrew Tutt, Steward.
S. H. Cummins, J. W.	E. C. Adams, S. D.	Milo Fellows, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

D. H. Wheeler,	Wm. H. Spratlin,	Elijah Barker,
E. T. Duke,	G. H. Black,	John Allinson,
E. C. Adams,	A. Tutt,	T. H. Dennis,
T. M. Marquette,	George W. Colvin,	J. W. Shannon,
Thomas K. Hanna,	Elias Sage,	M. B. Murphy,
J. N. Wise,	J. D. Minchell,	A. M. Smith,
A. B. Fuller,	Wm. D. Gage,	W. S. Latta,
Jacob Vallery,	Wm. L. Thomas,	J. J. Roberts,
Joseph Schlater,	A. B. Smith,	E. D. Morgan,
J. C. Cummins,	J. W. Chapman,	W. H. Anderson,
John W. Marshall,	A. G. Scranton,	Henry Shea,
Wm. B. Porter,	E. C. Lewis,	N. H. Murphee,
Joseph Harper,	S. S. Billings,	G. W. Courtright,
James Minchell,	R. G. Doom,	D. W. Mullin,
Enos Williams,	Milo Fellows,	E. P. Bernardin.
Wm. B. Warbritton,		

FELLOW CRAFTS.

L. L. Holbrook,	Isaac Wiles.
-----------------	--------------

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

B. Spurlock,	A. B. Taylor,	John Vallery.
W. P. Davis,	Andrew J. Klepser,	Wm. Gillmore,
Henry Howland,	Garmon Brown,	J. T. A. Hoover,
A. G. Chinneworth,	A. C. Mayfield,	S. S. Alley,
S. R. Johnson,	Samuel Maxwell,	C. S. Wortman.
F. S. White,		

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Ed. R. Nash, W. M.	Isaac Black, Treas'r.	James Ashley, J. D.
Frank Welch, S. W.	John S. Ramseyer, Sec'y.	Austin Rockwell, Steward.
Fred. W. Snow, J. W.	E. D. Canfield, S. D.	Robert Teare, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

O. H. Irish,	Robert Teare,	Frank Welch,
Chas. F. Porter,	S. T. Leaming,	Henry P. Cline,
Austin Rockwell,	Lorenzo Hobbs,	Robert Ashley,
John S. Ramseyer,	E. D. Canfield.	Michael Evans,
J. R. Conklin,	Ed. R. Nash,	F. W. Snow,
Isaac Black,	James Ashley,	Hiram Chase.
G. W. Ira,		

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Algernon Batte,	Andrew J. Swartz.
-----------------	-------------------

COLUMBUS □, NO 8, COLUMBUS, PLATTE COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

MASTER MASONS.

N. R. Hays,	Joseph A. Baker,	C. B. Stillman,
J. S. Taylor,	B. F. Lushbaugh,	J. P. Becker,
G. C. Barnum,	Reuben Goucher,	F. G. Becher,
Richard Bard,	Wm. G. Bowman,	G. H. Hayward.
A. J. Arnold,	C. A. Speice,	

FELLOW CRAFTS.

J. B. Maxfield,

James E. North.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

V. Kummor,
E. A. Gerrard,Jason Parker,
J. B. David,Michael Weaver,
J. B. Beebe.

FALLS CITY □, U. D., FALLS CITY, RICHARDSON COUNTY.

OFFICERS.

H. O. Hanna, W. M.
Nelson Snyder, S. W.
Wm. H. Mann, J. W.E. C. Sherer, Treas'r.
Isham Reavis, Sec'y.
W. R. Cain, S. D.W. T. Stout, J. D.
J. R. Dowty, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

H. O. Hanna,
Nelson Snyder,
W. H. Mann,
W. R. Cain,
W. T. Stout,
Isham Reavis,
E. C. Cooley,
Maurice Langd,
C. A. Dowty,John R. Dowty,
H. J. Vandal,
John R. Brook,
Thos. Harpster,
E. C. Sherer,
Joseph T. Hoyle,
James Cameron,
Z. J. Parsons,
John A. Dusky,Anderson Miller,
Daniel Reavis,
George Faulkner,
C. B. Scott,
D. R. Holt,
C. H. Norris,
Benedict Hani,
W. S. Hall,
J. R. Cain.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, JUNE 21, A. L. 5866.

NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

NEBRASKA CITY, N. T., June 21, 1866.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons. of the Territory of Nebraska commenced its ninth Annual Communication in the Masonic Hall at Nebraska City, on Thursday the 21st day of June, A. D. 1866, A. L. 5866, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The following is a list of the Grand officers present, and those appointed *pro tem* :

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. : W. : R. W FURNAS, Grand Master.
R. : W. : GEORGE B. GRAFF, Deputy Grand Master.
R. : W. : JOHN A. GOODLETT, Grand Senior Warden.
R. : W. : G. W. BRATTON, Grand Junior Warden.
R. : W. : W. E. HARVEY, Grand Treasurer.
R. : W. : C. F. CATLIN, as Grand Secretary.
W. : G. C. BETTS, Grand Chaplain.
W. : WILLIAM E. HILL, Grand Lecturer.
W. : O. H. IRISH, as Grand Orator.
W. : FRANK WELCH, Grand Marshal.
W. : L. P. GILLETTE, as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. : G. L. STEPHENSON, as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. : G. H. HAIL, Grand Tyler.

A \square of Master Masons was opened in ample form by the M. : W. : Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Officers and brethren present.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. Geo. C. Betts.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Harvey, Welch and Goodlett.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Brothers Bratton, Hill and Goodlett.

Brother Harvey, from the committee on Credentials, made the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Credentials respectfully report that they find the following named ☐ in this jurisdiction are represented by the following named delegates, whose credentials are in form and correct, and that the delegates are entitled to the number of votes opposite their names, respectively:

WESTERN STAR ☐, No. 2—John H. Maxon, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; John Reed, Senior Warden, 1; C. W. Seymour, Junior Warden, 1.

CAPITAL ☐, No. 3—L. Miller, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; L. Miller, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; E. A. Allen, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

NEMAHIA VALLEY ☐, No. 4—G. W. Bratton, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1.

OMADI ☐, No. 5—Wm. Adair, proxy for Worshipful Master, 1; Wm. Adair, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; J. N. H. Patrick, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

DECATUR ☐, No. 7—F. Welch, Worshipful Master, 1; James Ashley, Senior Warden, 1; A. Rockwell, Junior Warden, 1.

Five ☐ present by representatives.

Your committee also find the following named Grand Officers present and entitled to seats, and one vote each:

M. : W. : R. W. Furnas, Grand Master.

R. : W. : Geo. B. Graff, Deputy Grand Master.

R. : W. : J. A. Goodlett, Grand Senior Warden.

R. : W. : Geo. W. Bratton, Grand Junior Warden.

R. : W. : W. E. Harvey, Grand Treasurer.

R. : W. : C. F. Catlin, Grand Secretary, *pro tem*.

W. : G. C. Betts, Grand Chaplain.

W. : O. H. Irish, Grand Orator, *pro tem*.

W. : W. E. Hill, Grand Lecturer.

W. : Frank Welch, Grand Marshal,

W. : L. P. Gillette, Grand Senior Deacon *pro tem*.

W. : G. L. Stephenson, Grand Junior Deacon, *pro tem*.

W. : G. H. Hail, Grand Tyler.

R. : W. : O. H. Irish, Past Deputy Grand Master.

R. : W. : L. P. Gillette, Past Deputy Grand Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The report of the committee was adopted.

A constitutional number of [] being represented the M.: W.: Grand Master appointed the following officers, in accordance with the By-Laws:

Brother John Q. Goss, Grand Steward.

Brother C. W. Seymour, Grand Sword Bearer.

Brothers W. H. Mann and A. P. Cogswell, Grand Pursuivants.

The W.: Grand Marshal then, by order of the M.: W.: Grand Master, made proclamation that the M.: W.: Grand [] of Nebraska was duly opened for the dispatch of business.

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

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers Mann, Welch and Catlin.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Graff, Bratton and Marshall.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Wheeler, Irish and Goss.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Adair, Allen and Goodlett.

On Charity—Brothers Miller, Ashley and Patrick.

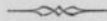
On Grievances—Brothers Hill, Duke and Rockwell.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers Seymour, Maxon and Betts.

On Pay Roll—Brothers Gillette, Harvey and Wise.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Betts, Wheeler and Irish.

On motion of Brother O. H. Irish, the M.: W.: the Grand [] was called from labor to refreshment, until 2½ o'clock P. M.



AFTERNOON SESSION.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: the Grand [] was called from refreshment to labor, the M.: W.: the Grand Master in the East, officers and members as before.

The committee on Credentials made the following additional

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand [] of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials respectfully report, that since the report made at the morning session, the following named representatives of [] have appeared and presented their credentials, and are entitled to cast the number of votes set opposite their names, respectively:

NEBRASKA [], No. 1—John Q. Goss, Worshipful Master, 1; John Q. Goss, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; John Q. Goss, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

PLATTSMOUTH [], No. 6—E. T. Duke, Worshipful Master, 1; J. N. Wise, Senior Warden, 1; J. W. Marshall, proxy for Junior Warden, 1.

The committee also respectfully report the following Grand Officers present, and entitled to the number of votes set opposite their names:

R. : W. : J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary, 1; M. : W. : D. H. Wheeler, Past Grand Master, 1.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
J. A. GOODLETT, } Committee.

On motion, it was

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

The M. : W. : Grand Master then delivered his

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the Grand :

Another year has passed and is "numbered among the things that were." To the Great Author of our being and giver of all good, are our thanks due. Let us, with reverential devotion, render them. Let us not forget to whom we are indebted for the manifold blessings vouchsafed to us throughout the past, and from whom alone we are to derive them both for the present and future. "Let *all*, from the Worshipful Master in the East to the Entered Apprentice in the North-East, with reverence bow."

We meet to-day under auspicious circumstances. Never, since the introduction of masonry in this jurisdiction, has the order advanced so rapidly and satisfactorily as within the past year. As an institution, no internal disorder has distracted the harmony of our councils. The brotherhood has preserved the tenets of our profession, and maintained its fame for acts of charity and benevolence.

War and revolution have placed our order and us, as individual masons, in a more unpleasant attitude toward each other, than ever before known in the world's history. The times demand the exertions of men, banded as we are, to maintain in the name and faith of our order, the high sense of honor and disinterested zeal in defense of the helpless and universal benevolence, which have ever been the distinguishing characteristics of our order. Let us take care, that while we perform all our duties as citizens, we do not lose sight of those which the cherished profession of our order impose upon us; never forget the duties of mercy and charity. In this nature, the acts of our order peculiarly shine forth, and by the spirit which dictates them, semi-alienation may be restored and war divested of much of its ancient barbarism. Let us ever be ready to welcome the return of erring ones; ready to forget the past and to bury all dissensions in the joy of re-established fraternity.

In the discharge of my duties as Grand Master the past year, it has been my good fortune to visit most of the in the jurisdiction. While there is yet no little dissimilarity in the work of the order in Nebraska, all work well, and zeal and ability are evinced on the part of both officers and members.

Since the last meeting of this Grand I have granted dispensations for new as follows :

August 15, 1865, a dispensation was granted on the application of Brothers J. P. Andrews, A. G. White, D. McDonald, James G. McGeath, E. A. Allen, W. H. Dunn, J. Orwig and E. H. Clark, recommended by Capital , No. 3, for Solomon , to be located at Ft. Calhoun. Brother E. H. Clark was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother E. A. Allen, Senior Warden, and Brother A. G. White, Junior Warden.

July 24, 1865, a dispensation was granted on application of Brothers H. C. Newman, J. H. Lacey, J. S. Gibson, C. W. Burt, W. E. Harvey, H. P. Deuel, E. V. Smith, W. A. Little, T. H. DeLoss, A. G. Murphy, W. Lindly, M. C. Wilbur and J. F. Sawyer, recommended by Capital , No. 3, for Covert , to be located at Omaha. Brother Wm. E. Harvey was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother H. P. Deuel, Senior Warden, and Brother Thos. H. DeLoss, Junior Warden. Since that time Brother DeLoss left the jurisdiction, thereby creating a vacancy, which I filled by appointing Brother C. F. Catlin.

February 19, 1866, a dispensation was granted on application of Brothers G. D. Foglesong, J. W. Chadduck, R. H. Dickey, B. W. Nott, W. J. Shackelford, M. Rees, D. Shackman, S. E. Ward, R. M. Hill, J. Modie, J. W. Clark, J. A. Abney, N. E. Roswell, J. M. Burks, W. B. Miller, F. S. Moore, D. R. Mills, J. Hollinsworth, N. L. Simpson and C. B. Hodges, recommended by Western Star , No. 2, for Nebraska City , to be located at Nebraska City. Brother Geo. D. Foglesong was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother J. W. Chadduck, Senior Warden, and Brother R. H. Dickey, Junior Warden.

All the papers connected with the application for and granting of the above named dispensations, are herewith submitted, and made a part of this my annual report. These will all, doubtless, make application at this session of our Grand , for charters. With my present knowledge and information, I cheerfully recommend the granting of the prayers of the applicants.

On granting dispensations for additional at Omaha and Nebraska City, I issued edicts to each of the in those places, requiring them to notify each other immediately in cases of rejection of applicants by either of them. This I did with a view to the better enforcement of our laws, which provide that no shall receive and act upon the petition of an applicant who has been rejected in another , without the consent of the rejecting. And in this connection I recommend that our present law on that subject be so amended as to require the Secretary of any in this jurisdiction, in case of rejection of an applicant, to immediately notify all the within the jurisdiction of this Grand . As the law now is, Secretaries are required to notify the Grand Secretary, and he only notifies the other subordinate annually, through the printed proceedings. Thus the desired information may be withheld for twelve months. The spirit of this regulation is an important essential, and the law should be so arranged as to make it effectual.

I desire further, to call the attention of the Grand to a glaring inconsistency in the 12th Article of "Rules for the government of subordinate .

While the first clause is in accordance with the ancient law, which is explicit in directing that "none shall attempt to finish the work begun by another," the second clause virtually amends the first, and places one in judgment upon the

motives of another. Thus one may interfere with the work of another. The evils which must necessarily arise from such a course are manifold; prominent among which must be the admission of unworthy material into the temple. The ancient law, most surely, and wisely too, declares that "a candidate having been once rejected, can apply to no other for admission, except the one which had rejected him."

During the past year the following questions have come before me for decision:

"Is it lawful for a of masons to convene for 'work' on the Sabbath day?"

"Is it lawful to confer the degrees of the order upon an applicant who can neither read nor write?"

In answer to both I say no. The first is as much a violation of the "law of the land" as for an individual brother to resort to his usual avocation on that day. The charges of a Freemason, extracted from the ancient records, and which were held in the highest veneration by the fraternity, as embodying the most important points of ancient written law, say on this point: "All masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed."

As to the second question, I know of no written law particularly governing. There are many reasons, however, which present themselves, why a man who can neither read nor write should be denied the privilege of passing our threshold. The very nature of our institution, as exemplified in its ritual, teaches us that persons who can neither read nor write are ineligible for initiation. They are both incapable of comprehending the principles of the institution, and are without any moral responsibility for a violation or neglect of its duties. Dr. Mackey says of the absence of law on this subject: "The written law is silent, perhaps, because it is deemed so evident and so uniformly observed a regulation, unnecessary to be written." The Grand of England, however, did enact that "any individual who can not write, is consequently ineligible to be admitted into the order." It is a general usage that "all applications for initiation shall be made by petition, in writing, and shall be signed in the handwriting of the petitioner." I ask the Grand to take these questions into consideration.

It is important that the Grand take into consideration the matter of Monitor , U. D. A dispensation was granted by my predecessor to brethren in the 1st Regiment Nebraska Volunteers. If I am not mistaken, no report has ever been received from that . Within the past year many who claim to have been members of that have applied to me for special dispensation to allow their petitions to be received and acted upon by within this jurisdiction. While the simple non-existence of that , from whatever cause, would restore members formerly belonging to other , to their original status in their old , some provision should be made for those who were made masons in Monitor . Notwithstanding my opinion of the law, as above expressed, as to the effect of a non-existent U. D. upon members who formerly belonged to other , I granted a special dispensation to Brother R. R. Livingston, that any within our jurisdiction, might receive and act upon his petition. I recommend

that a special committee be appointed to collate all amendments to our Laws and Regulations, and have them printed in our next proceedings.

Believing that wisdom, harmony and brotherly affection will characterize your deliberations, I will not longer detain you from your labor.

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Master*.

The following is submitted as an appendix to the report of the M. . W. . the Grand Master :

PAWNEE INDIAN AGENCY, GENOA, NEBRASKA, }
March 6, A. L. 5866. }

M. . W. . R. W. FURNAS, Grand Master, Nebraska, Omaha Agency :

Dear Sir and Brother—This day, in accordance with letter of dispensation granted by you, I have, with the assistance of Brother Enos Williams and Milo Fellows of Plattsmouth , No. 6, and Brother Henry P. Coolidge, of Glenwood , No. 58, Glenwood, Iowa, instituted Columbus , No. 8, Columbus, Nebraska, and duly installed the officers thereof.

I furthermore authorized said to examine Brother Fellow Crafts J. B. Maxfield and James North, and ballot and confer the third degree upon them on the same evening, giving them what assistance I could.

I find the brethren alive to the interests of their , and think they will surely prosper. I am fraternally, &c.,

D. H. WHEELER, Past Grand Master.

On motion of Brother Wheeler, it was

Resolved, That the address of the M. . W. . Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three, to designate appropriate committees to which the several matters therein named shall be referred.

Brothers Wheeler, Patrick, and Goss, were appointed such committee.

On motion of Brother Betts, it was

Resolved, That no motion or resolution shall be entertained by this Grand unless the same shall have been put into writing and a copy thereof furnished the Grand Secretary.

Brother Gillette offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the moneys received from Monitor , under dispensation, are hereby appropriated for the purchase of a set of jewels for the use of this Grand . Motion to adopt.

On motion of Brother Goss, the motion to adopt was laid on the table.

The special committee on the M. . W. . Grand Master's address made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, respectfully report, and recommend that the several topics in said address be referred as follows :

That portion relating to under dispensation, to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

That portion referring to the rejection of applicants for initiation, and requiring secretaries to notify other , be referred to the committee on Jurisprudence.

That portion relating to changes and amendment of Rules and Regulations, for government of subordinate , to the committee on Jurisprudence.

So much thereof as relates to decisions of the Grand Master, to the committee on Jurisprudence.

That portion relating to Monitor , under dispensation, to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

And so much as relates to persons who have received the several degrees in Monitor , under dispensation, to a special committee of three.

All of which is submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, }
 J. N. H. PATRICK, } Committee.
 J. Q. GOSS, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed, as special committee, as recommended in the foregoing report, Brothers Goodlett, Bratton and Seymour.

The M. W. the Grand Master presented the following

M. W. GRAND MASTER'S ACCOUNT.

R. W. FURNAS, Grand Master, in account with the Grand <input type="checkbox"/> of Nebraska:	Dr.	
July 25, 1866. To amount received from Covert <input type="checkbox"/> for dispensation.....	\$ 30 00	
" " " Solomon <input type="checkbox"/> for dispensation.....	10 00	
" " " Nebraska City <input type="checkbox"/> for dispensation	10 00	
		\$ 50 00
		Cr.
By Grand Treasurer's receipt for above.....		\$ 50 00

On motion, referred to committee on Accounts.

Brother Irish offered the following which was adopted :

Resolved, That a standing committee of one from each subordinate be appointed, of which the Grand Master shall be chairman, to take measures to found an institution for the education of orphans of deceased masons. And to this end they are hereby authorized to correspond with the subordinate , to receive proposals from different points as to the location of the same, to provide some method of raising funds, and to report in detail at the next Annual Communication of this Grand . And the Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to receive such donations as may be made by individuals for this purpose, and to report the same in detail at the next meeting of this Grand .

Brother Welch offered the following, which, on motion, was referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations :

Resolved, That Decatur □, No. 7, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, be permitted to change the time of holding their regular Communications, from the time now regulated by the By-Laws of said □, to the first Thursday on or before the full of the moon, and the second Thursday following, and also to change the By-Laws of said □ so that balloting for the several degrees may correspond with the change in time of holding the regular Communications thereof.

Brother Irish offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Chaplain be, and he is hereby, requested to deliver a sermon appropriate to the occasion, on next Sabbath at 4 o'clock P. M., before the Grand □, in the first Presbyterian church of this city, and that the Grand Master be authorized to make, or cause to be made, such arrangements as in his judgment may be necessary in the premises.

The resolution was followed by the reading of the following communication :

NEBRASKA CITY, N. T., June 21, 1866.

Rob't W. Furnas, Grand Master, A. F. and A. M. :

DEAR SIR:—The trustees of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Nebraska City tender the use of their church building for masonic services on Sabbath afternoon, the 24th inst. Should the Grand □ decide to appoint services there at the time mentioned, or later, please inform me by Saturday P. M.

Very respectfully,

D. J. McCANN, *for the Trustees.*

Brother Harvey then offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ be returned to the trustees of the First Presbyterian Church for the kind offer made by them of the use of their house, for services on Sabbath next, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to inform Mr. D. J. McCann that a previous offer of another church building had been accepted.

Brother Hill offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a public installation of the Grand Officers elect of this Grand □ take place immediately after the oration, and at the same place. And also, that a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to arrange a programme.

Brothers Cogswell, Hanna and Mann were appointed such committee.

Brother Hanna presented the petition of Brothers W. R. Cain, H. J. Vandal, Jacob Shoff, C. A. Hergesheimer, Hugh Boyd, Thomas Harpster, Joshua Murray and Z. J. Parsons, for a dis-

persation to organize a at Rulo, in Richardson County, to be styled Cedar , No. —.

Referred to committee on Charters and Dispensations.

The committee on Credentials presented the following additional

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials respectfully make the following additional report of representatives and Grand Officers present and entitled to the votes set opposite their names respectively:

NEMAHA VALLEY , No. 4.—A. P. Cogswell, Senior Warden, and proxy for Junior Warden, 2 votes.

FALLS CITY , No. 9.—H. O. Hanna, Worshipful Master, 1 vote; W. H. Mann, Senior Warden, 1 vote.

GRAND OFFICERS—W. H. O. Hanna, Grand Senior Deacon, 1 vote.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY,
FRANK WELCH,
JOHN A. GOODLETT, } Committee.

On motion, the report was adopted.

Brother Hill presented amendments to the By-Laws of Western Star , No. 2, for the approval of the Grand . On motion, referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Brother Wheeler offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That when this Grand calls from labor to refreshment, it be till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Brother Wheeler offered the following:

Resolved, That in accordance with the recommendation of the M. W. Grand Master in his annual address, a special committee of three be appointed to collate all the Laws and Regulations, and all the amendments thereto, from the organization of this Grand up to and including the proceedings of this session, and that one hundred copies be bound in leather, of which two copies shall be furnished to each subordinate for library use. And that four hundred copies be printed in pamphlet form, for distribution as follows: Five copies to each subordinate in this jurisdiction; two copies to each present Grand Officer; two copies to the Secretary of the Territory, to be filed in the Territorial Library; and two copies to be mailed to each Grand body with which this Grand is in correspondence.

On motion, referred to committee on Ways and Means.

Brother Allen offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand of Nebraska be held at Omaha, on Wednesday, the 19th day of June, A. D. 1867, A. L. 5867, at 10 o'clock A. M.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand was called from labor to refreshment.

SECOND DAY.

JUNE 22—9 o'clock A. M.

The M.: W.: Grand □ was called from refreshment to labor on the third degree of masonry, the M.: W.: Grand Master in the East. Officers and members as on yesterday.

Brother Goss presented the following question :

Is a person who has lost the index finger of the right hand, and whose middle finger of the same hand is stiff, so that he cannot straighten it, eligible to be initiated into the mysteries of the craft ?

On motion, referred to committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Brother Betts offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That all representatives to this Grand □, from □□ subordinate hereto, be and the same are hereby entitled to receive such amount as shall be allowed for mileage and per diem; *Provided*, that no person representing more than one vote shall receive more than the amount allowed one member.

On motion, referred to committee on Ways and Means.

Brother Goss offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee on Ways and Means be, and they are hereby instructed to prepare an order of business for the use of this Grand □, and report the same at the next Annual Communication thereof.

The committee on Credentials submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials respectfully report, that Brother Lorin Miller being called away from further attendance on this Grand □, has left with Brother E. A. Allen a proxy to represent the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden of Capital □, No. 3, Omaha, Nebraska, and your committee would respectfully recommend that Brother E. A. Allen be authorized to cast the votes to which Brother Miller was entitled, as the representative of said □.

All of which is submitted.

W. E. HARVEY,	} Committee.
F. WELCH,	
J. A. GOODLETT,	

Report adopted.

Brother Betts offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, instructed to procure the printing of the minutes of the Grand □ within ninety days from the closing of the present session.

The standing committee on Charity submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Charity beg leave to report that no business has been presented requiring action.

Respectfully submitted.

LORIN MILLER,
J. N. H. PATRICK, } Committee.
JAMES ASHLEY,

Report adopted.

Brother Wheeler submitted the following question:

Can a under dispensation admit Master Masons to membership upon dimits?

On motion, referred to committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The committee on Accounts and Expenditures submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Accounts and Expenditures beg leave to report back to the Grand the following accounts, referred for their consideration, as correct, and recommend that they be allowed, and that an order be drawn on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

J. H. MAXON,
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
C. F. CATLIN,

ACCOUNTS.

<i>The Grand <input type="checkbox"/> of Nebraska, in account with J. N. WISE, Grand Secretary,</i>	Dr.
To postage and stationery	\$ 6 15
To cash paid for Grand <input type="checkbox"/> circulars	7 25
To expense of getting books, papers, &c., belonging to Grand <input type="checkbox"/> , from Bellevue ...	7 25
To amount paid for printing blank <input type="checkbox"/> returns.....	6 00
To salary as Grand Secretary.....	50 00
Total.....	\$76 65

The M. W. Grand of Nebraska, in account with S. D. BANGS, Past Grand Secretary:

	Dr.
To postage and stationery	\$ 1 10

Report adopted.

The select committee appointed to prepare and report a programme for installation and festival ceremonies on the 23d inst., made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee, to whom was referred the preparation of a programme, recommend that the procession be formed in front of Union Block, at 11 o'clock A. M., under the immediate orders of the Grand Marshal, assisted by Brother D. P. Rolfe, of Western Star , No. 2, and Brother R. N. Hill, of Nebraska City , No. 12. That the Grand , accompanied by Western Star and Nebraska City , preceded by the City Band, march in procession to the M. E. church,

on the corner of Laramie and Eleventh streets, where an oration will be delivered by Brother Irish, Grand Orator. After which there will be a public installation of the Grand Officers. The brethren will then—accompanied by the ladies—proceed to the refreshment hall, without form. After refreshment, at such time as the Grand Master shall designate, the procession will be re-formed, and march to the hall of the Grand □. All members of the Grand □, and transient brethren, with their wives, daughters, sisters and mothers, are very cordially invited to be present and partake of the refreshments.

Respectfully submitted.

A. P. COGSWELL, }
W. H. MANN, } Committee.
H. O. HANNA, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

The following additional report of the committee on Credentials was submitted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee on Credentials beg leave to offer the following additional report :

That Brother J. N. H. Patrick, proxy for Junior Warden of Omadi □, No. 5, being called away from further attendance on this session of the Grand □, has left with Brother Geo. B. Graff his proxy, to cast the vote of the Junior Warden of said □. And your committee would respectfully recommend that Brother George B. Graff be authorized to cast the vote of said Junior Warden in this Grand □.

All of which is submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
F. WELCH, } Committee.
JOHN A. GOODLETT, }

On motion, the report was adopted.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the application of Solomon □, under dispensation, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find the same correct and in conformity with masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Solomon □, under dispensation, be, and the same are hereby, approved by this Grand □.

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers E. H. Clark, A. G. White, J. P. Andrews, D. McDonald, W. H. Dunn, E. N. Grenelle, C. Lusk, J. S. Davis, T. B. Bailey, J. S. Riddle, Thos. Frazier, Jas. Vanhorn, R. C. Wilson, M. V. Wilson, Geo. W. Wilson, N. Carter, Rice Arnold, and A. S. Johns, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and

style of Solomon □, No. 10, to be located at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. And further, that the legal representatives thereof present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand □.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.

Report adopted.

The same committee submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the application of Covert □, under dispensation, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find the same correct, and in conformity with masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Covert □, under dispensation, be and the same are hereby, approved by this Grand □.

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers W. E. Harvey, H. P. Deuel, C. F. Catlin, M. C. Wilbur, J. H. Lacey, Wm. A. Little, W. Findly, A. G. Murphy, J. S. Gibson, J. F. Sawyer, H. C. Newman, and C. W. Burt, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Covert □, No. 11, to be located at Omaha, Nebraska. And further, that the legal representatives thereof, present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand □.

* All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
J. W. MARSHALL, }

The same committee submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations to whom was referred the application of Nebraska City □, under dispensation, report that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said □, and find the same correct and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Nebraska City □, under dispensation, be and the same are hereby approved by this Grand □.

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers G. D. Foglesong, J. W. Chad-duck, R. H. Dickey, W. J. Miller, B. W. Nott, J. M. Burks, F. S. Moore, S. E. Ward, N. L. Simpson, J. A. Hollinsworth, R. M. Hill, D. R. Mills, W. J. Shackelford, M. Reis, D. Shackman, N. C. Roswell, J. Abney, J. W. Modie, and C. B. Hodges, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Nebraska City □, No. 12, to be located at Ne-

braska City, Nebraska. And further, that the legal representatives thereof, present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
G. W. BRATTON, } Committee.

Brother Wheeler offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the charters granted Solomon, Covert and Nebraska City \square , be retained in the hands of the Grand Secretary until the members named in said reports deposit their dimits from their respective \square , with the Grand Secretary

Brother Welch offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year be made the special order of business for this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The committee on Ways and Means submitted the following
REPORT.

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

Your committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the resolution in regard to collating and printing the Laws and Regulations and amendments of the Grand \square , would beg leave to substitute the following:

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to collate and revise all Laws and Regulations, and all amendments thereto, of this Grand \square from its first Annual Communication up to and including its present session. And that one hundred copies be bound in cloth, of which two copies shall be furnished each subordinate \square for library use. And that three hundred copies be bound in pamphlet form for distribution as follows: Five copies to each subordinate \square ; two copies to each present Grand Officer; two copies to the Secretary of the Territory, to be filed in the Territorial Library, and two copies to be mailed to each grand body with which this Grand \square is in communication. And that said special committee report at the next annual meeting of this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR, }
E. A. ALLEN, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

Report adopted.

The same committee submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred a resolution relative to the printing of the minutes of this Grand \square , beg leave to report the same back without an amendment, and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR, }
E. A. ALLEN, } Committee.

The committee on Credentials submitted the following additional report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Credentials respectfully report that, in accordance with the resolution adopted by this Grand \square , ordering charters to be issued to the members of Solomon and Nebraska City \square , U. D., and admitting their legal representatives to seats and votes in this Grand \square , they present the names of the following brethren as representatives of their \square , and entitled to the number of votes set opposite their names respectively.

SOLOMON \square .—E. H. Clark, Worshipful Master, 1; E. A. Allen, Senior Warden, 1; A. G. White, Junior Warden, 1.

NEBRASKA CITY \square .—G. D. Foglesong, Worshipful Master, 1; J. W. Chad-duck, Senior Warden, 1; R. H. Dickey, Junior Warden, 1.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The special committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's Annual Address, relating to the members of Monitor \square , U. D., submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That when the Treasurer of Monitor \square , U. D., shall have paid to the Grand Treasurer the amount due from Monitor \square , and return the assets to the Grand Treasurer, and their dispensation to the Grand Master, all brethren of said \square , affiliated elsewhere, shall at once be considered subject to and in membership with the \square with which they were connected at the time they entered the service: That all who were made masons by said \square while it was in existence, shall receive such certificates as may be necessary from this Grand \square , that they may affiliate with the \square in whose jurisdiction they may hereafter reside.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. GOODLETT, }
GEO. W. BRATON, } Committee.
C. W. SEYMOUR, }

The committee on Ways and Means submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the resolution in regard to paying all the representatives to the Grand \square from \square subordinate thereto, report the same back and recommend its adoption.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR, }
E. A. ALLEN, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The M. W. the Grand \square was called from labor to refreshment till 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JUNE 22, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: the Grand □ resumed labor; the M.: W.: the Grand Master in the East. Officers and members as before.

On motion, the Grand □ proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, which resulted as follows:

- Brother R. W. FURNAS, of Brownville, M.: W.: Grand Master.
- “ GEO. B. GRAFF, of Dakota, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master.
- “ WM. E. HILL, of Nebraska City, R.: W.: Grand Senior Warden.
- “ FRANK WELCH, of Decatur, R.: W.: Grand Junior Warden.
- “ T. W. BEDFORD, of Brownville, R.: W.: Grand Treasurer.
- “ J. N. WISE, of Plattsmouth, R.: W.: Grand Secretary.

The committee on Credentials submitted the following additional report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Credentials would respectfully report, that, in accordance with the resolution passed by this Grand □, ordering a charter to be issued to the members of Covert □, under dispensation. and admitting their legal representatives to seats and votes in this Grand □, they present the names of the following brethren as representatives of their □ entitled to the number of votes set opposite their names respectively:

COVERT □.—W. E. Harvey, Worshipful Master, 1; C. F. Catlin, proxy for Senior Warden, 1; C. F. Catlin, Junior Warden, 1.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARVEY, }
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The committee on Accounts and Expenditures submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Accounts and Expenditures, to whom was referred the account of Brother R. W. Furnas, M.: W.: Grand Master, having examined the same, find it correct.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. MAXON, }
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.

The committee on Subordinate Returns submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M.: W.: Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee on Subordinate Returns have received no report from Columbus □, No. 8. Neither is there any in the minutes for last year. Your com-

mittee therefore recommend that the Grand appoint a committee to visit said , inquire into its standing, and make immediate report to the Grand Secretary of the Grand , as the circumstances may seem to require.

Respectfully submitted.

G. C. BETTS,
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.

Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler was appointed said committee.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following standing committee, in pursuance of a resolution adopted by this Grand , relative to an "Orphans' School:"

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' SCHOOL.

Brother ROBERT W. FURNAS, M. W. Grand Master, *Chairman*.

- " J. M. WHITTED, of Nebraska , No. 1.
- " WM. E. HILL, of Western Star , No. 2.
- " LORIN MILLER, of Capital , No. 3.
- " T. W. BEDFORD, of Nemaha Valley , No. 4.
- " GEO. B. GRAFF, Omaha , No. 5.
- " D. H. WHEELER, Plattsmouth , No. 6.
- " FRANK WELCH, Decatur , No. 7.
- " C. B. STILLMAN, Columbus , No. 8.
- " W. H. MANN, Falls City , No. 9.
- " DAVID McDONALD, Solomon , No. 10.
- " C. F. CATLIN, of Covert , No. 11.
- " R. H. DICKEY, Nebrasky City , No. 12.

Brother Goss offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to notify the different subordinate in whose returns errors appear, as suggested by the report of the committee on Subordinate Returns, of the amounts due from them, and request them to forward to him the amounts due this Grand .

Brother Wheeler submitted the following question:

Can the Grand dimit a member from a subordinate , with or without the express concurrent action of such subordinate ?

Referred to committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred the petition of certain Brother Master Masons, asking for a dispensation for Cedar , U. D., to be located at Rulo, in Richardson county, Nebraska, have had the same under consideration, and would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a dispensation be issued by this Grand \square to W. R. Cain, H. J. Vandal, Jacob Shoff, C. A. Hergesheimer, Hugh Boyd, Thos. Harpster, Joshua Murray, and Z. J. Parsons, for a \square U. D., to be named Cedar \square , and located in the town of Rulo, aforesaid.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF,
GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
J. W. MARSHALL, }

The same committee submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations, to whom was referred certain amendments of the By-Laws of Western Star \square , No. 2, would respectfully report, that they have examined the same, find them in accordance with masonic law and usage, and recommend that the same be approved by the Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF,
GEO. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
J. W. MARSHALL, }

Brother Goss offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the committee on Foreign Correspondence shall be appointed by the M. : W. : Grand Master at each Annual Communication previous to the closing thereof, of which committee the R. : W. : Grand Secretary shall be chairman, so that they may be enabled to report at the assembling of the Grand \square , such things as may be of interest to the craft.

The M. : W. : the Grand \square was called from labor to refreshment, till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRD DAY.

JUNE 23, 1866—9 O'CLOCK A. M.

The M. : W. : the Grand \square was called from refreshment to labor; the M. : W. : Grand Master in the East. Officers and members as on yesterday.

On motion of Brother Seymour, the reading of the minutes of yesterday was dispensed with.

The M. : W. : Grand Master announced the following committees, in pursuance of resolution of this Grand \square :

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Wise, Betts, and Hanna.

On Collating Laws, &c.—Brothers Wise, Betts, and Wheeler.

Also the following appointment of Grand Officers :

- Brother Rev. A. G. WHITE, W. : Grand Chaplain.
 " GEO. ARMSTRONG, W. : Grand Lecturer.
 " J. Q. GOSS, W. : Grand Orator.
 " W. E. HARVEY, W. : Grand Marshal.
 " G. D. FOGLESONG, W. : Grand Senior Deacon.
 " E. H. CLARK, W. : Grand Junior Deacon.
 " JAMES S. TAYLOR, W. : Grand Tyler.
 " W. H. MANN, } W. : Grand Stewards.
 " AARON CONNOR, }
 " C. B. STILLMAN, W. : Grand Sword Bearer.
 " J. W. MARSHALL, W. : Grand Standard Bearer.
 " JOHN REID, } W. : Grand Pursuivants.
 " A. CAHN, }

Brother Past Grand Master D. H. Wheeler read a communication from Audalasia □, No. 239, under the jurisdiction of the Grand □ of Alabama, soliciting aid for the erection of a masonic hall—their hall having been destroyed by the *mis*-fortunes of war, and the brethren of said □ being unable, of their own resources, to build their temple ; therefore,

Brother Maxon offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand □ authorize the Grand Secretary to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the sum of fifty dollars as a donation to Audalasia □, No. 239, of the State of Alabama, in answer to the prayer of said □, and that the Grand Secretary forward the said amount to the Secretary of said □.

Brother Betts submitted the following resolution to amend the By-Laws of this Grand □, as follows, to-wit :

By striking out the words of the 10th article of section 4, which reads, "It shall be the duty of the committee to prepare a pay-roll, to ascertain and report the per diem and traveling compensation allowed to the representatives and members of the Grand □;" and in its place to say, "The Secretary of the Grand □ only, shall receive a salary from the same." And also to amend section 18 of said By-Laws, by striking out all after the words "Grand □," and substituting therefor the words, "Nor shall any member of said Grand □ leave the same, unless he be excused by sickness or other providential causes arising after his leaving home to attend said Grand □;" so that the whole section shall read thus: "Each subordinate □ is required to be represented at the stated Communications of the Grand □. Nor shall any member of said Grand □ leave the same, unless he be excused by sickness or other providential cause, arising after his leaving home to attend said Grand □."

The resolution was seconded by five members, to-wit : Brothers D. H. Wheeler, W. Adair, Geo. B. Graff, O. H. Irish, and J. H. Maxon, as required by the By-Laws of this Grand □.

The resolution lies over till next meeting of the Grand .

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred several topics and questions presented in the M. . W. . Grand Master's address, and other questions propounded by brethren, members of your Grand body, would respectfully submit the following :

On that portion of the address relating to rejected applicants for initiation into subordinate , we would recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That the Secretary of each subordinate in this jurisdiction be required to forward by mail to every subordinate in said jurisdiction, other than his own, official notice of all rejections made by their respective , stating the name, age, residence and occupation of each applicant rejected; and each shall keep a book in which shall be recorded each and every such rejection made or reported; and, to the end that the fraternity may not be imposed upon, each applicant before being prepared for initiation, shall be required to satisfy the by pledge, or otherwise, that he has never been rejected in any other . *Provided*, That if any applicant shall file with his petition a statement in writing that he has been so rejected, with the unanimous consent for his initiation, of the rejecting him, then such pledge shall be dispensed with, and no rejected applicant shall be initiated in any other until the unanimous consent of the rejecting him be obtained.

We would also recommend that Article XII. of Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate , be amended so that it shall read as follows:

XII. No shall initiate into the mysteries of the craft any person whomsoever, without being first satisfied by a test or otherwise, that such candidate has not made application to some other and been rejected; and if it shall appear that he has been so rejected, then the must be satisfactorily convinced that the objection to his initiation has been withdrawn, and the unanimous consent of the rejecting him must be obtained before he can be initiated.

The questions propounded in the M. . W. . Grand Master's address are as follows:

1st. Is it lawful for a of masons to convene for " work " on the Sabbath day ?

2d. Is it lawful to confer degrees of the order upon an applicant who can neither read nor write ?

To the first question, we answer, it is not.

To the second question, we answer no.

The questions propounded by our brethren, and referred to your committee, are as follows:

1st. (By Brother Wheeler). Can a , under dispensation, admit Master Masons to membership upon dimits ?

2d. (By Brother Goss). Is a person who has lost the index finger of the

right hand, and whose middle finger of the same hand is stiff, so that he can not straighten it, eligible to be initiated into the mysteries of the craft?

3d. (By Brother Wheeler). Has a Grand the power to dimit members from subordinate ?

To these questions we give the following answers:

1st. The form of dispensation gives to a under dispensation, all the rights and privileges it possesses; and no power can be exercised by such except as therein enumerated. The power of admitting dimitted masons is not, by any form of dispensation known to your committee, given to such . We therefore conclude that a under dispensation cannot legitimately exercise such power.

2d. Yes.

3d. The Grand has not the legal or constitutional right to dimit any brother from his . The compact of membership is between each subordinate and its members, and the severance of that compact by dimitting must be the joint act of the and its members.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, }
JOHN Q. GOSS, } Committee.

Report adopted.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted the following report, which was adopted:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they regret exceedingly that no documents of a masonic nature reached them in time to prepare an elaborate digest during the session of this Grand , but crave indulgence to afford them an opportunity to make such exhibit, which they will forward to the Grand Secretary in sufficient time to be published with the proceedings of this Grand .

Respectfully submitted.

G. C. BETTS, }
W. E. HARVEY, } Committee.

Brother Harvey offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to make his draft upon Plattsmouth , No. 6, for the sum of three hundred dollars loaned to it by this Grand , at any time after ninety days from the date hereof, that the requirements of the treasury to pay any expenses incurred or appropriations made by this Grand , may make it necessary.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations submitted the following report:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Charters and Dispensations to whom was referred certain amendments of the By-Laws of Decatur , No. 7. would respectfully report

that they have examined the same, find them in strict accordance with masonic law and usage, and recommend that the same be approved by this Grand \square .

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. B. GRAFF, }
G. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
J. W. MARSHALL, }

The report was adopted.

The committee on Unfinished Business submitted the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Unfinished Business would respectfully report that no business has appeared before them at this session of the Grand \square .

C. W. SEYMOUR, }
GEO. C. BETTS, } Committee.
J. H. MAXON, }

The Grand Treasurer elect presented his bond, which was approved, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes :

TREASURER'S BOND.

HALL OF THE GRAND \square OF NEBRASKA, A. F. AND A. M., }
NEBRASKA CITY, N. T., June 23, 1866. }

Know all men by these presents, That we, T. W. Bedford, as principal, John Q. Goss and E. H. Clark, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Grand \square of Nebraska of Free and Accepted Masons, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and assigns, each of them, firmly by these presents.

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

Signed and sealed at Nebraska City, Nebraska Territory, June 23d, A. D. 1866.



T. W. BEDFORD, [L. s.] *Principal.*
JOHN Q. GOSS, [L. s.] *Surety.*
E. H. CLARK, [L. s.] *Surety.*

The committee on Subordinate Returns submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the Returns of Subordinate for examination, respectfully report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and present, in the annexed table, a true exhibit of the statistical condition of the order, as represented in said returns.

GEO. C. BETTS,
D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
O. H. IRISH,

STATISTICAL REPORT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, 1865-6.

No.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	Master Masons.	Fellow Crafts.	Entr'd Apprent.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Dimitted.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	Amount Dues.
1	Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/>	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	22	2	9	9	3	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	\$ 49 00
2	Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	65	4	2	10	9	9	6	9	...	...	1	12	86 00
3	Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	90	2	3	12	14	16	2	5	...	...	...	...	110 00
4	Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/>	Brownville.....	Nemaha.....	59	8	9	9	8	10	7	4	...	...	...	10	83 00
5	Omadi <input type="checkbox"/>	Dakota City.....	Dakota.....	33	...	2	3	1	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	40 00
6	Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/>	Plattsmouth.....	Cass.....	72	4	12	10	15	12	15	2	...	...	1	14	95 00
7	Decatur <input type="checkbox"/>	Decatur.....	Burt.....	26	1	1	6	7	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	38 00
8	Columbus <input type="checkbox"/>	Columbus.....	Platte.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Falls City <input type="checkbox"/>	Falls City.....	Richardson.....	35	4	10	11	15	18	2	12	...	...	...	6	68 00
10	Solomon.....	Fort Calhoun.....	Washington.....	14	2	1	15	14	12	2	...	...	...	...	3	47 00
11	Monitor.....	1st Reg. Nebraska Volunteers.	In the Field.....	23	2	4	20	16	14	...	...	...	...	...	4	106 00
12	Covert.....	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	17	3	3	22	20	17	...	...	...	...	...	7	66 00
13	Nebraska City.....	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	19	...	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43 00
Total.....				475	32	70	135	122	118	36	34	...	3	3	65	\$831 00

The committee on Pay-Roll submitted the following report, which was adopted:

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

Your committee on Pay-Roll respectfully report the following named officers and members of the M. . W. . the Grand of Nebraska entitled to the sums set opposite their names, respectively, and recommend the payment of the same.

All of which is submitted.

LEE P. GILLETTE, }
 J. N. WISE, } Committee.
 W. E. HARVEY, }

PAY-ROLL OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE M. . W. . THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA A. . F. . & A. . M. .
 FOR THE NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, HELD AT NEBRASKA CITY, JUNE 21, A. D. 1866, A. L. 5866.

NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.	Miles.	Mileage.	Per Diem.	Total.	NAME OF LODGE.	No. of <input type="checkbox"/> .	RESIDENCE.	REMARKS.
OFFICERS.								
R. W. Furnas, Grand Master.....	120	\$ 12 00	\$ 4 50	\$ 16 50	.....	.....	Omaha Agency.....	.....
Geo. B. Graff, Deputy Grand Master.....	145	14 50	4 50	19 00	.....	.....	Dakota.....	.....
Jno. A. Goodlett, Grand Senior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
Geo. W. Bratton, Grand Junior Warden.....	25	2 50	4 50	7 00	.....	.....	Brownville.....	.....
Wm. E. Harvey, Grand Treasurer.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Omaha.....	Paid as representative.....
J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Plattsmouth.....	Paid as representative.....
G. C. Betts, Grand Chaplain.....	30	3 00	4 50	7 50	.....	.....	Plattsmouth.....	.....
Wm. E. Hill, Grand Lecturer.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
O. H. Irish, Grand Orator.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	.....	.....	Decatur.....	Donated to Orphan Col. Fund
Frank Welch, Grand Marshal.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Decatur.....	Paid as representative.....
H. O. Hanna, Grand Senior Deacon.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Falls City.....	Paid as representative.....
G. L. Stephenson, Grand Junior Deacon <i>pro tem</i>.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
G. H. Hail, Grand Tyler.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
MEMBERS.								
John Q. Goss, Worshipful Master.....	40	4 00	4 50	8 50	Nebraska.....	1	Bellavia.....	.....
John H. Maxon.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	Proxy W. M.....
John Reed, Senior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	.....
C. W. Seymour, Junior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	.....
Lorin Miller.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Capitol.....	3	Omaha.....	Proxy W. M.....
E. A. Allen.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Capitol.....	3	Omaha.....	Proxy J. W.....

PAY-ROLL—CONTINUED.

NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.	Miles.	Mileage.	Per Diem.	Total.	NAME OF LODGE.	No. of tr.	LOCATION OF LODGE.	REMARKS.
MEMBERS—Continued.								
T. W. Bedford, Worshipful Master.....	85	85 00	4 50	89 50	Nemaha Valley.....	4	Brownville	
A. P. Cogswell, Senior Warden.....	45	45 00	4 50	49 50	Nemaha Valley.....	4	Brownville	
William Admr.....	145	14 50	4 50	19 00	Omadi	5	Dakota City.....	Proxy W. M.....
J. N. H. Patrick.....	145	14 50	4 50	19 00	Omadi	5	Dakota City.....	Proxy J. W.*.....
E. T. Inke, Worshipful Master.....	30	3 00	4 50	7 50	Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	
J. N. Wise, Senior Warden.....	30	3 00	4 50	7 50	Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	
J. W. Marshall.....	30	3 00	4 50	7 50	Plattsmouth	6	Plattsmouth	Proxy J. W.....
Frank Welch, Worshipful Master.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Decatur	7	Decatur.....	
James Ashley, Senior Warden.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Decatur	7	Decatur.....	
A. Rockwell, Junior Warden	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Decatur	7	Decatur.....	
H. O. Hanna, Worshipful Master.....	60	6 00	4 50	10 50	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	
W. H. Mann, Senior Warden.....	60	6 00	4 50	10 50	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	
E. H. Clark, Worshipful Master.....	65	6 50	4 50	11 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....	
A. G. White, Junior Warden.....	65	6 50	4 50	11 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....	
W. E. Harvey, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Covert	11	Omaha	
C. F. Catlin, Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Covert	11	Omaha	
G. D. Foglesong, Worshipful Master.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
J. W. Chadduck, Senior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
R. H. Diekey, Junior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
D. H. Wheeler, Past Grand Master.....	30	3 00	4 50	7 50	.....	.....	Plattsmouth†.....	
Lee P. Gillette, Past Deputy Grand Mastor.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	.....	.....	In Camp‡.....	
Totals.....	1760	\$176 00	\$162 00	\$338 00	.....	.....	.....	.....

*Donated to Orphans' College Fund.

†Residence.

‡Camp 1st Nebraska Cavalry, Omaha, Nebraska.

N. S. Harding & Co., for stationery	\$ 4 20
A. F. & W. E. Harvey, for printing 400 copies of proceedings of Grand □ for 1865	144 25—\$148 45

Your committee find reported due and unpaid, by Monitor □, U. D., \$106.
Respectfully submitted.

J. H. MAXON, }
FRANK WELCH, } Committee.
C. F. CATLIN, }

Report adopted.

The M. W. Grand □ was called from labor to refreshment for the purpose of listening to the Oration, installing the officers elect of the Grand □, and partaking of the refreshments provided for the members of the fraternity, their wives, sisters and friends, by the brethren of Western Star □, No. 2, and Nebraska City □, No. 12.

ORATION.

BY R. W. O. H. IRISH, GRAND ORATOR.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER :

My Brethren, Ladies and Gentlemen—I appear before you this day, in acknowledgment of the claim which the masonic order has upon the services of each and every one of its members, however humble, as your Orator, to recall its ancient landmarks from the dim shadows which time throws back over the traditions which perpetuate the remembrance of the deeds of men, and make up the histories of nations; to exemplify, as best I can, the great designs, the sublime principles and teachings of masonry, and which, I trust, I may be able to do, in keeping with that spirit of truth which pervades this place—itself reared unto truth and in the love of it dedicated to the worship of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Masonic traditions hand down to us the record of the early honors of the order, when, in Egypt, under the name of the "Sacred Mysteries" it organized society and laid the foundations of social order and law. Its initiatory rite was a mystic drama, representing the progress of man from a barbarous to a civilized state, during which the candidate was severely questioned and the acts of his life scrutinized with the severest exactitude, while he threaded his way through mysterious labyrinths. Arriving at length at a rivulet of water, he was commanded to drink, and was addressed by his conductor: "Aspirant to the honor of a Divine companionship, seeker after celestial truth, this is the water of forgetfulness. Drink to the oblivion of vices, the forgetfulness of all your imperfections, and thus be prepared for the reception of the new revelation of virtue and truth and goodness with which you are soon to be honored." This ceremony was considered the formal renunciation of a profane and vicious life, and the pledge to a new one of purity and virtue. The profound darkness in which the candidate had been involved disappeared, and what seemed to be a miraculous and divine light blazed in boundless effulgence around; smiling plains and meadows enameled with flowers spread before, and a bland and fragrant air laden with

the sweetest perfumes undulated before him. Hymns in honor of Divinity, and choruses of triumph and joy charmed his ears, while sublime doctrines of science, art, industry, philosophy and religion were addressed to his understanding. The initiate was then baptized into a new life, and became a member of the Sacred Mysteries; pledged to join his labors with the wisest and purest spirits of the age, in working out the "social regeneration of the people from the darkness, barbarism and savagery which filled the earth.

In that secret organization was thus laid the foundations of the civilization perpetuated by the pyramids. It was that influence that gave unity to the Egyptian character, and stability to their institutions; and led them to that high intellectual, social and moral development which, for a time, raised them so far above the other nations of the earth.

So was the secret order of Orpheus founded fourteen centuries before the Christian Era, the foundation of Grecian civilization. In its secret recesses, where the profane eye was never permitted to penetrate, were developed those great social ideas which regenerated Greece, opening to her the portals of a new life, and led that wonderful people on toward the brilliant destiny that made them the envy and admiration of the world.

So it was of the different secret fraternities that sprang into existence in the pagan world in the earlier ages. Their doctrines were taught in a symbolic form. Their objects were generally, as recorded by tradition and history, social communion, intellectual cultivation, and to secure personal progress and the general advancement of the people.

I do not, however, present these orders of ancient masonry as by any means perfect. On the contrary, they had great and numerous imperfections. But they were rude attempts, in rude ages, to realize that ideal of brotherhood which was attained by the wisdom and piety of Solomon, and consecrated and established in the building of the temple at Jerusalem. We witness the establishment, extension and preservation of Freemasonry through "ages long gone by," and lament that the unfounded and illiberal prejudices which, under the influence of old barbarisms, it could not soften, and corrupt passions which it could not subdue, diminished its ancient glory and impeded its progress. "Like the sun, its emblem, it has at times been obscured." Clouds of error and the darkness of ignorance have overshadowed its lustre. But, when the clear light of revelation was shed upon the world in the full radiance of reason, truth and wisdom, under the inspiring influences and as the promoter of our holy religion, it re-illuminated the world with an increasing splendor.

When King Solomon had matured his magnificent design of building a temple to be dedicated to the service of the Most High, he was compelled to call in foreign assistance, for the Hebrew nation had as yet made little progress in science and architecture. He, therefore, secured from his friend Hiram, king of Tyre, a company of architects, who were organized under the presidency of Hiram Abiff, the widow's son, as Deputy Grand Master, after the manner of the Grecian orders of Mystery, so as to secure greater efficiency and excellence in their labor and mutual protection and assistance. King Solomon, as the patron of the order the Jewish Dispensation, exercised the general control over the

craft as Grand Master, assisted by a council of twelve Master Masons, selected from among the twelve tribes of Israel. When the temple was completed, and the operative labors accomplished, to perpetuate and commemorate the great achievement, King Solomon, as Grand Master, established the order permanently as a secret institution, and provided in its ceremonies and rites for the recall of the historical scenes and incidents connected with the labors of the craft in the erection of the temple, and for drawing from them lessons of wisdom and instruction for the speculative mason.

The principles of speculative masonry were consecrated in the blood of King Solomon's Deputy Grand Master, Hiram Abiff, who is spoken of in the Bible as a "cunning man, endued with understanding; skillful to work in gold and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone and in timber; in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also, to grave any manner of graving and to find out any device," and upon the dispersion, after the temple was completed, its principles were carried into Asia, Africa and Europe, uniting in a bond of brotherly love, the wise and good of every nation. The riches and glory of the temple were the theme of universal admiration. Reports were propagated to the remotest regions of the earth, of the wisdom and power of King Solomon, and the wondrous skill of the masons who had completed, without the use of "axe, hammer or metal tool," a material structure, whose stones were so carved, marked and numbered in the quarry that when they were brought to Jerusalem, each was found to tally with the others in such precision that when finished it appeared to be composed of a single stone, more like the work of the Great Architect of the Universe than an exertion of human skill.

The sages who, from time to time, visited Jerusalem to ascertain the truth of the reports—while they had ocular demonstration of the splendor and magnificence of the temple, and of the wisdom and power of King Solomon—observed no less the beneficial effects resulting from the order and regularity established by him among the masons employed in the work; and such of the strangers as were found worthy carried back with them the secrets of the fraternity, not only as operative, but as speculative masons; not only to labor in building material temples, but to work in the speculative temple of masonry as designed by the wise King of Israel, by piling precept upon precept, symbol upon symbol, instruction, explanation, admonition and example, like a series of polished and perfect stones, emblematically carved, numbered and marked so as to denote the peculiar talent, ability and excellence of each brother for the work, until the moral structure should be complete,—“a building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”


But Jewish apostacy subsequently obscured and almost extinguished the light of speculative masonry. The temple—the monument of operative masonry—was razed to its foundations; its altars were desecrated; its sacred vessels of silver and gold defiled; and

God no longer bent in blessing
From the holy Mercy Seat;
But the curse as His avenger,
Came with quick advancing feet:
Fire and sword, and chains and famine,

From where Peace was wont to smile,
 And the city, shrine and temple,
 Lay a smoking, ruined pile ;
 While sad and broken-hearted,
 'Neath the willow's shade of green,
 Israel sat a weeping captive,
 By the great Euphrates' stream.

Although the Jews were subsequently delivered from the Babylonish captivity, and returned with great rejoicing to the land of their fathers, and rebuilt the temple; yet as they repeatedly yielded to the evil example of surrounding nations, and as the Holy Temple was frequently polluted by pagan rites, ceremonies and sacrifices, so were our profaned by the abominations of spurious Freemasonry. The ancient order, beauty and purity of true masonry were destroyed, and instead of its sublime teachings, the mysteries of Bacchus and other heathen deities were celebrated in its ; a false religion led to the inauguration of a false masonry, and on its ruins other orders and sects were established, retaining only a semblance of its primitive character. Its records and traditions were, however, retained by the society of Essen, which, in its organization, principles, and objects, was modeled more nearly than any other of those degenerate days after the order of masonry. Josephus treats at length of this society, and informs us that "if any one hath a mind to come over to them," that he is tried as a probationer for three years. and, if he proves worthy, is admitted upon taking an obligation, "that he will exercise piety towards God, observe justice towards men, and that he will do no harm to any one of his own accord, or by the command of others; that he will always hate the wicked, and be assistant to the righteous; that he will ever show fidelity to all men, especially to those in authority; that he will be perpetually a lover of truth; * * * * that he will keep his hands clear from theft, and soul from unlawful gains; that he will neither conceal anything from his own sect, nor discover any of its doctrines to others—no!—not though any one should compel him to do so at the hazard of his life; * * * that he will not communicate their doctrines to any one otherwise than as he receives them himself." This institution existed in Judea at the time of Christ, and while he denounced, in the severest terms, the sects of Pharisees and Saducees, he said not a word in condemnation of this society, whose moral sentiments, social maxims, and ideas of fraternity, imperfect as they were, were more like the teachings of christianity than any other organization of that day—so much so that in the times of the early persecutions their followers were denounced as christians in disguise. St. John the Baptist was a member of this society. The peculiar and mysterious manner in which he was prepared for the great work to which he was consecrated—of announcing the coming of our Saviour—was in keeping with the course of preparation of the initial for introduction into the mysteries of the society, or the preparation of any one of its members for any great and important undertaking. So also was St. John the Evangelist, in whose memory, as well as that of St. John the Baptist, we dedicate our .

Under the patronage of the two Saints John, masonry, by the renovating and inspiring influences of that gospel, of which the Baptist was the forerunner and

the Evangelist the messenger and teacher, soon covered the whole civilized world, "as the waters do the sea." We behold masonry, as fostered by them in the grand progress of its symbolical teachings, falling into harmony with the triumphant march of christianity, the hand-maiden of the church, adhering to the same sublime truths. Through them we received the mystery of masonry—to them, under God, we dedicate our , where, by the "great light that burns upon our altar," we search out the secrets of earth and heaven, of time and eternity. And while we recall memories of the Temple of Solomon, so beautiful and magnificent, but so long since destroyed by the ravages of barbarian force, we also remember that the Most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands, but in a spiritual temple, eternal in the heavens. Hence, the universe is the emblematic temple in which we worship. "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty are the pillars upon which it rests." We are admonished that "His Wisdom is infinite;" "His Strength is omnipotent," and His Beauty shines forth through all creation in symmetry and order." For He has stretched forth the heavens as a canopy; the earth He hath set before Him as a footstool. The sun and moon are messengers of His will, by their light making manifest amid His works, His power and glory.

The early christians sought to protect themselves from the enmity of the world, and to impress the revelation of eternal truth, wisdom and love upon the heart of humanity by an organization called the "Secret Discipline" or "Disciplinia Arcani," and assumed the masonic character, concealing its rites and ceremonies under a veil of profound mystery. They were called among themselves the "Christian Brotherhood," and were composed of four circles or degrees—the Faithful, the Illuminati, the Initiate, the Perfect. They had their secret signs of recognition, and the faithful disciple received at his initiation a secret mark upon a white stone as an evidence of his being one of the brotherhood. In times of persecution the word or sign was used as a signal by which christians, though strangers, recognized each other; by which the persecuted sought asylum, or strangers in distress asked relief of their brethren. Thus were the members of the Christian Brotherhood enabled to make themselves known to other christians who would cherish, protect and watch over them with brotherly solicitude and care.

Divine and unspeakably important as the great idea of christianity was, its early teachers did not disdain, as the means of its propagation, those human agencies which had been found so useful under pagan rule, in winning the attachment and turning the thoughts of the people toward a higher order of civilization. Unprotected by any miraculous physical interposition of Divine power in maintaining its material organization, the church protected itself by a mysterious veil from the assaults of its enemies, and under the blessing of God, worked its way into the world.

In the days of the primitive church, the masonic institution was sanctioned and patronized. But in that dark age of the world's history, when ignorance and confusion succeeded the destruction of the Roman Empire; when bigotry and superstition seemed for a time to shut out the pure light and dim the glory of the Gospel; when science was imprisoned within the walls of monasteries by


the tyranny of priest-craft; and social intercourse and the spirit of inquiry languished under a mental degeneracy that checked the ardor of investigation, and clasped the human mind in the debasing fetters of ignorance and superstition, the masonic fraternity, which had, under the inspiring influences of the infant church, advanced in power and knowledge, soon felt the rod of ecclesiastical oppression. Under the Roman Hierarchy its advocates were overawed and persecuted with unrelenting rage. It was only in the small Isle of Britain that it found a safe retreat, where it existed in its primitive simplicity long after it had apparently disappeared from continental Europe. Introduced by St. Albans, in the third century, under the patronage of King Alfred, its mysteries were preserved, and it was fostered and strengthened and fully organized by his grandson, Prince Edwin, who formed the first Grand \square of England and York, A. D. 926, being 940 years ago to-day. Thus masonry existed in Britain through those centuries of darkness and gloom, and experienced, according to the influences that predominated, alternate successions of advancement and decay. When power was in the hands of the Romish priesthood, masons were prohibited from holding their \square , and attempts were made to inaugurate the policy which prevailed on the continent, of condemning to the stake, as heretics, those who were attached to the principles and practices of Freemasonry.

It was not until England became a Protestant nation that the order of masonry was permanently established, and England and Scotland became the seat of masonic learning, from which its venerable rites and ceremonies, enforcing its sublime principles, were extended to the nations of every civilized portion of the world. The stern, uncompromising foe of despotism and oppression, the unflinching enemy of superstition and fanaticism, the promoter of civilization and good order, the earnest defender of the pure simplicity of a free christianity; it vindicated its principles and teachings in the blood of its martyrs. Papacy, regarding Freemasonry as one of the strongest bulwarks of religious freedom, and as an enemy to its peculiar doctrines and policy, has to this day never relaxed its efforts to put it down. As late as January, 1739, the Pope issued an edict in which the servitude of the galleys, the tortures of the rack, and a fine of one thousand crowns of gold, were threatened to persons who even breathed the air of a masonic assembly, and those who summoned them were to be turned over to the tender mercies of the Inquisition. Masonry was at war with intolerance in the Church and in the State, and thus provoked the hostility of the Jesuits, who caused members of the order to languish in the prisons and dungeons of Naples, Lisbon, and Rome, as late as in the first year of American Independence, and the persecution ceased only at the demand of foreign nations. As "the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church," so from the tortures of the rack and the horrors of the dungeon, the bloody testimonies of the Inquisition and the tombs of our murdered brethren, the influence of the great idea of our order has gone forth advancing along the track of the ages, hand in hand with the sublime idea of christianity, disenthraling the human mind from the bondage of old superstitions and errors, and bearing an honorable part in laying under the protection of the free institutions of protestantism the temple of civil and religious freedom in the new world.

Masonry and christianity are not, as some would have them, enemies. He who alleges that masonry does not acknowledge Christ and his great mission has not even sought for information as to its principles and teachings. His mind is so warped by prejudice, that he is not willing to submit the question to investigation. The truth is, they have each the same mission of good will to man. They go forth to the world, working to the same end, but by different means.

The first step taken by a candidate upon his entrance into the □ is a solemn declaration of his trust in God. The first admonition he receives is to make the Holy Bible his constant study as the only source of our faith; as our great treasure; our charter; the great light irradiating all of our □□; and when in the progress of his exaltation he is at length admitted to the highest degree of masonry, and invested with the mystic sword—the symbol of power—he is bidden to wield it in the cause of the religion of Christ as the one great object of his life; and in the most solemn manner is taught reverence for the institutions of the Church. He is pointed to the cross as the sign by which he is to conquer; and, recalling the memories that hallowed it, he is commanded to go forth as a christian soldier and mason, bearing as his motto: "*In hoc signo vinces.*" Yet the old charge made by the Inquisition, that we do not acknowledge Christ, is again revived. As the bigoted priesthood of that day refused to investigate the truth, and condemned its members, upon the confession of apostates, to the tortures of the dungeon, the rack, and the burning fagot; so now, stifling the spirit of inquiry, there are amongst us those who refuse to know the truth. turn a deaf ear to our solemn declarations, will not trace our principles in our histories, our noble precepts in our ceremonies and lectures, but in a spirit unworthy of the christian age in which we live, condemn us unheard; or upon the testimony of men who have been and are false to every honorable obligation. All we ask is that the masonic order shall be tried by the same tests that christianity applies to the other institutions and interests of life. I love and honor the christian church above all other institutions of earth; and I love and honor masonry because in its sublime teachings it more nearly resembles that than any other. Yet masonry is not, because it resembles the church, intended to take its place. No! God forbid! That would be to misconceive and misinterpret her great design. While masonry inculcates wondrous truths of time, God and eternity, and enforces the principles of the great teacher, the Bible, as applied to the practical duties of life, yet it does not pretend to include within itself the means of grace or to change the hearts of men. Masonry instructs men intellectually with reference to their moral duties. The church teaches them spiritually with regard to their religious obligations. Masonry works from without by words and symbols. The church starts from within, and works by the influences of the spirit, and her work is still necessary to be done though a man is a mason. A man may be an upright mason and perform all his moral duties as such, yet it is necessary that the church should do its work upon the heart, for it is the office of religion alone to transform man into a new being. Masonry is christianity applied to life as realized in the relations of society. It contains in the spirit of charity, the ministry of love, as inaugurated eighteen hundred years ago by Him who loved humanity and sought to assuage its griefs. The church is christianity applied to the great mystery of death as well as of life, and by the mercy of Him who "so

loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to be our redemption from sin;” whose great triumph will be (after the grave shall swallow up all the institutions of earth) in the resurrection by and through Him. Though the mission of masonry professes not to go beyond the grave, yet she points the way, and with sublime pathos symbolizes the final victory over the great conqueror, death, and the means by which it is to be won. Therefore, as masons and christians, we will not love masonry *less*, but love the church *more*.

My hearers, such is the history and design of masonry, as I can, in the hour allotted me, exemplify it. We do not urge you to unite with the fraternity, for we are not permitted to do so. We only exemplify its principles and designs. If, upon your own judgment, from what you have seen, heard and read, you have conceived a favorable opinion of our ancient institution and desire knowledge, and have a sincere wish to be serviceable to your fellow creatures, and to this end would view the inner glories of our speculative temple, knock at its door, and if found worthy and well qualified, you can enter in and dwell there and take part with us in our labors. Melancthon, Huss, Locke, Newton, Wren, Franklin and Washington, have labored as skillful craftsmen in our , and our records show that the great and good men of the generations that have gone before us, considered masonry worthy of their patronage, and contributed by their time, talents and labor towards the stability and usefulness of the order.

I crave your indulgence, here, for a few minutes, while I review some of the objections urged against us. The importance of the occasion demands it:

We are often admonished that we do not evidence the high designs of masonry by the conduct of the individual members of our order; and we confess it—it is too true. Yet, it is not Freemasonry that makes men worse; it is the base and immoral tendencies of the man. If masonry does not make him better it is because he does not give heed to its noble precepts. It is not the worthlessness of the order; it is the worthlessness of the man. Corrupt characters are to be found in the very best institutions upon the earth. The beauty and usefulness of the church is much impaired by the unworthy conduct of its professed adherents, “who have a name to live but are dead.” But their misconduct is no argument against christianity. The perfidy of Judas gave no reason to conclude that the other disciples were faithless and traitors. The laws of the land should not be overthrown because corrupt men and disorderly members of society violate them. Then let us, my brethren, vindicate the purity of our order by our lives of truth as well as our professions; that by our conduct and labors as well as by our words and writings, we may be “seen and read of men.” Let the power of the truth we teach be manifested by lopping off those unworthy members who, after repeated admonitions, refuse or neglect to conform, in their lives, not only to the theory but to the practical laws of masonry; as well as by rejecting those, no matter what may be their standing in society or the importance of their positions, who have only selfish views in seeking our brotherhood. Only those should be admitted who come with generous hearts and open hands. You can not, in keeping with your vows at our altar, receive those who deny God, a future life, and final retribution. The selfish, the profane, the impious, the drunkard, the libertine, the cruel and the slanderer, you are required by the ancient charges to reject utterly. You should say to them, in the language of

the order in the early ages of the world, when one of the great men of antiquity, whose life had been distinguished by deeds of violence, applied for admission: "You are forbidden to enter here. Your heart is cruel. Your hands are stained with crime. Go repair the wrong you have done, repent of your evil doings, and then come with pure heart and clean hands, and the doors of our mysteries shall be opened to you."

Let us, my brethren, in practice evidence those principles which, as masons, we profess, "that so our institution may have a good report of all men and of the truth itself." Thus shall we not only display the principles but honor the cause of masonry.

Who wears the Square upon his breast
Does in the eye of God attest,
And in the face of man,
That all his actions do compare
With the Divine, th' unerring Square
That squares great Virtue's plan.

Who wears the Level, says that Pride
Does not within his soul abide,
Nor foolish Vanity;
That Man has but a common doom,
And from the Cradle to the Tomb,
A common destiny.

Who wears the Plumb, should be so true,
His word, his walk, that we could view
The chambers of his soul;
Each thought, enshrined, so pure, so good
That the stern line of Rectitude
Points truly to the goal.

Who wears the G., ah, type divine!
Abhors the atmosphere of sin,
And trusts in God alone;
His Father, Maker, Friend, he knows,—
He vows, and pays to God his vows,
As by the eternal throne.

Thus Life and Beauty come to view,
In each design our fathers drew,
So glorious, so sublime;
Each breathes an odor from the bloom
Of gardens bright beyond the tomb,
Beyond the flight of Time;
And bids us build on this and this
The walls of God's own edifice.

But it is urged, "if the mysteries of Freemasonry are so beneficial, why not open them to all," that all may equally participate in their advantages? In answer to this inquiry I most solemnly declare that we have no secrets which it would be of the least importance to the world to know. The order is known. Its objects are known. Its laws are known, and also its times and places of meeting. Signs, symbols, ceremonies and tokens, by which masons may recognize one another, although strangers, are all the secrets we have. Our institu-

tion spreads over all the world, embracing within its fraternal folds some of every nation, kindred and tongue; and we have adopted for our convenience, and to secure greater efficiency in the work wherein we labor, a universal language which shall be comprehended by masons wherever they may be found, thus securing universal unity and harmony. The principles and privileges of the institution are open to all who are qualified to receive them. But of those qualifications we reserve the power to decide for ourselves. We profane not the sanctity of our ceremonies, nor prostitute their purpose by revealing them to the ignorant and the vicious. Were all men acquainted with them, without regard to selections or worth, the peculiar obligations enforced by our institution would revert back to the general duty of all mankind, and the special features and characteristics of the order would be lost in the great world at large.

The question is often asked, "Why do you exclude women from your order?" We answer: Our ancient charges and constitution do not permit it. They were not called in the order of God to labor in the erection of the material temple, although the craftsmen under the direction of King Solomon were bound in peculiar and lasting obligations to the families and widows and orphans of their co-laborers. Women are not called upon to labor with the working tools of masonry. The order of Providence and the toils of masonry do not require it. Men and women have certain distinctive qualities which determine the vocation of each. The true man is distinguished by strength, courage and endurance; the true woman by delicacy, and the beauty of gentleness and modesty. Strength, courage, and endurance, as embodied in man, were the qualities required in the building of the temple. When its labors were finished, man conducted Beauty, Gentleness, and Modesty, in the person of woman, to worship with him at its holy altar. Incapacitated by physical weakness from sharing in the severe labors of the craft, she was not less deserving nor less exalted, but was an equal sharer in the joys of the craftsman in the grand achievement. They saw the glory of the building, though they were not the builders. So now, in the building of our speculative temple, for our wives, daughters, mothers and sisters, do the gavel-resound in the east, our symbols shine upon and around our altars, and our craftsmen prove themselves good workmen—workmen that need not be ashamed. Then we respond to the question: Why is not the masonic \square open to women? Why can they not participate in its ceremonies, observe its secret rites, and be put in possession of its signs and symbols? Because, they are not men. Only men were admitted to the \square of King Solomon. Its ceremonies, rites, signs and symbols, were in keeping with their sphere of duties as operative masons; and as they were given by Solomon to his successors, they were handed down to us, and we, as all Master Masons have done before us, declare that "it is not in the power of any man or body of men, to make innovations in the body of masonry." And if we would, we could not, without destroying its ancient landmarks, changing its ceremonies, established by King Solomon, and sanctioned by the Saints John; forgetting the early labors of the craft, the symbolized history of its work and noble achievements in the distant past, in the cause of science and the arts, civilization and morality; and in a later day of christianity, the sublime truths it brought to the knowledge of men.

No! bright sharers of our joys! sweet consolers in adversities! For you shall the fair, beautiful and godly temple be built. We will work diligently to this end, with the tools of our profession. By the rule and line we will lay out our work, and regulate it by the square and compass. Our hands, not yours, shall wield the mallet and chisel, the trowel and hammer, and by our labors therewith we will honor your virtues. We assure you that, as you behold the wide spread and increasing power and influence of our order, it will, in the future, as in the past, labor to elevate woman to that place which God and nature intended she should occupy; and the daughters, wives and mothers of masons, and their orphan children, shall be their peculiar charge, protected amid dangers, and cherished with parental solicitude in adversity. We will, as masons, in the performance of our duties to humanity, soothe the pains of the distressed, wipe away the tears of the sorrowful, and help the unfortunate. To this end we will labor with God's blessing, and we trust with the added encouragement of the smiles of your approbation.

My brethren, it is true the \square of masonry is upon earth, yet the columns she rears all point toward Heaven. Christians, you need not disdain to tread in its courts. Its business is earnest and grave. It points us to the past; to the beginning; to the Creator, and the wonderful way through which He hath led us. It bids us look forward to the end; to eternity and its mysteries; bids us to love virtue, reverence religion, and worship God; cultivating friendship amongst ourselves, love to God and our neighbor, and integrity towards all mankind.

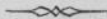
Friendship, love and integrity, are the three words that most nearly define the principles which form the basis of our order, and the lofty idea we seek to realize. We observe in history that these were the guiding principles which led the human race up from the rudeness and solitude of the primitive state, bound the solitary ones together in families, and gave them cities and towns, the industrial arts and a civilization. We see how, when the sons of men became corrupted by luxury, enervated by the refinements of old civilizations, and gave themselves up to base propensities, recognizing no law but passion, no bond but interest, no god but pleasure, and no love but for themselves, that the principles of love, friendship and integrity, as exemplified by masonry, were obscured by the pestiferous exhalations of sensuality and selfishness, and seemed to have re-ascended to the skies, leaving the human heart dead and entombed in its own corruption, until a new and mightier prophet—the sheloh, came and re-awoke and recalled to the world's dead heart the ever living principle of truth, re-kindled its sacred fires upon its desolated altars, and re-inscribed thereon the law of love with divine and more powerful sanctions. This law—the law of love—of intimate and abiding friendship and of inflexible integrity; the law that requires man to love God, to love his neighbor as himself, and to “do unto others as he would they should do unto him.”—a law so clearly interpreted and enforced by the Savior himself; a law as wide as the Universe, deep as eternity, stern as fate in its demands, binding all men in all places and in all times—is the law of masonry; and he, no matter what may be his profession, rank or position in the order, whose practical life does not conform to it, is not a mason. He is not yet in possession of its great secret—that sublime secret that is not to be communicated by the charmed ear and voice—that secret that the angels whispered in the

world's ear from over the plains of Palestine, of "peace and good will to man;" that secret which the Redeemer communicated to Peter at the sea of Tiberias just before He ascended to Heaven; the secret that can only be received through faith and prayer from the great Grand Master of the celestial above, by those who prove themselves worthy and well qualified by obedience to that law.

You, my brethren, who have stepped within the mystic circle of masonry, have heard its prayers, its hymns, its stately ritual; whose hearts have been illumined by the great light that rests displayed upon its altar, know the truth of what I, as your orator, this day declare: That, from foundation to pinnacle, the masonic temple is dedicated to this law; that before its altars and on its pavement it is to this law we bind ourselves. Being thus bound, if we would be true men and masons we should observe it, and thus magnify and elucidate before the world the sublime mysteries of our ancient and honorable fraternity, vindicate the pure precepts and teachings of our holy religion; and as citizens and masons, in the fraternal spirit which animates our brotherhood, labor to promote the public welfare as our own, and thus secure the honor, the glory and prosperity of our beloved country.

Thus, and thus only, can we approve ourselves good masons. Then, my brethren, in the language of the great poet of human nature,

" Be just and fear not ;
Let all the ends thou aimest at
Be thy country's, thy God's and truth's."



3 O'CLOCK P. M., June 23, 1866.

The M.: W.: the Grand was called from refreshment to labor, the M.: W.: Grand Master in the East; officers as installed; members as before.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand are due and are hereby tendered R.: W.: O. H. Irish, for the very able and excellent oration delivered on the occasion of the public installation of our Grand Officers. And that this Grand request of the Grand Orator a copy of the same for publication with the proceedings of this Grand .

Brother Goss offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand are hereby tendered to the officers and members of Western Star , No. 2, and Nebraska City , No. 12, for their kind and courteous treatment, and their hospitable entertainment of the members of this Grand .

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the officers and members of this Grand and the brethren in attendance upon the festivities of this day, hereby tender their most hearty thanks to the sisters and ladies, who have, by their presence and labors, done so much to render this session of the Grand one to be long remembered by those present. And though we may not, by our regulations, admit them within our as members, we will ever welcome them as most efficient members upon our festival occasions.

Brother Graff offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five, including the Grand Lecturer, who shall be chairman, be appointed, with a view to the establishment of a uniformity of work for of this jurisdiction, and report at next meeting of this Grand .

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following named brethren as such committee:

Brother George Armstrong, chairman, D. H. Wheeler, G. D. Foglesong, G. W. Bratton, and W. E. Hill.

Brother Wheeler offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the officers and members of this Grand are due, and are hereby tendered to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and the first Methodist Episcopal Church of Nebraska City, for the use of their respective houses for masonic services.

Brother Harvey moved that a copy of the sermon to be delivered on Sabbath next, by Past Grand Chaplain, Rev. G. C. Betts, be published with the minutes.

Motion carried.

No further business appearing, the M. W. the Grand was closed in ample form with solemn prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Master*.

Attest:

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

ON

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. : W. : the Grand □ of Masons in Nebraska :

Your committee on Foreign Correspondence, in submitting their report, are obliged, regretfully, to say, as has been said at previous communications of this Grand □, that the lateness of the day when the journals of sister Grand □ reached them, and the haste necessary to include their report in the current proceedings, have materially militated against the preparation of the elaborate digest that they not only heartily desired to make, but that the interesting reports and addresses received deserve.

There are no portions of the proceedings that come to hand that more thoroughly interest your committee than the careful and generally well-prepared reports of the several committees on Foreign Correspondence; none more productive of that cordial good will and fraternal intercourse that should subsist between masons, and when, unfortunately, differences of opinion exist, it is a pleasant and most honorable reflection, that kindness and a spirit of mutual concession are so manifest that "all bitterness is done away."

Prominent in the addresses of the several Grand Masters stand the congratulations on the return of peace to our country, and your committee in devout thankfulness to Almighty God for the same blessing, desire to record their pleasure in the receipt of journals of many of the Grand □ in the South, with whom during the past five years, through the misfortunes of war, fraternal intercourse has been interrupted.

The receipt of communications from the following Grand bodies is acknowledged :

ALABAMA.

The forty-fifth Annual Communication of this Grand □ was held in the city of Montgomery, December 4, 1865, the M. : W. : William C. Penick, Grand Master, presiding. There were representatives present from 156 □. The Grand Master, in his address, advocates the true principles of masonry in relation to the late war, and devotes much time and attention to the prevention and cure of the evil known as non-affiliation. He says: "This class of masons, already numerous, is increasing. They claim much; they receive much, and do little or nothing." He censures their listlessness and neglect, in not affiliating with, and sustaining by their presence and support, □ many of whose members were absent in the army; and quotes the language of their committee on Foreign Correspondence of 1858, who define the position of non-affiliated masons thus:

That "It severed all connection with the □. We do not believe a dimitted mason has a right to vote, to hold office, or to demand anything of a □ as a mason. We look on all dimitted masons, who withdraw for the purpose of avoiding the payment of dues, or even without the intention of joining another □, as having by that means quit masonry; * * * and that the person so withdrawn * * * is in a state of voluntary suspension from all the rights and benefits of masonry." And then proceeds to quote law and other authorities on the subject.

We, too, think that non-affiliation is a growing evil, and a very reprehensible one. When men, who, to satisfy curiosity, or from other unworthy motives, have taken the several degrees of masonry, (we will not say *have been made masons*), and received that they sought, unmindful of the higher aims of the institution, and unable to appreciate them, cease from visiting the □, and participating with their brethren in the exercise of its charities, they ought to receive no consideration from the craft, because that having seen the light, "they walk not in it."

The Grand Master refers to the presentation of the jewels of Norris □ by federal soldiers, and commends this incident of fidelity to the warmest thanks of the Grand □.

Notwithstanding the difficulties with which they have been surrounded, the masons of Alabama, in Grand □, present quite a prosperous appearance. We wish them continued prosperity.

Brother Wilson Williams was elected M. : W. : Grand Master, and Brother Daniel Sayre was re-elected Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The proceedings of this Grand □ for 1862-3-4-5, are to hand, in one volume. In the minutes for 1862 is a very temperate address from the committee on Masonic Law and Usage, deprecating the alleged attempt on the part of the Grand □ of Kentucky, to "place under *ban* those who differ from it in political principles." The journals for 1863 and '64 are devoid of interest to this Grand □. The Grand □ met at Little Rock, in November, 1865, the M. : W. : E. H. English, Grand Master, presiding. The address of the Grand Master is characterized by the true masonic spirit of charity. He devoutly thanks God for the return of peace, and incites the craft to the duties of brotherly love, relief, and truth. He notices the condition of Saints John College, an institution owned by the Grand □, but now in the hands of the military authorities, who use it for an hospital, and says:

But I do not despair of the ultimate success of this institution. For fifteen years it has been the cherished object of my life, and I hope to live to see it realize all the expectations of its founders.

Nobly said! Masonry exhibits itself nowhere more beautifully than in the diffusion of "light and information." And your committee hope that abundant success may crown the Grand □ of Arkansas, in this and every effort to further the real interests of the craft.

Brother E. H. English was re-elected M. : W. : Grand Master, and Brother T. D. Merrick, Grand Secretary, but notice was subsequently received that Brother Merrick had "passed the waves of this troublesome world," and the Grand Master appointed Brother M. D. Blocher, Grand Secretary, in his stead.

CANADA.

The proceedings of the 10th Annual Communication of this Grand \square comes embellished with the likeness of its Grand Secretary, who is, we believe, a very handsome man, and no doubt a good mason and first rate Secretary, judging from his autograph, which displays a masterly hand. The Grand \square met in Toronto, July 12, 1865, the M. : W. : Wm. B. Simpson, Grand Master on the throne, and a large number of present and past Grand Officers and representatives present.

The Grand Master makes a very able address, in which he congratulates the craft on its prosperity—reports his official acts—calls their attention to the want of uniformity in the work, and also to the vexatious question of jurisdiction, it appearing that there is at least one \square that owes allegiance to the Grand \square of England. The Grand Master submits his actions in questions of Masonic Jurisprudence that occurred during the year, one paragraph of which we transcribe:

An application of a somewhat singular character was made to me in December last, being no less than for a dispensation to install the officers of a \square in public. How any Worshipful Master could have dreamed of such a thing is a mystery to me. Of course I refused to grant the dispensation.

Your committee do not think that the installation of officers in public would so *powerfully* astonish Grand \square Officers in the United States.

The Grand \square jurisdiction is divided into a number of districts, under the care of District Deputy Grand Masters, who report the several matters of interest that come under their notice, and the plan seems to work well.

There are 177 chartered \square s and several under dispensation, and the order is prosperous. One peculiarity is noticeable. The Grand \square of Canada has by appointment and election a "Board of General Purposes," consisting of about thirty-five members, that transacts all the business.

A page in the journal is appropriately set apart in memory of their R. : W. : Brother William Bellhouse, Grand Treasurer, and District Deputy Grand Master who died the 3d of October, 1864.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

CALIFORNIA.

The proceedings of this Grand \square came to us in a large volume closely printed. Judging from the outside of the minutes the order must be large and flourishing, and our opinion is fully confirmed by the Grand Master's address, in which he says:

We have been blessed in our in-coming and in our out-going, in our cattle and our flocks—the ever bountiful earth has produced more than her accustomed yield. Our granaries are groaning with the garnered harvests, and our wine presses are fat with the "purple grape." * * * But more than for all our immediate personal blessings, are our hearts made glad by the return of peace to our country. * * * When we come within the sacred walls of our \square we are no longer politicians. * * we are true men.

We can not too highly praise the spirit in which this address is couched. The Grand Master rebukes the disposition which appears to be growing on the part of some of the brethren to take part in public celebrations as a distinct body, and says: "Let us be quiet and unostentatious in our relations with the world, and it will respect us quite as much as if we seek its favor by idle show."

In conclusion, he pays a noble tribute to the memory of "their venerable Brother George C. Yount," who for eleven years has filled the office of Grand Bible Bearer to the Grand , but who, a few days previous to the session of the Grand , was summoned to "his chamber in the silent halls of death," having passed the limit of man's life "three score and ten years."

The committee on Foreign Correspondence make quite a lengthy and interesting report. There are 176 chartered in this jurisdiction.

The M. . W. . Gilbert W. Claiborne was elected Grand Master, and Brother Alex. G. Abel was re-elected Grand Secretary.

COLORADO.

The Grand of Colorado met in Fifth Annual Communication in Denver, November 6, 1865, M. . W. . A. J. Van Doren, Grand Master, presiding.

In his address the Grand Master alludes to an infringement of their rights by New York in conferring the several degrees upon persons residing within the jurisdiction of Colorado, and hopes he will have no further cause for complaint in that respect.

He congratulates the craft on the harmony that has prevailed throughout the jurisdiction, and the prosperity of the , and also that peace has been restored to the country.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made no report, not having received the proceedings of the several Grand .

Your committee in looking over various Resolutions, By-Laws and Articles of the Constitution of the Grand of Colorado, are constrained to notice a few that appear to them to contain conflicting provisions. As for instance, on page 18, a resolution to the effect that "after this Grand Communication it shall be unlawful for any subordinate in this jurisdiction to bury with masonic honors any brother who may have been an habitual drunkard" was *lost*, while on page 20, the following was *carried*:

Resolved. That it shall be, and is hereby made the imperative duty of the subordinate in this jurisdiction to restrain as far as possible, the masonic crime of *intemperance* by *trial* and *suspension* or *expulsion*, as the case may require, and for the faithful performance of that duty the said subordinate will be held accountable to this Grand .

A man, we presume is still a mason, though suspended, or even expelled from the order, but being suspended, expelled, or even non-affiliated, can he, ought he to receive *masonic burial*? The question of charity has nothing to do with the case.

Again: Article XI. of the Constitution provides that "no dispensation shall be granted for constituting a new except upon the petition of eight Master Masons, one of whom must be a Past Master, while Section XII. of the By-Laws says: "No dispensation shall be granted for the formation of a new but upon the petition of seven known and approved Master Masons.

Article XII. of the Constitution declares that no warrant or dispensation for the institution of a new shall be granted for a less sum than twenty-five dollars—thirty dollars additional for the charter," but Section 12 of the By-Laws says: "There shall be paid for every dispensation for a new the sum of forty dollars, for every charter the sum of twenty dollars.

In section 57 of By-Laws pertaining to [] , it is said that "a subordinate [] should not suspend a member for non-payment of dues, *without written notice and fair trial*," but the Grand []

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Grand [] of Colorado, that the non-payment of dues can not work a forfeiture of masonic standing.

The above appear to your committee to conflict, the one with the other, and at least are sufficiently cloudy to call for review.

The order seems prosperous in Colorado. Brother Andrew Mason was elected Grand Master, and Brother O. A. Whittemore re-elected Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The M. . W. . Grand [] was opened by the M. . W. . Grand Master, George C. Whiting, in Masonic Hall, Washington city, November 7, 1865; representatives from nineteen [] present.

The Grand Master deploras the loss of Brother Grafton Powell, Past Senior Grand Warden, and announces officially the death of His Excellency, Marshal Magnan, Grand Master of Masons in France, also the receipt of a communication from the masous of Italy, condoling with them on the death of President Lincoln, whom they supposed to have been a mason.

The Grand Master, on the 13th of July, laid the corner stone for the new Washington City Orphan Asylum, and on that occasion used the gavel with which the illustrious George Washington laid the corner stone of the Capitol of the United States. He congratulates the Grand [] on the flourishing condition of the craft within its bounds.

Amongst the many good things which Grand Master Whiting says, your committee regret to see the following passage, which appears to them to be not in accordance with the generally received opinion on the subject:

And it ought to be understood that this Grand [] does not require its subordinates to obtain the *permission* of any subordinate [] within this jurisdiction, or *out of it*, to confer the degrees of masonry *upon* any applicant, come whence he may, whom they may find, upon due inquiry, justly entitled to receive the same.

And your committee think, that if they understand the meaning of the following "standing resolution of the Grand [] of the District of Columbia," that it is, to say the least, a very extraordinary and unusual one:

Resolved, That the constituent [] be allowed to omit all the usual ceremonies of the second section of the third degree, except the manual instruction, *with all* except the *last* candidate, whenever there are *more than one* to receive the degree on the *same* evening.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

FLORIDA.

The Grand [] met in the city of Tallahassee, January 9, 1865, in Annual Communication, the M. . W. . Thomas Hayward in the Grand East.

The address of the Grand Master is short, and of local interest only. He records the death of Brother Meacham, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand [], and Past Grand Master Dr. John B. Taylor.

The Grand [], with others in the South, doubtless suffered severely during the late war, but we are glad to find that soon as communication with the North was opened her journal found its way here, and we earnestly congratulate the Grand

□ that the prayer of her Grand Master was so soon heard and answered, "That God in his infinite goodness would so dispose the hearts and minds of all concerned as to bring about a speedy and honorable peace."

Brother Samuel Benzet was elected Grand Master, and Hugh A. Corley Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The 49th Annual Communication of this Grand □ was held at Indianapolis, May 29, 1856, the M. . W. . Harvey G. Hazelrigg, Grand Master, presiding.

The minutes are exceedingly well prepared, and the Grand Master's address, which is quite lengthy, written with great care and much originality.

The Grand Master has also, we believe, discharged the duty usually assigned to committee on Foreign Correspondence. He discusses ably the subject of army-made masons, which seems just now to be agitating the several Grand Bodies, and disposes of them very summarily, and to our notion, very well. He does not sufficiently admire the district system, and thinks that the fewer the clocks the greater probability that they will all strike at once and with a great deal less trouble.

The order is flourishing and both Grand Master and Grand Secretary were, as they deserved to be, re-elected for the ensuing year.

IOWA.

The minutes of the 22d Annual Communication of this Grand □ are before us.

Your committee doubt their ability to give any adequate idea of the super-grandiloquent address of the M. . W. . Edward A. Guilbert, Grand Master.

We are provided with Worcester and Webster in unabridged editions, we have also on hand Roget's Thesaurus, a copy of the Altisonant Letters, two small Lexicons of unused and difficult words, a Latin grammar, a complete edition of Shakespeare and Mrs. Hale's quotations from the poets, and yet find no words of sufficient "depth and intensity" in which to feebly utter our opinion.

The Grand Master opens with a thrilling description of the escape of the Grand □ from a furnace, after what he describes as an "internecine struggle" with Jupiter and the Titans. He then breaks forth into song (Shakespeare improved) and acknowledges the receipt from a "cloud with a silver lining of a scintillant diamond in a setting of jet."

He is sorry that in "the hour of victory, while the glad Io rang over the jubilant North and the re-created South, there was death in the White House." We suppose he alludes to the assassination of President Lincoln when he says that he was "done to death." And although we are not personally acquainted with his friend Io whom we suppose to be one of the Titans, we *do* feel real, not poetical, sorrow for the untimely death of the great and good man he mentions.

We never had the pleasure of seeing a "wounded hyena," and so can't tell how it feels in its "expiring throes," but we presume pretty bad, and have no desire to contest the right of Columbia to emblazon on her shield "*Esto Perpetua*" if we could only find out what that means. As the poetry that follows has no quotation marks we suppose it to be the Grand Master's, and think it very nice, especially the last two lines, which read:

"Like Moses who Pisgah ascended to die—
He sprang from the earth to his home in the sky."

The Grand Master proceeds in his address to cast a retrospective glance over a great many things outside the Grand \square of Iowa, and we fear strained his "visual organs" in the attempt. And then in forty-eight lines of rich poetry without quotation marks, apostrophises the "Flag of the Free," which he salutes four times, and we are only sorry that so old a mason, so ripe a scholar, should so far forget his high position as to say:

Away then with the whipped-syllabub effeminacy, with the servile dread of an effete chivalry, which seeks to seal the lips of the orators and public men of the order. * * * The foreign mutual admirationists who have sought to stir up strife among us, and who have impudently presumed to nominate Grand Masters for you, may eliminate as much rice water in the form of critical discharges as seemeth good to them, in view of what I have said. I am too old a mason and have too much to live for outside the order to care for such things.

We yield to no body of men in loyalty to the government of the United States, but we respectfully protest against any man, any Grand Master of masons, either interfering with our political opinions, or addressing us in such strains on that topic. We take it that paragraph was intended for the general masonic eye.

We think with the majority of committees on Foreign Correspondence, with the vast majority of Grand \square s, political questions are entirely outside the province of masons when assembled in Grand or subordinate \square s.

The remainder of this remarkable address is given in part to the progress of the order, in part to official acts, in part to the work which, under the Grand Master's fostering care, is acquiring uniformity, stability, permanence, symmetry, beauty, order and precision, in part to the physical qualifications of candidates—jurisdiction, balloting, schools of instruction, encyclical letter, and poetry.

It is on the whole a wonderful production. Your committee respirate with difficulty, but they think after all, may be it is more harmless than it looks.

"*Satis eloquentia sapientie parvum.*" The order is flourishing. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

KENTUCKY.

The 66th Annual Communication of this Grand \square was held in the city of Louisville the 16th of October, 1865, M. . W. . I. D. Landrum, Grand Master, presiding, who made an excellent address, in which, in terms of true eloquence and masonic love, he speaks of the return of peace and the resumption of fraternal intercourse so long disturbed. The order in Kentucky is flourishing.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is well prepared. Other matters are of merely local interest.

Brother M. J. Williams was elected M. . W. . Grand Master, and Brother J. M. S. McCorkle was re-elected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The 10th Annual Communication of the Grand \square of Kansas was held at Topeka, October 17, 1865, M. . W. . Grand Master Jacob Saqui, presiding. In common with others he regards peace as the element of masonry, and urges the interchange of affection; he desires to inspire the Grand \square with the noble idea that moral fitness is an essential requisite in the candidate for masonry.

He reports the adoption of a system of "work" which he hopes will become the standard in Kansas.

The session was evidently a pleasant one, and from the report of the Grand Treasurer, and the number of represented, the craft is in a flourishing condition.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

LOUISIANA.

The 54th Grand Communication was held in New Orleans, February 12, 1866.

M. : W. : J. Q. A. Fellows presented a very able address, as did also each of the District Deputy Grand Masters, showing a very satisfactory state. The Grand now owns one of the finest cemeteries in the City of New Orleans, upon which they have spent much money in adornment.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a very excellent report and one that does credit to the Grand .

Brother Wm. M. Perkins was elected M. : W. : Grand Master, and S. M. Todd re-elected Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The proceedings of this Grand are voluminous, and contain much interesting matter, chiefly local. The Grand Master, Wm. P. Preble, presented a very excellent address, in which, among other things, he mentions the wonderful effect a three dollar fee for dispensations in emergent cases, has had upon the craft generally.

He says: "As an illustration of the wonderful power this fee has for disenchanting our brethren, I will mention one or two instances: A Master of a who had not then 'heard the news,' wrote to me requesting a dispensation to receive and ballot at a special communication on ten candidates, giving their names, and assigning a variety of reasons, such as some were going south, some to sea, some to South America, &c. I informed him that the Grand required a fee of three dollars for each candidate named in such a dispensation, and that if he wanted such a dispensation he must send me thirty dollars for the Grand . In due time he sent me three dollars, and requested me to send a dispensation for one; probably in the meantime they had ascertained that they had been laboring under a horrible delusion in supposing their proposed candidates were going away so suddenly."

He reports the order as being very prosperous, by which he says, "I do not mean that we have largely increased in numbers, but that as a general rule more care and discrimination and less haste has been exercised in our admissions than during the preceding year, while nothing very serious from within or from without has arisen to disturb the peace and harmony within our borders."

During the past year the Rev. Cyril Pearl, the chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Brother C. W. Greene, one of the Grand Pursuivants, were removed by death, and in them the Grand lost two able and efficient members.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

MARYLAND.

The M. : W. : Jno. Coates, Grand Master, opened the Grand of Maryland in Baltimore, November 20, 1865, and in a chaste address set forth the beauties

of charity. Of masonry in the jurisdiction, he says "she never occupied a prouder position than she does this day."

A committee appointed for that purpose, purchased lots for the erection of their new masonic temple, at a cost of eighty-nine thousand dollars.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

NEW JERSEY.

The seventy-eighth Annual Communication of this Grand was held in Trenton, January 18, 1865. The Grand Master is opposed—and wisely—to the granting of dispensations to confer degrees. The minutes of this Grand for January, 1866, have not reached your committee.

The M. . W. . Silas Whitehead was re-elected Grand Master, and Joseph H. Hough Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

A hearty welcome to our "baby sister!" A strong, healthy and vigorous child she seems, and right bravely is she stepping out in masonic paths. The minutes of her first Annual Communication are well prepared, and the Grand Master, Joseph De Bell, in a very excellent address, proves that he is at least no novice in masonic lore. He objects, and we think very properly: First, to the infringement of jurisdictional rights; and, second, to the violation of the ancient landmarks in the making of Mr. Blakely a mason by Dalhousie , Massachusetts, Mr. Blakely being at the time a citizen of Nevada, and maimed. There are 483 Master Masons in this new jurisdiction. .

The Grand Master, De Bell, and Brother W. Van Bokelen, Grand Secretary, were re-elected.

NEW YORK.

The Grand held its Annual Communication June 6, 1865. A large number of officers and representatives present. The Grand Master, C. F. Paige, in his address, touchingly alludes to the masonic life and labors of M. . W. . Past Grand Master Willard, who died on the 10th of October, 1864.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters are quite full, and exhibit the progress of the order as very satisfactory. Close attention was given to all the matters that presented themselves of a local nature, and the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is able and extensive. There are about 549 subordinate in this jurisdiction.

The M. . W. . R. D. Holmes was elected Grand Master, and Jas. M. Austin Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Grand met at Concord, June 11, 1865. Its proceedings are mainly of local interest only. There is a very good report from the committee on Foreign Correspondence. The Grand Master, in his address, deprecates the introduction of any novelties into the work, and asserts the right of each Grand to dictate the work to be practiced within its jurisdiction.

The Grand declines to accept the invitation of the Grand of Missouri to meet in general convention. Financially the Grand is in good condition, and generally prosperous.

M. . W. . I. Everett Sargent, Grand Master, and Horace Chase, Grand Secretary, were re-elected.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand met in the city of Raleigh, December 4, 1865, M. : W. : John McCormick, Grand Master, presiding. There is little of general interest in the proceedings, except in relation to the alleged formation of a negro in Newbern. In relation to it, the committee to whom the matter was referred say?

The committee do not, in the abstract, question the propriety of making masons of negroes. * * It is not necessary that the candidate should be a white man. We teach, that in every clime and among every people masonry has existed, and to every human being our benevolence extends.

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the M. : W. : Grand Master be requested to correspond with the M. : W. : Grand Master of New York, in regard to the reported organization of negro in North Carolina, and earnestly to remonstrate against the same.

Resolved, That this Grand will, and the fraternity in North Carolina are instructed to regard all such as clandestine, and the members thereof as spurious.

The M. : W. : Edwin G. Reade was elected Grand Master, and Brother Wm. T. Bain Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The following communication was received by your Grand Secretary after the rising of your Grand , from the Grand Secretary of the Grand of Nova Scotia. And it is hoped that the most cordial relations may ever subsist between this new Grand and our own:

To the M. : W. : the Grand Master, the Grand Officers and

Brethren of the M. : W. : the Grand of the State of Nebraska:

We, the Grand Master, officers and brethren of the Grand of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia, with sincere respect and fraternal regard, send greeting:

The Freemasons of Nova Scotia, to the number of ten , have united in the establishment of a Grand of Nova Scotia, in order to insure the rights and privileges which the growing interests of the craft imperatively demand, and having duly and regularly installed their officers according to ancient usage, now respectfully and earnestly request from your august body, that recognition so essential to our future prosperity. Engaged as we are in one common cause, the good of our fellow men, and it being our sincere desire to establish a perpetual and intimate alliance with your Grand , we extend to you in the name of our divine art the right hand of brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our fraternal regard.

Signed on behalf of the Grand ,

* *
* *
L. S.
* *
* *

W. H. DAVIES, M. D., *Grand Master.*
S. R. SIRCOM, *Grand Registrar.*
CHAS. J. McDONALD, *Grand Secretary.*

OHIO.

The Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Columbus, October 17, 1865. The proceedings are well and carefully prepared, and the several addresses and reports interesting. The Grand Master, in a very eloquent speech, alludes feelingly to the death of President Lincoln, and ably presents the several matters that he deems of importance to the craft. He enters his protest against hasty work, and recommends that the Masonic Hall be not leased for any other than masonic purposes. The order is very prosperous.

M. : W. : Brother Sparrow was elected Grand Master, and Brother John D. Caldwell Grand Secretary.

OREGON.

The following circular was received from the Grand Secretary of Oregon:

THE M. . W. . GRAND OF OREGON, GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
OREGON CITY, June 26, 1866. }

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

At the Annual Communication of the Grand of Oregon, held at the city of Portland, commencing June 18, A. L. 5866, the following Grand Officers were elected and installed for the ensuing masonic year, to-wit: M. . W. . A. W. Ferguson, Grand Master; R. . W. . C. H. Lewis, Deputy Grand Master; R. . W. . Gustraf Wilson, Senior Grand Warden; R. . W. . D. G. Clark, Junior Grand Warden; R. . W. . George A. Edes, Grand Treasurer; R. . W. . J. E. Hurford, Grand Secretary.

(Signed)

J. E. HURFORD, *Grand Secretary.*

[I. s.]

PENNSYLVANIA

Extracts from the minutes of the Quarterly, Extra and Annual Communications, held during the year 1865, are before your committee. The only matters of general interest that present themselves seem to be that the R. . W. . Grand Master laid the corner-stone of the Soldiers' National Monument, at Gettysburg, and that Past Grand Master Dallas, and Past Grand Master Whitney "have passed from *death* unto *life*." Subsequently a pamphlet in memory of William H. Adams, R. . W. . Grand Secretary of the Grand , was received—he, too, having entered the celestial.

The R. . W. . Lucius H. Scott is Grand Master, and in consequence of the death of Brother Adams, the Grand Master appointed Brother John Thompson as Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND.

The proceedings of this Grand are before us, containing the minutes of a festival communication held for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, in Providence. The ceremony is described at length, and is interesting. The Semi-Annual Communication met November 28, 1864.

On the 13th of April, 1865, a Grand of sorrow was convened, and a service in commemoration of the dead was held in memory of R. . W. . George A. French, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand , who died 11th March, 1865, in the forty-third year of his age. The service is entirely original, and we have no doubt was very solemn, appropriate and beautiful.

Hon. Thomas A. Doyle was elected Grand Master, and Charles D. Greene Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The following circular was received by your Grand Secretary since the rising of your Grand :

GRAND OF TEXAS, GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
HOUSTON, June, A. L. 5866, A. D. 1866. }

To R. . W. . S. D. BANGS, *Grand Sec'y of M. . W. . Grand of Nebraska :*

I have the honor to advise you, in accordance with a requisition of the M. . W. . Grand of Texas, that at their Annual Communication, begun and held at Houston, June 11, A. L. 5866, the following Brothers were duly elected Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and subsequently installed as such, viz. : M. . W. .

Richard Douglass, Grand Master; R. . W. . John R. Fretwell, Deputy Grand Master; R. . W. . Philip C. Tucker, Senior Grand Warden; R. . W. . Peter W. Gray, Junior Grand Warden; R. . W. . Benj. A. Botts, Grand Treasurer.

And that the signatures above written are the proper handwriting of the respective officers subscribing the same.

You are respectfully requested to furnish this office with a similar document.

Respectfully and fraternally yours, &c.,

GEO. H. BRINGHURST,
Grand Secretary.

[L. s.]

TENNESSEE.

The minutes for 1863-4-5 come bound together. The Grand found it expedient to remitⁿ the fees for the years 1861 and 1862. The "Conservators Association" is condemned, and the making of masons hastily is protested against. The Grand Master makes a very sensible address, and is opposed to the withdrawal of petitions, which he thinks can only proceed from the fear of rejection.

M. . W. . Thomas A. Hamilton is Grand Master, and R. . W. . Charles A. Fuller, Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand held its 87th Annual Communication December 11, 1865. The M. . W. . Grand Master reported the death of Past Grand Master Harman.

The Grand Master mentions in his address, the fact that several , "located in what is styled West Virginia, have met and formed a Grand for that State." And further says, "How far the located in West Virginia have violated, if at all, their duty and obligations as masons, * * I leave for your consideration." The matter was finally referred to a committee of five, who advised that it be left until next Annual Communication.

He also complains of the invasion of jurisdiction on the part of the Grand of the District of Columbia, and mentions the suspension of all masonic intercourse between the Grand of New York and his own, both of which matters were satisfactorily settled by the committee to whom they were referred, and a proper friendly and masonic feeling restored.

M. . W. . Edward Lane is Grand Master, and John Dovo Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The following circular has been received by your Grand Secretary:

GRAND OF WEST VIRGINIA.

Be it known, That at the Annual Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of West Virginia, held in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Wheeling, on the 17th day of January, A. D. 1866, A. L. 5866, the following named brethren were duly elected Grand Officers for the ensuing masonic year, and subsequently installed as such, viz:

The M. . W. . William J. Bates, Wheeling, Grand Master; R. . W. . Edwin C. Bunker, Morgantown, Deputy Grand Master; R. . W. . Henry J. Samuels, Cabell C. H., Grand Senior Warden; R. . W. . Francis P. Pierpoint, Wheeling, Grand Junior Warden; R. . W. . William P. Wilson, Wheeling, Grand Treasurer; R. . W. . Thomas H. Logan, Wheeling, Grand Secretary.

And that the signatures hereunto subscribed are in the proper hand-writing of the M. . W. . Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

The M. . W. . WILLIAM J. BATES, *Grand Master*.

In testimony whereof I have signed these presents and affixed thereto the seal of the Grand □, this 10th day of March, A. D. 1866, A. L. 5866.

[L. s.]

THOMAS H. LOGAN, *Grand Secretary*.

VERMONT.

The journal of the —th Annual Communication of this Grand □ is before us. The address of the Grand Master is very excellent. He speaks eloquently of the masonic dead.

Vacant chairs are in all our □□. Eloquent voices will no more be heard. Of those who have thus passed away, nought but pleasant memories remain to us. * * * Of many kindnesses conferred, courtesies extended even while bitter feelings would seem to be most violently aroused, it may not, perhaps, be well to speak lest we seem to magnify ourselves. It is pleasant, however, to know that while in no particular have duties been neglected that have been or could be required, masonic vows have not lost their force, and brethren, when it was proper for them so to do, have not failed with kind words and kindlier acts to respond to the claims of BROTHERHOOD.

The Grand Master urges the craft to not only reject unworthy or doubtful persons, but to purge the □□ of unworthy brethren, and uses this significant language :

Amputation may sometimes result in loss of life; the gangrened limb, unhealed, *will always produce death.*

The proceedings are very well prepared, and the order seems to be in a very prosperous condition. The committee on Foreign Correspondence presents a very good report. By the way, *your* committee does not see the Grand □ of Nebraska noticed, but the "Conservators catch it." More than twenty closely printed pages are devoted to the dissemination of light on that "dark conspiracy." Oh! what a shameful body of fellows those "conservators" must have been! but of course now they are entirely "gobbled up," and there's an end of them—and the several Grand □□ that don't like them may sleep on in peace, having fully secured themselves against these masonic assassins.

The M. . W. . Leverett B. Englesby is Grand Master, and R. . W. . Henry Clark Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The seventh Annual Communication of the Grand □ of the Territory of Washington met in the city of Olympia, November, 1864.

The Grand Master was not able to be present, and the Grand Secretary acted as his proxy in reading the annual address. It was mainly as to a question of jurisdiction, that had arisen between the Grand □ of Oregon and his own. trust the matter, ere this, has been masonically settled.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a very excellent report.

The business is mainly local.

M. . W. . Asa Brown was elected Grand Master, and Elwood Evans Grand Secretary.

Your committee have had much pleasure and derived much valuable information in perusing the various Grand Journals. Gladly would they have given longer extracts from the able speeches made, and fuller statistics from the many reports presented, but space and time would not permit this. Your action, however, inspires them with the hope that hereafter the various proceedings will reach them without unnecessary delay, and that they will have such opportunity of examination as may render subsequent reports more worthy the Grand of Nebraska. The result of the labor that they have now bestowed is herewith respectfully submitted.

J. N. WISE, }
GEO. C. BETTS, } Committee.
H. O. HANNA, }

SERMON.

BY REV. GEORGE C. BETTS, R. W. GRAND CHAPLAIN.

MY BRETHREN : I have often thought that in this sinful world of ours, so full of all that is antagonistic to the spirit of good, there can be found but few things more beautiful than a congregation of men who, for a brief space, having laid aside their ordinary avocations, are assembled for the purpose of disseminating truth, practicing benevolence and cultivating brotherly love. Upon such a body our Supreme Grand Master, the Architect of the Universe, looks down to-day—let us hope with favor, in rich blessings and with divine encouragement; and may we with humble faith hopefully look up to Him, and while we sincerely thank Him for the mercies of the past, pledge Him anew our allegiance, and with holy love ask for "further light" in the pathway which He has ordained for us, that so, as we draw nearer and nearer the eternal throne, we may walk in still increasing light until we stand before the Grand Orient and hear the welcome invitation: "Enter into the joy of thy Lord."

To relieve the distressed, to succor the needy, to assuage sorrow, and to comfort the sick, are surely holy duties, pious works, which God has committed to our hands, and these are summed up in the charge which was delivered you when first you were permitted to take part with us in the order here represented, as acts that would be required of you. But was this labor of love the *first* duty which, as masons, you were expected to perform? I rejoice to be able to say no! Holy as are the deeds named, pure as may be the motive that prompts action, yet there is something purer, higher, holier; for you were charged that as masons, there were three great duties which you must inculcate: the first to God, the second to your neighbor, the third to yourself.

To-day we are assembled for this glorious work, to render devout homage to our Heavenly Father, to bow in humble adoration before His throne, confessing our utter helplessness and sin, and praying His pardon and guidance; to profess our faith in His name, to hear His holy word, and receive the message which He sends by the mouth of His minister. It is, as I have said, a sublime scene to find men congregated for the purpose of charity, but it is still grander and more glorious to behold them in humility and reverential awe gathered in the name of God to worship God within His holy temple.

To-day you come to call to mind the history and mission of one highly favored of our God—in that he was chosen to be the forerunner of our Lord Jesus Christ, the prophet of the Most High; the messenger who went before the face of him who is declared to be the "Lion of the Tribe of Judah," and yet who is "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." The services appointed in the regular course by our holy church, for this day, can not have failed to point you to St. John, the Baptist; and as I design in this sermon to bring to your notice some important truths that it concerns us to be intimately

acquainted with, I deem it prudent before proceeding to them, briefly to review and apply that which is recorded of St. John in Holy Writ:

He was the son of the priest Zacharias, and of Elizabeth his wife, who was herself a descendant of the daughters of Aaron, the High Priest. Thus he was lawfully qualified, even supposing that he had not been specially called of God, to preach repentance unto life and prepare the way for the coming Messiah, who, according to the flesh, was the son of David. Promised to the world in an extraordinary manner, his mission was endowed with vast importance. Circumstances perhaps of little moment in themselves, are, because of this, invested with an interest that commend them to our careful notice; and aside from the fact that masons recognize in him a patron of the order, and revere his memory, there are lessons taught by his remarkable life that are full of meaning to the speculative builder. It is said of St. John that "he grew and waxed strong in spirit and was in the deserts 'till the day of his showing unto Israel." In how many places in Holy Writ is it recorded of those whom God delighted to honor, that they went into *desert places*, suffering privation and hardship as needful discipline to prepare their hearts for the reception of *great truths* or *great blessings*. The children of Israel, Moses, David, Elijah, and even our blessed Lord, are mentioned with others as undergoing this rigorous probation, and doubtless this contributed to give rise to the monastic system which is almost contemporary with the christian religion, and something akin to which may be traced in the symbolism of our order. Solitude is always favorable to reflection, and man is never so near God, in holy thoughts and sympathies, as when deserted by the world and suffering for His name's sake he finds legions of angels thronging with kind offices to teach him he is not forgotten of God—though rough and rugged the road, beset with difficulty and danger, perhaps with death, yet strong in conscious integrity, he may be happy in the promise "I will lead the blind by a way they know not. I will lead them in paths they have not known. I will make darkness light before them and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them and will not forsake them," saith the Lord of Hosts. He came to point the world to a great light, and we, my brethren, have a like duty to perform; to take the earnest inquirer after truth by the hand and lead him by upright, regular steps to that true "light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Our second lesson rehearsed in your hearing, tells us that in defense of the truth which he boldly proclaimed, John the Baptist lost his life, and we are taught that in the defense of sacred truth we are ever to esteem our lives less precious than our honor.

But the text tells us of an honorable mission committed to this man. He was to "prepare the way of the Lord, to make his paths straight." And so he went forth from the wilderness, calling men to repentance, to confession of sin, to baptism and the coming of Christ. He would have them stretch forth their hands from the darkness of their spiritual night, toward the rising of the sun—laying aside with that night the works of darkness, and by offering to them place of repentance, vindicate thereby the justice of God and thus make straight the paths of his dealings with men. Behold, our Grand Master calls *you*, my brethren, to the same work. He commits to you now the holy task of purging away

all superfluities and irregularities. A tried corner stone himself, he demands of you that the rough ashler shall be fitly shaped; and that the plummet of truth, the square of justice and the level of love shall work their offices upon all who enter among you.

His voice calls you through every teaching of the order, by all its majestic symbolism, by the great light that beams upon every masonic altar, by the remembrance of the *past*, the noble deeds that pious masons effected for God and christianity, by the numberless monuments that throughout the civilized world were reared by the fraternity; and on this holy day are silently pointing to that better temple above, whose figure they may not in perishable material imitate, but whose righteous God they invite to dwell within and beneath whose hallowed shade thousands offer their adorations to the Deity. By the *present* you are implored to earnestness in this holy work. Around you rages irreligion and infidelity. They who know least of the divine nature of your toil, are ever the readiest to doubt the goodness of your intentions. This you must expect. The world will hate you—proof of this you have had. Your best efforts will be misconstrued, and your motives misunderstood; groundless objection will beset you with difficulty, and the nature of our order forbids that you shall purchase peace at the expence of your trust. But, blessed be God, that trust is reposed in Him. Your faith is well founded, only follow your divine guide in hope, though the place about your feet be dark and rough and dangerous, for in the future there is light. Behold it streaming from the Grand Orient and illuming the veil that lies between the figure and the fact—the world where once, as operatives, you wrought, and now, as speculative, divide your time. And that Holy of Holies which, once lost, your Supreme Architect has ordained shall be only found through your own exertions, by His assistance, when you shall have passed the gates of this troublesome world and been raised from a dead level to a living perpendicular by the power of His only son—the Lion of the Tribe of Judah—the foundation and cap-stone of the spiritual building we raise from the desigus which He has left us on His trestle-board, ere, by wicked hands, He was taken and slain.

Be not discouraged, my brethren, while thus nobly struggling for humanity and humanity's God, by the obstacles which good but mistaken men place in your way. God committed to you a work before the ushering in of the christian day, but one which should be strengthened by that glorious coming. You were early chosen to travel in foreign countries, and by labor unrequited, to perseveringly toil in the erection of holy churches for the worship of the blessed Savior; since whose appearing every congregation of masons has been dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist, who are represented in every \square by two parallel perpendicular lines; the one pointing to the lamb of God, the other vindicating his divine character. Knowing this, it is no wonder that you can not pause in the noble work given you to combat error and prejudice, and affirm over and over again, that which you had hoped was too clearly stated to need proof.

This is not the time nor place to show how worse than useless is the objection: "You are a secret order, and therefore evil." We live in a great mystery—all around us secret and wonderful. The earth discloses not the process by

which the flower it nurtures buds and blossoms; but, behold! the world is covered with its beauty. Theories do not disclose facts. And well we know that it is only to God that all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. To Him we reverently, confidently and devoutly appeal, knowing that when all things are made manifest in His light, we shall be blameless before Him.

And yet, beloved, while I bid you cherish the sacred symbols of the order, its principles and teachings, I ask you to remember that it is not merely by what we say of our affection for virtue and God that shall win us His blessing; we must be *doers*, also. It is ours, as it was our eminent patron's duty, to "*prepare the way of the Lord; to make His paths straight.*" By divesting us of all irregularities of life; by patient, but earnest and faithful toil; by keeping us unspotted from the world; shaping our wills and wishes so that our hearts shall be attuned to the will of our Father, and so we shall be spiritual builders in very deed, and faithful workmen preparing other souls for the indwelling of our God.

Oh! "the house of the Lord that our souls might raise!" More glorious than that of King Solomon! The opportunities are all around us. "The cedars of Lebanon grow at our doors." "The quarries are sunk at our gate." Only let us go forth determined, as was David and Solomon, to take no rest until we build a house for the Lord our God; until we become living temples of the Holy Ghost. What fervent zeal should animate our labors when we remember that they are for God. And as day by day we go into the thoroughfares of life and mark the kinship that exists between the baser motives of our nature and the evil in the world—and then in pursuit of this great desire to have the presence of the living God fill our hearts as the blessed Shekinah, the Holy of Holies—we note the gradual decay of unholy wishes and impure longings, preciously assisted by the Lord, whose way we prepare, to sunder the ties that bind us to the Egypt of sin, and turn our faces to the Canaan of promise, the temple in the New Jerusalem,—what emotions of gratitude and courage are stirred within us! We ask eagerly for more light. We stretch our hands to the God of our fathers and pray him to be *our* God. We join importunately in the wail of the sweet Psalmist and say: "One thing have I desired of the Lord; that I will require—that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to inquire at his temple." Men and brethren, go forth to-day determined to begin this holy work; to prepare in your own hearts a way for the Lord that he may come in and dwell there. Take your great light as you received it. Let it point you as St. John pointed to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world, and to the bride—the lamb's wife—the church. Let the jewels be to you bright emblems of virtue, speaking ever the great truths of the order, and remember that you take to your heart the thought that total reliance upon any thing *earthly* in its character to insure eternal safety, is frail and powerless; and that it is only when applying the rules of the order to existing ways, you have found by the grace of God and the guidance of His spirit, the straight one, you follow it regardless of personal consequences, that your effort is crowned with success, and you *entered into life*. Go, then, my brethren, and may the blessing of God go with you. Go, but not as the careless and

indifferent who hear but obey not; not as they who blaze brilliantly for a little and then are lost in deserved darkness, but as they who treasure up the lightest word that may be uttered that can offer an incentive to labor, and firmly purpose to profit by that seed that, however little, may bring forth the stalwart oak whose boughs will protect and gladden many homes.

Go, in the name and power and purpose of the God we adore, to perform the work He has given you to do, so that when the unerring square of the Great Architect is applied it may be found true work and assigned a place in the temple of our God.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

John Q. Goss, W. M.	Joseph H. Whitted, Treas	L. H. Case, J. D.
Newel R. Wilcox, S. W.	David Leach, Sec'y.	Wm. F. Martin, Tyler.
Jas. M. Martin, J. W.	Stephen D. Bangs, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

John Q. Goss,	N. R. Wilcox,	Samuel G. Beeman,
Lathrop B. Kinney,	S. W. Y. Schimonsky,	Wm. F. Martin,
David Leach,	Lewis A. Driskell,	John N. Chase,
Stephen D. Bangs,	James H. Preston.	Charles Clifton,
Henry T. Clark,	Lemuel H. Case,	William Joyce.
Silas A. Strickland,	Green B. Nicholson.	J. W. Adams,
J. M. Whitted,	James M. Martin,	Charles Fish—22.
Aaron B. Alford,		

FELLOW CRAFTS.

John Hudson,	Aaron M. Thomas.
--------------	------------------

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

Horace Rogers,	Joseph Roberts,	Wm. Hogeboom,
Geo. Jennings,	E. L. Martin,	David Elliott,
Orson Fisher,	R. B. Overton,	John Brown.

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

Stated meetings: Friday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Wm. E. Hill, W. M.	E. S. Reed, Treas'r.	G. Stevenson, J. D.
John Reed, S. W.	J. J. Imhoff, Sec'y.	S. S. Preston, Tyler.
C. W. Seymour, J. W.	Henry Brown, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Jno. B. Boulware,	S. F. Nuckolls,	Granville Stevenson,
I. L. Gibbs,	Peter Y. Morse,	R. Boggs,
H. N. Cornell,	A. Tuxbury,	S. Driskin,
G. H. Hail,	Robert Lorton,	J. J. Imhoff,
T. E. Thompson,	L. C. Davenport,	J. Lamaster,
John B. Bennett,	H. M. Giltner,	W. G. Langley.
Samuel P. Sibley,	Geo. A. Gillette,	S. Spurlock,
John F. Kinney,	David J. Goff,	J. C. Cook,
John S. Place,	D. P. Rolfe,	C. H. Korff,
Henry Baker,	S. S. Preston,	W. W. Wardell,
Henry Brown,	Elisha Bennctt,	J. J. Hochstetter,
John A. Goodlett,	W. H. H. Waters,	B. J. Newson,
H. B. Horton,	John Reed,	W. W. Owens,
G. G. Gillette,	H. T. Davis,	J. L. Fort,

Lee P. Gillette,
W. L. Boydston,
A. Beardsly,
William E. Hill,
Daniel Whiting,
Samuel Henderson,
George W. Sroat,
J. T. Hoyle,

E. S. Reed,
John Doolittle,
Henry Siegel,
Chas. A. Place,
Charles W. Seymour,
John H. Maxon,
Edward Sheldon,
Israel Loomis,

G. W. Adcock,
S. W. Mason,
A. J. Harding,
N. S. Harding,
Peter Heffley,
Jno. H. Croxton,
Wm. M. Hicklin.—65.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

S. S. Bonney,
Geo. R. McCallum,

Robert McAuley,

Joseph Saunders.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

R. R. Andrews,
William Fulton,
R. H. Matthews,

Robert Hawke,
W. D. Wier,
D. P. Bailey,

J. W. Gray,
J. D. Patch,

EXPELLED.

H. P. Downs.

CAPITAL □, NO. 3, OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first Monday in each month.

OFFICERS.

Augustus Roeder, W. M.
Lorin Miller, S. W.
Aaron Cahn, J. W.

M. Hellman, Treas.
Louis D. Ruth, Sec'y.
C. F. Catlin, S. D.

F. A. Megeath, J. D.
James F. Taylor, Tyler

MASTER MASONS.

W. R. Domarest,
Samuel E. Rogers,
Charles W. Hamilton,
John R. Porter,
Aaron Cahn,
Geo. Armstrong,
Lorin Miller,
R. C. Jordan,
A. D. Jones,
James F. Taylor,
Philip Windheim,
John Logan,
Geo. W. Forbes,
H. H. Vischer,
J. N. Simpson,
Jacob F. Simpson,
Wm. A. Little,
C. Parcel,
Henry Munger,
C. B. Hartwell,
Americus Overton,
John Pratt,
Wm. Findley,
Jas. H. Peabody,
Alonzo Hutchins,
J. A. Wilcox,
Chas. F. Catlin,
S. H. Schuyler,
Henry Sherman,
Wm. H. Robinson,

James E. Boyd,
Wm. F. Wilder,
Augustus Roeder,
James G. Megeath,
H. W. Kuhns,
E. A. Allen,
James K. Ish,
A. J. Harmon,
Elias G. Sears,
William Ruth,
E. V. Smith,
Joel T. Griffin,
Byron Reed,
E. H. Clark,
E. B. Chandler,
James S. Gibson,
Walter Brown,
Charles Maguire,
S. H. Frasier,
T. A. Megeath,
J. M. Pyper,
James McCracken,
Casper E. Yost,
E. H. Rogers,
James Barlow,
Wm. R. Brown,
Wm. H. S. Hughes,
Martin Dunham,
David F. Richards,
D. M. Stuart,

P. W. Hitchcock,
L. J. Ruth,
Charles Ruter,
S. M. Curran,
Frederick Court,
M. C. Wilbur,
Chas. Bremer,
Wm. E. Harvey,
Horace Newman,
M. Hellman,
J. F. Sawyer,
H. P. Deuel,
N. P. Isaacs,
Henry Grebe,
T. M. Boyer,
R. T. Beall,
Ira Van Camp,
Henry Hickman,
F. Donthett,
J. C. Wilcox,
Frank Murphy,
J. N. Ripper,
Alonzo A. McCoy,
John Siddle,
E. P. Child,
Isaac S. Hascall,
W. H. Connor,
Enos Lowe,
Thos. Pollock,
F. C. Goodell.—90.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

L. M. Anderson,

B. D. Crary.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

W. B. Hibbard,

John Kelly,

R. W. Hazen.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, NO. 4, BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

T. W. Bedford, W. M.
A. P. Cogswell, S. W.
O. B. Hewitt, J. W.Wm. Breitmyer, Treas'r
Wm. R. Horn, Sec'y.
J. W. Bennett, S. D.Aaron Connor, J. D.
A. W. Morgan, Steward.
Lewis Waldter, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Hiram Alderman,
Henry W. Atkinson,
Geo. W. Bratton,
T. W. Bedford,
J. W. Bennett,
William Breitmyer,
George Crow,
John L. Colhapp,
Aaron Connor,
Isaac Chivington,
A. P. Cogswell,
Philip Deuser,
R. W. Furnas,
Franklin Ferguson,
R. S. Hannaford,
O. B. Hewitt,
E. Lyanna,
Jacob Marhan,
Robert Masterson,
Jer. Marlatt,Frederick Marlatt,
John H. Morrison,
Jesse Noel,
A. J. Richardson,
R. T. Rainey,
Robert Sayers,
David Siegel,
Jno. G. Skune,
J. W. Wells,
C. W. Wheeler,
Lewis Waldter,
John L. Stanton,
Moses M. Connor,
Jacob Zearing,
A. J. Berry,
Wm. R. Horn,
Wm. Bagley,
John McNeil,
B. F. McInich,
A. D. Marsh,J. W. Bliss,
Henry Colwell,
G. M. Henderson,
Samuel Long,
Henry Plaster,
John Plaster,
E. H. Wilcox,
S. S. Hughes,
Andrew Tining,
John W. Swan,
S. P. Majors,
J. M. Deary,
A. F. Neal,
R. F. Rice,
Hiram E. McCoy,
A. G. White,
Wm. Jones,
Alex. W. Morgan,
Jonas Hacker.—59.

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

Stated meetings: Saturday on or preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Wm. Cheney, W. M.
Wm. Adair, S. W.
Wm. Bouton, J. W.John McQuilkin, Treas.
M. Pinkerton, Sec'y.
Samuel Aughey, S. D.Jacob H. Graff, J. D.
Samuel Whitehoru, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Samuel Aughy,
William Adair,
Wm. Armons,
Harlan Baird,
A. H. Baker,
Wm. Bouton,
Curtis B. Blevins,
Barnabas Bates,James Clark,
William H. Dunn,
Chas. F. Eckhart,
Alfred M. Elam,
Geo. B. Graff,
Jacob H. Graff,
Samuel Gamble,
Leander Garues,John McQuilkin,
Edward B. Murphy,
Wm. Nixon,
J. N. H. Patrick,
M. Pinkerton,
John M. Phillips,
Asa Rathburn,
Samuel Shull,

William Cheney,
Benj. F. Chambers,
Geo. W. Wilkinson,

Amos Lamson,
Wm. C. McBeath,
Samuel Whitehorn,

W. H. B. Stout,
Wm. Tiffany,
J. Oesterling.—33.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

B. M. Willis,

St. A. D. Balcomb.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS.

E. T. Duke, W. M.
J. N. Wise, S. W.
Wm. L. Thomas, J. W.

Thos. K. Hanna, Treas.
Jas. G. Howe, Sec'y.
S. H. Cummins, S. D.

E. P. Bernardin, J. D.
R. D. Morgan, Steward and
Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

E. C. Adams,
W. H. Anderson,
John Allinson,
Garmon Brown,
George Boeck,
Isaac Burns,
J. C. Bear,
Geo. C. Betts,
J. C. Cummins,
Wm. D. Gage,
Joseph Harper,
A. J. Klepsor,
R. R. Livingstone,
D. W. Mullin,
Caleb A. Miller,
Wm. B. Porter,
J. D. Simpson,
Elias Sage,
A. M. Smith,
Andrew Tutt,
Enos Williams,
J. N. Wise,
Walter J. White,
S. S. Alley,

W. H. Bassett,
G. H. Black,
Jas. M. Chalfaut,
George W. Colvin,
J. W. Chapman,
S. H. Cummins,
G. W. Courtright,
Abram Courtright,
T. B. Glenn,
H. D. Hathaway,
Wm. S. Latta,
John W. Marshall,
T. M. Marquette,
R. D. Morgan,
Bernard Newman,
S. T. Pendleton,
Joseph Schlater,
A. B. Smith,
Wm. H. Shea,
Wm. L. Thomas,
Wm. B. Warbritton,
D. H. Wheeler,
C. E. Forgy,
S. S. Billings,

E. P. Bernardin,
Elijah Barker,
O. M. Carter,
E. T. Duke,
R. G. Doom,
T. H. Dennis,
Milo Fellows,
A. B. Fuller,
Thomas K. Hanna,
J. A. Hellman,
E. C. Lewis,
James Minchell,
J. D. Minchell,
M. B. Murphy,
Hugh N. Orr,
J. J. Roberts,
S. C. Smith,
J. W. Shannon,
G. W. Shrader,
Jacob Vallery,
C. H. Walcott,
Frank S. White,
Isaac Wiles.—71.

FELLOW CRAFTS.

Wm. Gillmore,
C. S. Wortman,

J. A. Latta,

T. J. Phipps.

ENTERED APPRENTICES.

J. A. Chinneworth,
Henry Howland,
L. L. Holbrook,
W. H. Shafer,
Myron Moe,

A. C. Mayfield,
B. Spurlock,
S. R. Johnson,
A. B. Taylor,

J. R. Vallery,
J. T. A. Hoover,
E. H. Sage,
S. Maxwell.—13.

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

Stated meetings: Thursday on or before full moon, and second Thursday following.

OFFICERS.

Frank Welch, W. M.
James Ashley, S. W.
Fred. W. Snow, J. W.

Isaac Black, Treas'r.
Austin Rockwell, Sec'y.
A. J. Swartz, S. D.

G. W. Ira, J. D.
Robert Ashley, Steward.
H. P. Cline, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

O. H. Irish,
Chas. F. Porter,
Austin Rockwell,
John S. Ramseyer,
J. R. Conklin,
Robert Teare,
S. T. Leaming,
M. S. Mansfield,
Algernon Batte,

Lorenzo Hobbs,
E. D. Canfield.
Ed. R. Nash,
Frank Welch,
Henry P. Cline,
Robert Ashley,
Michael Evans,
M. C. Lee,
Andrew J. Swartz,

F. W. Snow,
Isaac Black,
James Ashley,
Hiram Chase,
G. W. Ira,
J. A. McMurphy,
Frank A. Root,
J. R. Reed.—26.

COLUMBUS □, NO 8, COLUMBUS, PLATTE COUNTY.

Stated meetings: first and third Saturdays in each month.

No report.

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

Stated meetings: Saturday on or after full moon.

OFFICERS.

H. O. Hanna, W. M.
Wm. H. Mann, S. W.
C. H. Norris, J. W.

D. R. Holt, Treas'r.
E. C. Cooley, Sec'y.
Nelson Snyder, S. D.

J. R. Dowty, J. D.
Anderson Miller, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

H. O. Hanna,
Nelson Snyder,
W. H. Mann,
W. T. Stout,
Isham Reavis,
John R. Dowty,
John R. Brook,
Joseph T. Halle,
Anderson Miller,
D. R. Holt,
George Faulkner,
Daniel Reavis,

C. H. Norris,
W. S. Hall,
E. C. Cooley,
C. B. Scott,
James Cameron,
C. A. Dowty,
John W. Duskey,
Thomas Ashley,
J. T. Kinzer,
G. C. Holt,
W. M. Maddox,
J. D. Ramsay,

John A. Hall,
Lawrence Van Dewson,
R. C. Johnson,
Chas. Gognon,
B. F. Page,
Geo. A. Abbott,
Pryor McBee.
J. J. Marvin,
James C. Tate,
Jas. T. Shepherd,
James Prichard.—35.

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

Stated meetings: first and third Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

E. H. Clark, W. M.
—— —, S. W.
A. G. White, J. W.

—— —, Treas.
M. V. Wilson, Sec'y.
W. H. Dunn, S. D.

J. P. Andrews, J. D.
—— —, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

E. H. Clark,
A. G. White,
J. P. Andrews,
D. McDonald,
W. H. Dunn,
A. T. Johns,

E. N. Grenelle,
C. Lusk,
J. S. Davis,
T. B. Bailey,
J. S. Riddler,
Thomas Frosier,

Joseph Vanhorn,
R. C. Wilson,
M. V. Wilson,
Z. W. Wilson,
N. Carter,
R. Arnold.—18.

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

Stated meetings: second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS.

Wm. E. Harvey, W. M.	George R. Smith, Treas'r.	Wm. Findley, J. D.
Harry P. Deuel, S. W.	Geo. Y. Wallace, Sec'y.	A. G. Murphy, Steward.
C. F. Catlin, J. W.	Wm. A. Little, S. D.	James T. Taylor, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

Charles R. Hays,	Chas. F. Whitmore,	Wm. B. Harvey,
C. W. Burt,	George W. Peck,	Harry P. Deuel,
J. S. Gibson,	William Ellinger,	Chas. F. Catlin,
J. F. Sawyer,	Samuel Burns,	Geo. R. Smith,
Jesse H. Lacey,	W. B. Dixon,	Geo. Y. Wallace,
M. C. Wilbur,	Wm. Garlick,	Wm. A. Little,
John B. Chapman,	J. P. Cooper,	Wm. Finley,
T. A. Murphy,	L. Culbertson,	A. G. Murphy,
A. S. Patrick,	St. A. D. Balcomb,	Horace C. Newman.—29.
Leopold May,	Geo. W. Homan, jr.,	

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

Stated meetings: Tuesday evening preceding full moon.

OFFICERS.

Geo. D. Foglesong, W. M.	W. J. Miller, Treas.	F. S. Moore, J. D.
J. W. Chadduck, S. W.	B. W. Nott, Sec'y.	R. M. Hill, Steward.
R. H. Dickey, J. W.	J. M. Burks, S. D.	W. S. Preston, Tyler.

MASTER MASONS.

G. D. Foglesong,	S. E. Ward,	D. Shackman,
J. W. Chadduck,	N. L. Simpson,	A. C. Roswell,
R. H. Dickey,	J. A. Hollinsworth,	J. Abney,
W. J. Miller,	R. M. Hill,	J. W. Moodie,
B. W. Nott,	D. R. Mills,	C. B. Hodges,
J. M. Burks,	W. J. Shackelford,	F. A. Moore.—19.
M. Reis,		

MONITOR □, U. D., 1st REGIMENT NEBRASKA VETERAN CAVALRY.

Stated meetings: second and fourth Wednesday evenings in each month.

OFFICERS.

Lee P. Gillette, W. M.	W. L. Jaycox, Treasurer.	W. B. Folsom, J. D.
R. R. Livingstone, S. W.	J. P. Murphy, Secretary.	G. A. Hess, Tyler.
S. M. Curran, J. W.	G. W. Wilkinson, S. D.	

MASTER MASONS.

Lee P. Gillette,	F. L. Cramer,	H. B. Larsh,
Geo. W. Wilkinson,	W. B. Folsom,	Lewis Lowry,
R. R. Livingstone,	H. H. Ribble,	F. A. McDonald,
S. M. Curran,	Wm. McClelland,	W. M. Alexander,
Charles E. Provost,	Theodore Leubbes,	John A. Warrington,
John P. Murphy,	A. Althaus,	Edward Titman,
W. L. Jaycox,	S. P. Tuttle,	Patrick Coyle.—23.
John Boon,	Elias M. Lowe,	

EXPULSIONS.

NO.	NAME OF □.	NAME OF PARTY.	CAUSE.	DATE.
5.....	Omadi	A. H. Jackson.....	Unmasonic Conduct.....	July 8, 1865....
5.....	Omadi	J. B. Zeigler	Defrauding a brother....	August 8, 1865.
3.....	Capital.....	Theodore H. De Loss....	" "	July 10, 1866....

LIST OF GRAND LODGES

In Correspondence with the Grand □ of Nebraska, with the names and residences of the Grand Secretaries.

STATES.	NAMES.	RESIDENCES.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.
Arkansas.....	Wm. D. Blocher.....	Little Rock.
California.....	Alex. G. Abell.....	San Francisco.
Canada.....	Thomas Bird Harris....	Hamilton.
Colorado.....	O. A. Whittemore.....	Denver.
District of Columbia....	W. Morris Smith.....	Washington City.
Florida.....	Hugh A. Corley.....	Callahassee.
Iowa.....	Theodore S. Parvin....	Iowa City
Indiana.....	Wm. Hacker.....	Indianapolis.
Kentucky.....	J. M. S. McCorkel.....	Louisville.
Kansas.....	E. T. Carr.....	Fort Leavenworth.
Louisiana.....	Samuel M. Todd.....	New Orleans.
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.
Maryland.....	Jacob H. Medairy.....	Baltimore.
New Jersey.....	Joseph H. Hough.....	Trenton.
Nevada.....	Wm. A. M. Van Bokkelin,	Virginia City.
North Carolina.....	William F. Bain.....	Raleigh.
New York.....	James M. Austin.....	New York.
New Hampshire.....	Horace Chaso.....	Hopkinton.
Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.
Pennsylvania.....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island.....	Charles D. Greene.....	Providence.
Texas.....	Geo. H. Bringhurst....	Houston.
Tennessee.....	Charles A. Fuller.....	Nashville.
Virginia.....	John Dove.....	Richmond.
Vermont.....	Henry Clark.....	Poultney.
Washington Territory....	Elwood Evans.....	Olympia.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

HELD AT OMAHA CITY, JUNE 19, A. L. 5867.

TENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, June 19, 1867.

The Grand \square of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nebraska commenced its tenth Annual Communication in the Masonic Hall at Omaha City, on Wednesday, the 19th day of June, A. D. 1867, A. L. 5867, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The following is a list of the Grand Officers present, and those appointed *pro tempore* :

GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE.

M. . W. . R. W. FURNAS, Grand Master.
R. . W. . O. H. IRISH, as Deputy Grand Master.
R. . W. . WM. E. HILL, Grand Senior Warden.
R. . W. . FRANK WELCH, Grand Junior Warden.
R. . W. . T. W. BEDFORD, Grand Treasurer.
R. . W. . J. N. WISE, Grand Secretary.

APPOINTED.

R. . W. . HENRY BROWN, as Grand Chaplain.
R. . W. . GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Grand Lecturer.
R. . W. . JOHN Q. GOSS, Grand Orator.
R. . W. . E. J. SENSENEY, as Grand Marshal.
W. . GEO. D. FOGLESONG, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. . G. L. STEPHENSON, as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. . C. T. WHITMORE, as Grand Tyler.
W. . WM. H. MANN, Grand Steward.
W. . L. MAY, as Grand Steward.

W. : A. D. JONES, as Grand Sword Bearer.
 W. : J. N. RIPPEY, Grand Standard Bearer.
 W. : JOHN REED, Grand Pursuivant.
 W. : ALBERT NELSON, as Grand Pursuivant.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. : W. : R. C. JORDAN, Past Grand Master.
 M. : W. : GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Past Grand Master.
 M. : W. : D. H. WHEELER, Past Grand Master.
 R. : W. : HENRY BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master.
 R. : W. : O. H. IRISH, Past Deputy Grand Master.

The M. : W. : the Grand □ of Nebraska was opened in *ample form*, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain *pro tempore*, R. : W. : and Rev. Henry Brown.

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

On Credentials—Brothers Wise, Brown, and Welch.

On Visiting Brethren—Brothers Hill, Bratton, and Foglesong.

Brother Grand Secretary Wise, from committee on Credentials, submitted the report of said committee, which, as amended from time to time, was as follows :

REPORT.

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

Your committee on Credentials respectfully report that they find the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and delegates from subordinate □, present, and entitled to one vote each in each capacity in which they appear in this Grand □, as Grand Officers, Past Grand Officer or delegate.

GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE.

M. : W. : R. W. FURNAS, Grand Master.
 R. : W. : O. H. IRISH, as Deputy Grand Master.
 R. : W. : WM. E. HILL, Grand Senior Warden.
 R. : W. : FRANK WELCH, Grand Junior Warden.
 R. : W. : T. W. BEDFORD, Grand Treasurer.
 R. : W. : J. N. WISE, Grand Secretary.

APPOINTED.

R. : W. : REV. A. G. WHITE, Grand Chaplain.
 R. : W. : GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Grand Lecturer.
 R. : W. : JOHN Q. GOSS, Grand Orator.
 R. : W. : E. J. SENSENEY, Grand Marshal.
 W. : GEO. D. FOGLESONG, Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. : G. L. STEVENSON, Grand Junior Deacon.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE.

- M. : W. : R. C. JORDAN, Past Grand Master.
 M. : W. : GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Past Grand Master.
 M. : W. : D. H. WHEELER, Past Grand Master.
 R. : W. : HENRY BROWN, Past Deputy Grand Master.
 R. : W. : O. H. IRISH, Past Deputy Grand Master.

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

NEBRASKA □, No. 1—N. R. Wilcox, Worshipful Master; J. Q. Goss, proxy for Senior Warden.

WESTERN STAR □, No. 2—J. A. Goodlett, Worshipful Master; John Reed, Senior Warden; W. W. Wardell, proxy for Junior Warden.

CAPITAL □, No. 3—E. A. Allen, Worshipful Master; J. N. Rippey, Senior Warden; M. Dunham, Junior Warden.

NEMAHA VALLEY □, No. 4—A. P. Cogswell, Worshipful Master; O. B. Hewitt, Senior Warden; A. P. Cogswell, proxy for Junior Warden.

OMAHA □, No. 5—Wm. Adair, Worshipful Master; James Stott, proxy for Senior Warden; Wm. Adair, proxy for Junior Warden.

PLATTSMOUTH □, No. 6—Jacob Vallery, proxy for Worshipful Master; J. N. Wise, Senior Warden; A. B. Smith, proxy for Junior Warden.

DECATUR □, No. 7—Frank Welch, Worshipful Master; C. S. Chase, proxy for Senior Warden; Frank Welch, proxy for Junior Warden.

FALLS CITY □, No. 9—David R. Holt, Worshipful Master; Wm. H. Mann, Senior Warden; David R. Holt, proxy for Junior Warden.

SOLOMON □, No. 10—E. H. Clark, Worshipful Master; Nathan Carter, Senior Warden; E. H. Clark, proxy for Junior Warden.

COVERT □, No. 11—J. S. Gibson, proxy for Worshipful Master; J. S. Gibson, Senior Warden; Geo. Y. Wallace, Junior Warden.

NEBRASKA CITY □, No. 12—G. D. Foglesong, Worshipful Master; S. L. Gantt, Senior Warden; T. C. Crenshaw, Junior Warden.

ORIENT □, No. 13—Wm. R. Cain, Worshipful Master.

PERRI □, No. 14—G. W. Bratton, Worshipful Master; G. W. Bratton, proxy for Senior Warden; J. W. Moore, proxy for Junior Warden.

FREMONT □, No. 15—S. W. Hays, Worshipful Master.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. N. WISE,
 FRANK WELCH,
 HENRY BROWN, } Committee.

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

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Accounts—Brothers Adair, Goodlett and Valley.

On Charters and Dispensations—Brothers Foglesong, Smith and Goss.

On Masonic Jurisprudence—Brothers Jordan, Armstrong and Wheeler.

On Ways and Means—Brothers Welch, Reed and Wilcox.

On Charity—Brothers Irish, Mann and Allen.

On Grievances—Brothers Hill, Chase and Armstrong.

On Unfinished Business—Brothers Goss, Gault and Rippey.

On Pay Roll—Brothers Bedford, Wallace and Crenshaw.

On Subordinate Returns—Brothers Wheeler, Gibson and Brown.

On Foreign Correspondence—Brothers Wise, Botts and Wheeler.

On motion of Brother Allen, it was

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

Brother Welch submitted the papers in the case of Brother G. W. Ira, a Master Mason, and member of Decatur □, No. 7, against Brother Silas T. Leaming, a member of the same □, in which it is charged that Brother Leaming had circulated some false reports against Brother Ira, which were calculated, by their peculiar nature, to injure his reputation as a man and a mason. The testimony in the case was taken before the □ of which the parties were members, and trial had on the 18th day of May, A. L. 5867. And upon the evidence then and there taken, the □ by a two-thirds vote, suspended Brother Leaming indefinitely. Brother Leaming brings the case before the Grand □ on appeal.

On motion, the papers were referred to the committee on Grievances.

Brother Allen presented the By-Laws of Capital □, No. 3, for the approval of the Grand □. On motion, they were referred to the committee on Jurisprudence.

Brother Wheeler presented the By-Laws of Plattsmouth □, No. 6, for approval. On motion, they were referred to the same committee.

Brother Cain presented the By-Laws and Proceedings of Cedar □, U. D., for examination and approval of the Grand □. Also the application of sundry brethren of said □, for a charter. On motion, the papers were referred to committee on Charters and Dispensations.

Brother Bratton presented the By-Laws and proceedings of Peru □, U. D., for examination and approval of the Grand □. Also the application of sundry brethren of said □ for a charter. On motion, the papers were referred to committee on Charters and Dispensations.

The Grand □ then called from labor to refreshment till 3 o'clock P. M.

—◆◆—

AFTERNOON SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1867.

The M. W. the Grand □ was called to labor at 3 o'clock P. M., the M. W. Grand Master in the East; officers and members as before.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

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

1st. *Resolved*, That the By-Laws of said □ be and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

2d. *Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Brothers Wm. R. Cain, Jacob Schoff, Hugh Boyd, C. A. Hergosheimer, J. V. Hollebaugh, Thomas Harpster, Joshua Murry, Z. J. Parsons, J. C. Blair, J. R. Cain, B. Hainey, E. C. Shear, Thomas Poteet and G. D. Harris, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Orient □, No. 13, to be located at Rulo in Richardson county, Nebraska. And further, that the representatives thereof present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand □.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. D. FOGLESONG, }
J. Q. GOSS, } Committee.

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the resolutions adopted.

The same committee submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the application of Peru □, U. D., for charter, report, that they have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of said

□ and find them correct and in conformity to masonic law and usage, and therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That the By-Laws of Peru □ be and they are hereby approved by this Grand □.

2d. *Resolved*, That a charter be granted to Brothers Milton S. Peery, Jno. W. Swan, S. P. Majors, A. R. Richardson, Jacob Zaring, A. H. Gillette, Jno. T. Neal, Wm. Bagley and Robert Sayers, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, under the name and style of Peru □, No. 14, to be located at Peru, in Nemaha county, Nebraska. And further, that the representatives thereof, present, be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand □.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. D. FOGLESONG, } Committee.
J. Q. GOSS, }

The report of the committee was concurred in and the resolutions adopted.

Brother Wheeler offered the following :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand □ it is highly improper and un-masonic for any brother holding the *proxy* of the Worshipful Master or Wardens of a subordinate □, to transfer the same to a third brother, and that no such transfer of proxies will be recognized by this Grand □, or entitle the brother to a seat or vote therein.

Brother Irish moved that the resolution should lie over till to-morrow at 3 o'clock P. M., and the motion carried.

Brother Goss offered the following :

Resolved, That where any subordinate □ in this jurisdiction shall be represented by only one of its officers, if no proxies be given by the other officers, the said officer *attending* shall be entitled to cast the number of votes to which such subordinate □ would be entitled, were all of its officers present.

On motion the resolution was referred to the committee on Jurisprudence.

The M. W. Grand Master then read the following

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

In accordance with a time-honored custom of the fraternity, we have again convened in the capacity of a Grand □. To Him who "doeth all things well," let us render our humble prayers of thanksgiving and praise, for His good providence and loving kindness to us as men and brethren.

We meet to bring tidings from the craft in various portions of the jurisdiction, and to devise means of fostering, disseminating and perpetuating the cherished principles of the order. Important duties devolve upon us. "With pure hearts and clean hands may we come to such offices."

It affords me pleasure to announce the continued prosperity and advancement

of Freemasonry in Nebraska. The Annual Returns of the show an increased gain most gratifying. Masonry throughout the land is still advancing with giant strides, and will continue its onward march till time shall be no more. Its mission, its characteristics, insure such results. The unfortunate rupture in our Government, it is true, did not fail in its withering influence for a time upon the institution. War, to a greater or less extent, blasts all within its reach; and while divisions and heart-burnings may have arisen between masons in the two sections of country for a time hostile, and which may never be healed, yet during a war so bitterly waged, Freemasonry, like God's angel of mercy, hovered over many battle-fields, ministered its loving charities, relieved suffering, preserved the sacred ashes of honored dead; its principles of brotherly love *did* stand the fiery trial; the obligations to which all swear fealty who bow the naked knee at the consecrated altar, exhibited a binding force strong as links of steel, and in many ways and instances the majestic character and regal worth of the great institution was proven. Whatever may have been, or may yet be, the extent of estrangement, let no healing efforts be spared. By acts of kindness, relief, and brotherly love, "quench the smoking flax." Our brethren whose homes have been desolated by war, ask of us bread for themselves and families. Let Freemasons of the North, whose store-houses, through the smiles of Providence, are well filled, contribute liberally, and as becomes the great emergency. I have official information from some of the Southern jurisdictions, that there has been among our own brotherhood absolute famishing and death from want of food. The communications are herewith submitted. I know of nothing Nebraska masons have done, outside individual contributions, for the relief of distressed masons in the South. I most earnestly urge both the Grand and subordinates, to fail not in discharging an important duty which circumstances have devolved upon them.

I submit the following official transactions since the last meeting of this Grand body:

July 3, 1866, I granted a dispensation on the application of S. W. Hays, J. H. Crabbs, Robert Kittle, E. N. Rogers, O. C. Dake, W. G. Bowman, C. S. Curtis, Thomas Wilkinson, and Joseph Lamberson, recommended by Capital , No. 3, for a , to be located at Fremont, in Dodge county, and to be called Fremont . Brother Samuel W. Hays was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother J. H. Crabbs Senior Warden, and Brother Robert Kittle Junior Warden.

On the 8th day of February, 1867, I received an application from J. L. Davis, W. A. Tiffany, W. H. B. Stout, James Vanhorn, A. T. Johns, J. H. Thompson, Isaac N. Bramhall, and Benj. Newkirk, for a dispensation for a to be located at De Soto, in Washington county, and to be called De Soto . Good and sufficient reasons, to my mind, being presented, I declined granting the dispensation.

On the 23d of May, 1867, I granted a dispensation, on application of M. S. Peery, Robert Sayre, A. H. Gillette, J. F. Neal, Wm. Bagley, W. W. Mills, S. P. Majors, J. W. Swan, R. C. Johnson, A. J. Richardson, and Jacob Zeering, recommended by Nemaha Valley , No. 4, for a to be located at Peru, in Nemaha county, and to be called Peru . Brother George W. Bratton, Past Grand Junior Warden, of Brownville, was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother M. S. Peery Senior Warden, and Brother Robert Sayre Junior Warden. It will

be remembered that heretofore a dispensation was granted to the brethren at Peru. Circumstances during the beginning of the war were such, that the surrendered its dispensation, and turned over its property to the Grand , in compliance with the provisions of our laws in such cases. The energy and perseverance of the brethren at this point, as evinced by the fact of their making another effort, is indicative of merit. Should this Grand grant them a charter, I recommend that the property and the dispensation fee be returned to them.

All the papers and correspondence connected with the foregoing applications, are herewith submitted and made a part of this report.

On the 9th of July, 1866, assisted by the brethren of Capital , No. 3, I in person instituted and installed the officers of Covert , No. 11.

On the 12th of July, 1866, I commissioned Past Master J. P. Andrews, a special deputy to institute and install the officers of Solomon , at Calhoun, which duty he performed, and his report is herewith transmitted.

August 6, 1866, Covert , No. 11, submitted to me her By-Laws, which I approved, subject to the action of the Grand when next convened.

December 14, 1866, I issued a commission to Past Grand Master R. C. Jordan, as special deputy to dedicate the hall of Solomon . He performed the duty, and his report is herewith submitted.

At the last session of the Grand , a dispensation was granted for a new , to be located at Rulo, in Richardson county, and called Cedar . On the 26th of July, the organized and proceeded with business. On the 4th of August, and on application of the officers of that , I permitted the names of J. C. Blair, B. Harris, E. C. Sherrer, J. R. Cain, Thos. Poteet, J. V. Hollebaugh and G. D. Harris, to be added to the list of applicants for the dispensation. On the 7th of August, Brother H. J. Vandal, Senior Warden, was accidentally drowned, and upon being notified of the vacancy, I appointed Brother J. V. Hollebaugh to fill the position.

February 10, 1867, I received the following letter from Brother C. B. Stillman, Worshipful Master, Columbus , relative to the affairs of that :

COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, Feb. 5, 1867.

M. W. R. W. FURNAS, Grand Master:

Dear Sir—I address you for the purpose of reporting to you the condition of Columbus , No. 8. The has held no meetings since September; we failed to elect our officers at the proper time, and of course have had no installation. The members live scattered and we were unable for a long time to get a quorum together, which was the cause of the failure.

Now, there is a disposition to renew the work; we have received some additions to our population. Now I wish to know if we have forfeited our charter, or whether we can yet make it good.

Yours fraternally,

C. B. STILLMAN,
Late Worshipful Master Columbus .

I replied by issuing a special dispensation authorizing the to convene and elect new officers or continue the old ones, as might be desirable, or seem for the best. I have heard nothing further from the brotherhood at Columbus.

October 27, 1866, I was informed by the Worshipful Master of Fremont , U. D., that at a regular meeting of said , an applicant for initiation was

regularly balloted for and elected. Subsequently additional light in regard to the applicant was obtained, showing him unworthy to be made a mason. The Worshipful Master asked instructions as to procedure in the case. Holding to the masonic opinion that a ballot on application for initiation cannot be re-considered, I instructed him to refuse to initiate the applicant; have the *facts* in the case set forth in a preamble and resolution, which adopt by vote of the □, and spread the same on the record book.

Since the last meeting of the Grand □, the following questions have been raised, and I have given the annexed decisions, viz:

Question. "Can there be any appeal from the decision of the Worshipful Master either on masonic jurisprudence or in the construction that he, the Worshipful Master, may put on the By-Laws of the □?"

Decision. No appeal can be taken from the Worshipful Master's decision to the □ over which he presides. The decision of a Worshipful Master for the time being is supreme. Appeals can be taken from a Worshipful Master's decision to the Grand □ under whose jurisdiction he may be working.

Question. Can the Worshipful Master of a □ refuse to admit a visiting brother who proves himself well versed in masonry?

Decision. Yes. A Worshipful Master has the right, or power, to refuse any brother to visit his □. It is not presumable, however, that such power would be exercised without good and sufficient cause.

Question. Can a brother object to the admission of an applicant for either initiation or membership without being present at the □ meeting, or in any other manner, than by ballot?

Decision. Yes. A member in good standing can give notice to the Worshipful Master that he objects to the admission of an applicant. This is a rejection, and the Worshipful Master should so order it entered upon the minutes.

Question. Can a brother be dealt with for an offense committed before he was made a mason?

Decision. No: provided the knowledge of the offense could possibly have been obtained by the committee appointed by the □ to examine into the character and standing of the applicant.

As chairman of the committee to take measures to found an institution for the education of orphans of deceased masons, I on the 24th of January, 1867, issued the following circular to the □ and brotherhood in this jurisdiction.

OFFICE GRAND MASTER, GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA, }
BROWNVILLE, NEB., January 24, 1867. }

To the □ and Brotherhood, Greeting:

At the last annual meeting of the Grand □ of Nebraska, held at Nebraska City, June 21, 1866, the following proceedings were transacted:

"Brother Irish offered the following, which was adopted:

"*Resolved,* That a standing committee of one from each subordinate □ be appointed, of which the Grand Master shall be chairman, to take measures to found an institution for the education of orphans of deceased masons. And to this end, they are hereby authorized to correspond with the subordinate □, to receive proposals from different points, as to the location of the same; to provide some method of raising funds, and to report in detail at the next Annual Communication of this Grand □. And the Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to receive

such donations as may be made by individuals for this purpose, and to report the same in detail at the next meeting of the Grand .

"The M. . W. . Grand Master announced the following standing committee, in pursuance of a resolution adopted by this Grand relative to an 'Orphans' School':

"Robert W. Furnas, Grand Master, chairman; Brothers J. M. Whitted, Nemaha Valley , No. 1; William E. Hill, Western Star , No. 2; Lorin Miller, Capital , No. 3; T. W. Bedford, Nemaha Valley , No. 4; George B. Graff, Omadi , No. 5; D. H. Wheeler, Plattsmouth , No. 6; Frank Welch, Decatur , No. 7; C. B. Stillman, Columbus , No. 8; W. H. Mann, Falls City , No. 9; David McDonald, Solomon , No. 10; C. F. Catlin, Covert , No. 11; R. H. Diekey, Nebraska City , No. 12."

As chairman of the committee, I now present this matter to the brotherhood of Nebraska, hoping and believing it will receive that zealous and undivided attention and consideration its importance demands.

When the question was presented to the Grand , it met with unanimous and enthusiastic approval. Many very liberal individual contributions were offered on the spot. To so intelligent a body of men as the masonic fraternity of Nebraska, I do not deem it necessary to enter into an *argument* as to the necessity and importance of the subject presented. The only point, I am quite sure, will be, how is it to be accomplished. Let each take the matter into consideration; decide upon *its* plan of founding such an institution; present its proposal to have it located at its own point if desirable, and send its member of the committee up to the next Grand , clothed with full power to act in the premises.

Do not fail to remember, brethren of Nebraska, that this is the most important measure ever yet presented for your consideration as an order, or that, perhaps, ever will be, and that now is the time to commence this great work, which is to show forth to the world one of the cherished principles of masonry.

As chairman, I hereby call a special meeting of the committee to meet at Masonic Hall, in the city of Omaha, on Tuesday, the 18th day of June, A. L. 5867, (the day preceding the convening of our next Grand). This will give the committee a whole day to compare the various plans and propositions, and thus enable it to present a full, and, we hope, satisfactory report to the Grand .

Very respectfully and fraternally submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Master and Ch'n Com.*

The measure has seemed to meet with general approbation, and we have reason to flatter ourselves with the idea that at no distant day we may see the contemplated institution in successful operation. The committee is prepared at the proper time to present to this Grand a detailed report for its consideration.

Numerous applications have been received asking special dispensations, to receive and act upon petitions from persons residing in another or adjoining county, but nearer the desiring the dispensation; I have declined granting, because of the existence of Article 15, Rules and Regulations of the Grand , which requires applicants to petition the in the county in which he may reside. This regulation is peculiar to this jurisdiction, and is the cause of many inconveniences. Most other Grand allow applicants to petition the nearest their place of residence, regardless of county boundaries. I recommend such a change in our regulations.

I have received applications almost without number, asking special dispensations permitting to declare applications for initiation and degrees, "cases of emergency," and act upon them without the usual delay. In most cases I have granted the dispensations, *provided* "suitable proficiency in the preceding de-

gree" be made. I have done so, however, only because it has become a custom in this jurisdiction. I believe it to be wrong in principle and practice—even a violation of the usages of the order of Freemasonry. I have been a mason twenty-three years, and have never known a "case of emergency" attended with good results. In a case for initiation there is no time for inquiring into the character and standing of the applicant; and in case of advancement, where more than one degree is conferred of an evening, or without "suitable proficiency in the preceding" one, in ninety-nine times out of an hundred the proficiency is never attained. The great majority, too, of such cases, are those who have resided within the reach of some for years, without thinking of making application for membership into the order, until suddenly some business or enterprise calls them to a distance, and then they must be made a mason before they go—have not time to wait, and can't think of going without the degrees. It is an imposition upon both the candidate and the order. I recommend that the Grand prohibit such violation by positive enactment.

My attention has again been called to the subject of the "Grand Representative System," by the Grand of Canada making application to name some Brother as the representative of that Grand body near the Grand of Nebraska. Before the war, this feature of intercourse prevailed in many Grand jurisdictions, and I think was attended with good results. There is every reason to believe that the existence of this old custom would tend to draw the ties of brotherhood in the different jurisdictions closer. I therefore recommend its adoption.

There are many points or matters, to which I would like to call the attention of this Grand , and the brethren here assembled; but lest I weary your patience, will content myself with a few of the more important

In connection with the subject of the establishment of new , permit me to venture an opinion. I am fully aware that in a new country like ours, that brethren hailing from the older States, and who are deprived the privileges to which they have been accustomed, are naturally anxious and rather impatient to have new established at and near their locality. A question should be, can a be properly sustained and in a manner creditable to the institution? Can the order and the brethren really be benefitted? I know that it has been customary to grant all applications for dispensations and charters, and hence, I have felt that I was placed in an extremely delicate position by declining to comply with the wishes of the brethren at De Soto. May not Grand and Grand Masters do violence to the order in making too great haste to increase the number of ?

Another matter. There is a growing disposition, or rather tendency, not only in this jurisdiction, but in many others, to *modernize*—if I may be permitted to use that expression—the institution of Freemasonry. This is done in many ways. The ignoring or non-compliance with ancient landmarks, laws, usages and customs; the substitution of phraseology in the work, changing the manner of transacting business, &c. This is painful to old masons, and will, if not checked, eventually, do more to retard the growth and progress of the order, than all other causes combined. We boast that while "the lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance and the devastations of war have laid waste and destroyed many valuable monuments of antiquity on which the utmost exertions of

human genius have been employed," that "Freemasonry survived the unsparing ravages of barbarous force," and "the *attentive ear* still receives the sound from the *instructive tongue*." Why? Simply because of an adherence to what we denominate its "Ancient Landmarks." Because the craft has continued to use "tools and instruments, symbols and emblems most expressive, to imprint on the mind wise and serious truths, and thus"—and thus only—"through a succession of ages are transmitted unimpaired the most excellent tenets of our institution." Too many seem to think that a knowledge of what we are pleased to term the "work" of the order, constitute a "bright mason." 'Tis a great mistake, and the idea is performing a serious mission. The "bright mason" is as familiar with the principles of masonry, its landmarks, regulations, local and general, as with the opening and closing ceremonies of his □.

Another matter, and I am through. It is this: the great desire to increase the numbers of our membership. There is a proneness to think and act as if *all* "good clever people," and especially *all* "our neighbors and friends," must be taken into the order. The fact that there are certain indispensable essential requisites to qualify a man to be made a mason, is too often forgotten, or rather disregarded. The mere possession of degrees or wearing of masonic clothing, does not make masons; a man may have all these, may have passed from the lowest to the highest round in the ladder, and yet not be a mason; may not exercise charity; may not possess a single characteristic necessary to adorn and exemplify the cherished principles of our beloved order. No man should be permitted to pass our threshold who would not *devote* himself to the institution; who would not practice its teachings; who would not be a constant living, moving exemplification of friendship, morality and brotherly love. Remember my brethren, that it is much easier to keep out imperfect or unworthy material, than to get it out when once in.

And now, in conclusion, accept my acknowledgments for the respect and confidence which have been paid both to myself and the honorable position intrusted to my keeping for the past two years; during which time I trust the honor and usefulness of the Grand □ *ad interim* have not diminished. May the blessing of the Supreme Ruler rest upon the labors of this communication.

R. W. FURNAS, *Grand Master*.

Brother Wheeler offered the following :

Resolved, That the address of the M. . W. . the Grand Master be referred to a select committee of three for the purpose of designating appropriate committees to whom the several subject matters therein contained shall be referred.

On motion, the resolution was adopted, and Brothers Wheeler, Armstrong and Brown were appointed such committee.

Brother Past Grand Master Armstrong from the select committee of five, appointed at the last session of the Grand □, on Uniformity of Work, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

At your last Annual Communication the undersigned were appointed a committee pursuant to the following resolution:

"Resolved, That a committee of five, including the Grand Lecturer, who shall be chairman, be appointed with a view to the establishment of a uniformity of work for \square of this jurisdiction, and report at next meeting of this Grand \square ."

Your committee were unable to determine, from the resolution, the exact nature of the duties required of them, whether it was designed that they should determine and exemplify before your body, what is generally received as the true and ancient work, or whether they should consider and recommend the most effectual measures for securing, in the several \square , a more perfect conformity with the ritual heretofore approved by this Grand \square .

Six years ago, the Grand \square of Nebraska adopted the "Webb Work," more properly styled the "Ancient York Work," as the genuine work of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Having satisfied ourselves, then, of the authenticity of that work, we have since been pursuing our labors upon the masonic edifice, unconscious of any disposition on the part of the master-workmen to interfere with or change the designs then placed on the trestle-board for the guidance of the craft. And your committee confidently hope there is now no desire to remove this early landmark of masonry in Nebraska. A report subsequently made to the Grand \square in 1864, on the subject of the work, has, it seems, excited the fears of some that this Grand \square had manifested a design to change its action in this regard, and has been the cause of much remark, and possibly, distrust, among the fraternity abroad, and sister Grand \square . But we are satisfied all these fears and suspicions are groundless. The report in question, while it sustained and re-asserted the wisdom of the previous action of this Grand \square , your committee admit, exhibited unwarranted zeal in tracing the recognized ritual from the fountain head—Webb—down through more modern and less certain channels, and seemed to involve our Grand \square in the fruitless and ill-tempered controversies between the Morris Conservators on the one hand and the Baltimore Conventionists on the other. We do not think the craft in Nebraska have any heart or sympathy in the partizan contentions of these *latter-day fathers* of masonry.

Having satisfied ourselves in the first years of our existence of the legitimacy of our work, we are content in more mature age to adhere to the traditions transmitted to us through unquestioned sources, and thus be enabled to travel and be recognized as Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

The custodians of the unwritten work in every jurisdiction, however much they may differ in their manner and form of imparting it, claim each to have it correctly transmitted from Webb to them, and yet, they differ in many particulars. These differences, unhappily, have brought about discussions which have led to janglings, discord and confusion among the workmen.

This deplorable state of affairs, your committee are of the opinion, is the result of the departure of Webb's successors from his mode of imparting masonic instruction. When he received his masonic catechism from his English teacher—

Preston—over seventy years since, it was recognized as the true ritual by every Grand □ in the United States excepting that of Pennsylvania, and it was imparted to the subordinate □ throughout the land by his pupils—Gleason, Cross, Barney, Cushing and others; and the venerable Samuel Willson, the contemporary of Webb and his pupils, still lives to bear testimony to the authenticity of the ritual as preserved in the State of Vermont, in which he was formerly Grand Lecturer.

Through these mediums have been transmitted to us those identical and beautiful didactic lessons of our ancient brethren, which are now expounded and elucidated in the □ throughout this jurisdiction.

In conclusion, your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That the action of this Grand □, at its Annual Communication in the year 1861, by which the ritual known as the "Webb work" was adopted for the direction of the craft in this jurisdiction, is hereby re-affirmed, and it is enjoined upon the Masters of the several subordinate □ to conform thereto.

2d. *Resolved*, That this Grand □ disclaims all participation in, or sympathy with, the contentions between ritualists, which have so long disturbed the harmony among the brethren; nor do we deem it either consistent with our masonic obligations, or necessary to our jurisdictional dignity, to follow the example of other Grand bodies in issuing anathemas against the adherents of one or the other systems of labor.

Desiring to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, we respectfully subscribe ourselves,

GEO. ARMSTRONG,	} Committee.
GEO. D. FOGLESONG,	
D. H. WHEELER,	
WM. E. HILL,	
GEO. W. BRATTON,	

The report was received and made subject matter for the consideration of the Grand □. The committee was discharged.

The By-Laws of Covert □, No. 11, and Nebraska City □, No. 12, were presented for the approval of the Grand □, and on motion were referred to the committee on Jurisprudence.

Brother Adair offered the following, which was referred to the committee on Jurisprudence :

Resolved, That Omadi □, No. 5, be allowed to change her By-Laws in regard to □ dues, so as to read "four dollars a year," instead of "two dollars and fifty cents."

Grand Secretary Wise submitted the following

Question No. 1. Is a member of a subordinate □, who has been made an honorary member thereof by action of the □, required to pay Grand □ dues?

Brother Past Grand Master Wheeler submitted the following

Question No. 2. Is it absolutely necessary that the constitutional question should be propounded to the candidate for initiation before he is prepared?

Question No. 3. Has a visiting brother the right to see the charter of a subordinate , previous to his being examined?

Question No. 4. Has a non-affiliated mason the right to represent a subordinate in this Grand by proxy?

All of which questions were referred to the committee on Jurisprudence.

Brother Moore offered the following, which was referred to the committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That any person residing within the jurisdiction of any in this State, who shall represent himself to be a mason, but who shall not affiliate with or visit the for the space of one year, shall be summoned by the Worshipful Master of said into his presence, in order that he may prove himself to be a mason. And upon his failure to obey said summons, or to prove himself to be a mason, as aforesaid, he shall be regarded as an *impostor*, and shall be so reported to the Grand . And it shall not be lawful, thereafter, for any mason to hold masonic communication with him, by conversation or otherwise.

The committee on Ways and Means submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee having been instructed by resolution, adopted at the last Annual Communication of the Grand , to prepare an "Order of Business," and report the same at this session, beg leave to submit and recommend the adoption of the following

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1st. Appointment of committee on Credentials.
- 2d. Report of committee on Credentials.
- 3d. Opening of Grand .
- 4th. Appointment of Standing Committees.
- 5th. Reading and referring resolutions, petitions, and other subject matter to be referred to standing committees.
- 6th. Annual address and report of the M. W. Grand Master.
- 7th. Reports of committees.
- 8th. Unfinished business.
- 9th. Election of officers.
- 10th. Installation ceremonies.
- 11th. Other business generally.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR,)
E. A. ALLEN, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The report of the committee was adopted.

The M. W. the Grand was then called to refreshment till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1867.

The M. : W. : the Grand □ was called to labor at 8 o'clock p. m. The M. : W. : Grand Master Furnas in the East ; officers and members as before.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Brother Goss, from the committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee beg leave to report, that there was submitted, at the last session of this Grand body, a proposition to amend Article 10 of Section 4 of the By-Laws of this Grand □; also, Section 18 of said By-Laws; which proposition will be found on page 302 of the printed proceedings of 1866, and which will properly come before this Grand □ as unfinished business.

Your committee would also call your attention to the fact, that at the last session of the Grand □, the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence submitted a report, containing, among other things, a recommendation that Article 12 of Rules and Regulations for the Government of Subordinate □, be amended, &c., which report was adopted. But your committee are of the opinion that the adoption of the report of said committee does *not* change or amend any By-Law or Rule, which can *only* be amended in the manner prescribed by the By-Laws themselves. We therefore present said matter to this Grand □ as properly coming under the head of unfinished business.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN Q. GOSS, }
S. L. GANT, } Committee.
J. N. RIPPEY, }

Brother Past Grand Master Wheeler moved that the report be received and referred to the appropriate committee.

The motion was carried.

Brother Past Grand Master Wheeler, from select committee to whom was referred the address of the M. : W. : Grand Master, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee having had the M. : W. : Grand Master's address under consideration, beg leave to report and recommend as follows:

1st. That so much of the address as relates to dispensations granted to form □ at Fremont, Peru and Rulo, and to the application for dispensation at De Soto, with the papers relative thereto, be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

2d. That so much as relates to the granting of special dispensations by the Grand Master, be referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, with instructions to report appropriate resolutions relating thereto, and for their government hereafter.

3d. That so much as relates to decisions made upon questions referred to the Grand Master for his opinion, be referred to committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

4th. That so much as relates to suffering and destitute brethren in the late rebellious States, be referred to a select committee of five.

5th. That so much as relates to boundaries or jurisdiction of subordinate , be referred to the committee on Charters and Dispensations.

6th. That so much as relates to Grand Representative system, be referred to a select committee of five, to be appointed by the Grand Master.

7th. That so much as relates to innovations upon masonry, be referred to the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Respectfully submitted.

D. H. WHEELER, } Committee.
HENRY BROWN, }

The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

The committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred certain interrogatories, beg leave to report them back, with the following answers:

To question No. 1. The should pay said dues.

" " 2. It is.

" " 3. It has.

" " 4. No.

All of which is submitted.

R. C. JORDAN, } Committee.
GEO. ARMSTRONG, }
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report was adopted.

Brother Foglesong offered the following, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the M. . W. . the Grand Master be requested to appoint a committee of Master Masons, of which the Grand Lecturer shall be chairman, to exemplify the *work* of this Grand , as reported by the committee on Work, on yesterday (and which report has been adopted), on the second day of the next session of the Grand .

The following brethren were appointed to constitute said committee: Brother Grand Lecturer Armstrong, and Brothers Foglesong, Hill and Reed.

The committee on Subordinate Returns submitted the following report, which was adopted :

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the Returns of Subordinate for examination, respectfully report that they have performed the duty assigned them, and present, in the following table, a true exhibit of the statistical condition of the order, as represented in said returns.

D. H. WHEELER,
J. S. GIBSON,
HENRY BROWN, } Committee.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, 1866-7.

No.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	COUNTY.	Master Masons.	Fellow Crafts.	Entr'd Apprent.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Honorary.	Rejected.	Amount of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> Dues.	
1	Nebraska <input type="checkbox"/>	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	24	2	10	11	11	11	1	4	7	...	...	6	\$ 57 00
2	Western Star <input type="checkbox"/>	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	75	3	4	6	5	7	8	4	...	...	...	9	91 00
3	Capital <input type="checkbox"/>	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	99	3	4	10	8	8	13	11	...	1	1	8	119 00	
4	Nemaha Valley <input type="checkbox"/>	Brownville.....	Nemaha.....	56	10	12	8	8	11	5	14	...	...	...	7	72 00
5	Omaha <input type="checkbox"/>	Dakota City.....	Dakota.....	33	2	2	6	5	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	51 00
6	Plattsmouth <input type="checkbox"/>	Plattsmouth.....	Cass.....	72	1	16	4	6	5	4	7	...	...	1	2	79 00
7	Decatur <input type="checkbox"/>	Decatur.....	Burt.....	22	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	22 00
8	Columbus <input type="checkbox"/>	Columbus.....	Platte.....	*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Falls City <input type="checkbox"/>	Falls City.....	Richardson.....	36	3	1	5	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	50 00
10	Solomon.....	Fort Calhoun.....	Washington.....	30	2	2	13	14	12	1	1	...	...	...	5	58 00
11	Covert.....	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	49	5	1	16	15	16	6	1	...	...	1	...	75 00
12	Nebraska City.....	Nebraska City.....	Otoe.....	52	3	1	23	27	27	14	7	...	...	1	...	98 00
13	Cedar.....	Rulo.....	Richardson.....	18	3	12	21	6	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	78 00
14	Peru.....	Peru.....	Nemaha.....	9	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 00
15	Fremont.....	Fremont.....	Dodge.....	20	1	2	15	12	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	64 00
Total.....				583	37	69	140	120	116	32	55	8	1	6	1	54	\$919 00

* Unrepresented.

Brother Rippey offered the following which was adopted :

Resolved, That a select committee of three be appointed to arrange a programme for the installation, oration and festival exercises of to-morrow.

Brother Rippey, Cogswell and Adair, were appointed such committee.

Brother Wheeler offered the following which was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand hold its next Annual Communication at Bellevue, on Wednesday the 24th day of June, A. L. 5868.

The committee on Grievances to whom was referred the appeal case from Decatur , No. 7, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska :

Your committee beg leave to report that they have fully examined and considered the matters presented, as they appear upon the papers referred to them in said case, and are of the opinion, and do recommend that the proceedings of said in said case be approved and affirmed by this Grand .

Your committee further desire to say, that they do not think the conduct of Brother G. W. Ira, in the case presented, is altogether blameless.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. HILL,
C. S. CHASE,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.

The report was adopted.

The M. W. the Grand Master, in accordance with the recommendation of the committee on Grand Master's address, appointed the following select committees :

Under the fourth head of the report of said committee, Brothers Armstrong, Irish, Foglesong, Goss and Welch.

Under the sixth head of the same report, Brothers Hewitt, Clark, Bratton, Cain and Hays.

Brother Allen offered the following which was adopted :

Resolved, That the election of Grand Officers be made the special order for to-day at 3 o'clock P. M.

Brother Jordan, from the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution of Brother Adair, relative to a change in the By-Laws of Omadi , No. 5, and also the resolution of Brother Moore, requiring persons representing themselves to be masons, to

prove themselves as such, &c., beg leave to report in favor of the adoption of said resolutions.

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report was adopted.

Brother Jordan, from the committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee having had submitted to them copies of the By-Laws of Plattsmouth , No. 6, and Capital , No. 3, for examination, beg leave to report, that they find the By-Laws of Plattsmouth , No. 6, correct, and recommend their approval by the Grand .

Your committee find in examining the By-Laws of Capital , No. 3, that the concluding portion of Rule No. 4, reads thus: "An adjourned meeting shall be considered as a continuation of a regular meeting. Any business of the may be transacted thereat except the amendment of the By-Laws."

Your committee recommend that this be stricken out.

In Rule 15, in the clause preceding the fees for degrees, we find that a ballot may be had at a special meeting. As the practice is universal to ballot only at stated meetings, your committee recommend that the words "special or" also be stricken out. And in the same rule *add*, after the words "consent of the " the words "three-fourths of the members present concurring."

Rule 16 conflicts with paragraph seven of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand , and hence is illegal.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Capital , No. 3, be approved, subject to the foregoing corrections.

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report of the committee was concurred in and the resolution and recommendation adopted.

Brother Reed offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer of this Grand be and he is hereby requested to visit the several subordinate in this jurisdiction at least once in each year for the purpose of giving instruction in the work.

Referred to committee on Ways and Means.

Brother Armstrong offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it is not lawful for a , in restoring to membership a brother who has been suspended, to charge him dues for the time intervening between his suspension and restoration.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand □ of Nebraska:

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

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Brothers Samuel W. Hays, James H. Crabb, Robt. Kittle, O. C. Dake, E. H. Rogers, Wm. G. Bowman, C. J. Curtis, Thos. Wilkinson and Joseph Lamberson, constituting them a □ of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons under the name and style of Fremont □, No. 15, to be located at the town of Fremont, in the county of Dodge and State of Nebraska. And further, that the representatives thereof be entitled to seats and votes in this Grand □.

All of which is submitted.

G. D. FOGLESONG,	} Committee.
J. Q. GOSS,	
A. B. SMITH,	

The report was adopted.

Brother Past Grand Master Wheeler asked to be excused from further attendance upon the deliberations of this Grand □, whereupon

Brother Goss offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That Brother Past Grand Master Wheeler be and he is hereby excused from further attendance upon the committees of this Grand □, or upon the deliberations of the Grand □ during the remainder of this session.

M. . W. . Grand Master Furnas, chairman of committee on "Orphans' School," submitted the following:

REPORT.

To the M. . W. . Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee appointed at the last session of the Grand □ to take measures to found an institution for the education of orphans of deceased masons, have, with deliberation and care, considered the matter, and submit the following report:

The subject has been before the subordinate □ in this jurisdiction, and by them considered, and has met with very general approbation. The brotherhood seem impressed with the importance of the project, and that a commencement of the enterprise should no longer be delayed. A number of unconditional donations have been tendered, and many localities are prepared and authorized when the time arrives for action, to offer large inducements in shape of donations for the location of such an institution as is contemplated.

The committee are of the opinion that it is impracticable to do more at present than to lay the foundation for such an institution, by providing for the

creation of a fund sufficient, and to be appropriated to that purpose; and therefore present the following plan for consideration :

First, That the Grand lay a tax upon the membership in the State, to be collected and paid as other dues from subordinate , and by the Grand set apart as an Educational Fund.

That a trustee or a board of trustees be appointed by the Grand , whose duty it shall be to take charge of all funds or donations of whatsoever kind, paid in or donated, and invest the same most advantageously.

That a standing committee of one from each subordinate be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to solicit and receive, in such manner and at such times and places as they may deem best, individual and independent subscriptions and donations to the "Educational Fund," and report the same to the Grand at its next meeting.

That the subordinate set apart one day or evening in each year, on which occasion a festival or entertainment shall be had for the purpose of raising funds for the "Orphans' Educational Fund."

That this mode of raising funds be proceeded with for the term of five years; at the end of which time the Grand shall take such measures as in its wisdom may seem best for founding an educational institute, or in the best manner providing for the education of the orphans of our deceased brethren.

To carry out the foregoing plan, your committee recommend the adoption by this Grand of the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, by the Grand of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nebraska, That for the purpose of creating a fund for the education of the orphans of deceased masons within this jurisdiction, there be and hereby is levied, an annual tax of the sum of one dollar upon each and every member of each subordinate in the State; that the sum of two dollars be levied upon each non-affiliated mason in the State, to be collected by the subordinate in whose immediate jurisdiction the non-affiliated brother may reside. The subordinate shall collect and pay over the fund thus raised to the Grand , at the same time and in the same manner as other Grand dues. The failure of a subordinate to collect, or the failure of a brother, affiliated or non-affiliated, to pay the sum hereby levied, subjects the same to the usual discipline and penalties for non-compliance with Grand and subordinate laws. *Provided*, that should a subordinate , after exhausting discipline and law, fail to collect the tax levied upon non-affiliated masons, then such subordinate shall not be held responsible for the assessment. The fund thus raised shall be denominated "The Orphans' Educational Fund," and shall be used for no other purpose.

2d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master shall annually appoint three members of the Grand , who shall constitute and be denominated a Board of Trustees for the care and management of the Orphans' Educational Fund. The board, before entering upon their duties, shall each give bond in the sum of three thousand dollars, to be approved by the Grand . It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to receive all moneys and donations of whatsoever kind, collected for and made to the "Orphans' Educational Fund," and invest or dispose of the same in such manner as may to them seem best, and as will the more surely and effectually increase the fund and advance the object designed. The board shall

submit to each meeting of the Grand a report of its doings, and a statement of the condition of funds and property belonging to the Orphans' Fund.

3d. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master shall annually upon the recommendation of each subordinate , or of the delegation present, appoint a standing committee of one from each subordinate , whose duty it shall be to solicit and receive from their respective or members, or others in their vicinity, individual or donations, of money or property, from time to time, and as he may deem best, to be placed in the hands of the board of trustees, and become a part of the Orphans' Fund. This committee shall report annually to the Grand , and turn over to the board of trustees such moneys and property as may have been collected during the interim.

4th. *Resolved*, That it is recommended that each subordinate within this jurisdiction hold an annual festival or fair, the proceeds of which shall be appropriated to increasing the Orphans' Educational Fund; that said festivals or fairs be held on or as near the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist as may be convenient.

5th. *Resolved*, That the Worshipful Master and Wardens of each subordinate be, and they are hereby specially required to see that the foregoing regulations, as far as applicable to subordinate , are faithfully executed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. W. FURNAS, <i>Chairman</i> ,	}	Committee.
D. H. WHEELER,		
T. W. BEDFORD,		
FRANK WELCH,		
D. McDONALD,		
R. H. DICKKEY,		
W. H. MANN,		
W. R. CAIN,		
J. M. WHITTED,		
W. E. HILL,		

On motion, the further consideration of the report of the committee was postponed until 3 o'clock P. M.

M.: W.: Grand Master Furnas presented the application of brethren at De Soto for a dispensation, which was referred to committee on Charters and Dispensations.

The M.: W.: the Grand was called to refreshment till 3 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JUNE 20, 1867—3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The M.: W.: the Grand of Nebraska was called to labor at 3 o'clock P. M., Grand Master Furnas in the East. Officers and members as before.

Brother Rippey, from select committee to whom was referred the preparation of a programme, submitted the following :

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee appointed to prepare a programme for installation ceremonies, &c., beg leave to report, and recommend the adoption of the following order of exercises:

That a procession be formed in front of Pioneer Block at half-past 10 o'clock A. M., to-morrow, preceded by the Omaha Brass Band, and accompanied by all members of the fraternity who may choose to join the procession, march to the Methodist Episcopal Church on 13th street, there to listen to the address of the Grand Orator, Brother J. Q. Goss. At the conclusion of which, the ceremonies of installation will take place. The procession will then be re-formed and proceed to the Court House to partake of refreshments tendered the Grand □ by the members of Capital □, No. 3, and Covert □, No. 11. After which, the procession will again be formed and return to the hall of the Grand □.

Respectfully submitted.

J. N. RIPPEY,
A. P. COGSWELL, } Committee.
WM. ADAIR, }

The report was adopted.

Brother Welch, from committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution requiring the Grand Lecturer to visit the several subordinate □ in this jurisdiction at least once in each year, having had the subject under consideration, respectfully represent, that the By-Laws of this Grand □ provide, in Section XVII., that "the Grand Lecturer shall visit the subordinate □ when called upon for that purpose, and communicate the proper and uniform mode of work; and for his services he shall be paid by the □ requiring them." And, that it may be made obligatory upon the Grand Lecturer to have stated terms of visiting the subordinate □ for the purpose of producing uniformity of work, your committee respectfully offer the following amendment to Section XVII. of the By-Laws, and recommend its unanimous adoption:

Resolved, That Section XVII. of the By-Laws of this Grand □ be amended by striking out everything after the word "final" in said section, and inserting instead thereof, the following: "He shall visit the subordinate □ at least once in each year and communicate the proper and uniform mode of work. And for his services shall be paid by the Grand □ upon presentation of his bill for the same; *Provided* it shall not amount to more than one hundred dollars per annum, and mileage at the rate of five cents per mile traveled.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRANK WELCH, }
JOHN REED, } Committee.
N. R. WILCOX, }

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the resolution unanimously adopted.

Brother Jordan, from committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee have examined the By-Laws of Covert , No. 11, and find them correct, with the exception of the following in Section 5 of Chapter I., which they recommend to be stricken out, to-wit: "unless the shall at a regular meeting authorize a meeting to be called for that purpose."

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the recommendation adopted.

Brother Jordan, from same committee, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee have examined the By-Laws of Nebraska City , No. 12, and find them correct, with the exception of Articles 4 and 7. The former does not appear to require a petition to be presented at a stated meeting. They therefore recommend the addition of the following, after the word "lodge," in the third line—"at its stated meeting." And in Article 7, Sec. 12, add at the end of the section the words, "when approved by the Grand .

Your committee offer the following, and recommend its adoption :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Covert , No. 11, and Nebraska City , No. 12, be approved, subject to the corrections recommended by the committee.

Respectfully submitted

R. C. JORDAN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the resolution adopted.

Brother Armstrong, from committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred certain portions of the Grand Master's address, as recommended in parts 2, 3 and 7, of the report of the committee on Grand Master's Address, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee respectfully report, that, in their opinion, the subjects referred to them require no action on the part of the Grand . Our Laws, Rules

and Regulations, and the well-known landmarks of the order, being sufficiently explicit.

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, } Committee.
D. H. WHEELER, }

The report of the committee was adopted.

The Grand Secretary submitted the following account :

R. W. GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.

J. N. WISE, Grand Secretary, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska,		Dr.
1866.		
Aug. 18.	To amount of dues received of Columbus \square , No. 8.....	\$ 17 00
" 24.	" " " " Monitor \square , U. D.....	105 60
Oct. 17.	" " Cash received of Grand Treasurer.....	194 00
	Total.....	\$316 60
	Cr.	
Aug. 18.	By draft sent Grand Treasurer on account of Columbus \square , No. 8, \$ 16 75 amount of exchange on same.....	25
" 24.	" " cert. deposit on account of Monitor \square , U. D.....	105 60
Oct. 17.	Cash paid Mills & Co. for printing Grand \square proceedings.....	194 00
		\$316 60

Also the following account :

The M. W. Grand \square of Nebraska, in account with J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary,		Dr.
To amount paid for postage during the year.....		\$17 51
" "	Envelopes.....	60
" " "	Cash paid for printing Grand \square circulars.....	6 00
" " "	" " " " express charges on manuscripts to Des Moines.....	1 00
" " "	" " " " " " on printed proceedings from Des Moines,	8 50
" " "	" " " " " " hauling box of books from Bellevue.....	2 50
" " "	" " " " " " printing blank \square returns.....	6 00
" " "	" " " " " " stationery.....	2 90
" "	Salary of Grand Secretary.....	50 00
	Total.....	\$94 91

R. W. T. W. Bedford, Grand Treasurer, submitted the following account :

R. W. GRAND TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

T. W. BEDFORD, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand \square of Nebraska,		Dr.
1866.		
June 23-	To amount received from W. E. Harvey, late Grand Treasurer.....	\$991 82
" "	" " donation of J. N. Wise to "Orphans' College Fund,".....	10 00
" "	" " " " O. H. Irish " " " ".....	15 50
" "	" " " " J. N. H. Patrick " " " ".....	19 00
Aug. 18.	" " received from Grand Sec'y on acc't of Columbus \square , No. 8,	16 75
" 24.	" " " " " " Monitor \square , U. D.....	105 60
1867.		
June 21.	" " " " M. W. Grand Master's dispensation, Peru \square	10 00
" "	" " " " " " Fremont \square ,	10 00
	Total.....	\$1,178 67

1866.		Cr.	
June 28.	By amount of Pay Roll, 1866.....		\$338 00
"	" Paid A. F. & W. E. Harvey.....		144 25
"	" " J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary.....		76 65
"	" " G. H. Hail.....		6 00
"	" " N. S. Harding.....		4 20
July 1.	" Discount on draft from W. E. Harvey.....		57
"	" Paid S. D. Bangs.....		1 10
"	" " J. N. Wise.....		7 50
Oct. 17.	" Forwarded to Grand Sec'y for printing Grand		
	□ proceedings.....		194 00
	" Cash on hand to balance.....		406 40
			<hr/> \$1,178 67

All of the above accounts were referred to the committee on Accounts :

The hour having arrived for the election of officers, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Allen, Brown and Bratton to act as tellers, and the Grand □ proceeded to the election, which resulted as follows :

- O. H. IRISH, of Nebraska City, M. W. Grand Master.
- E. H. CLARK, of Fort Calhoun, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
- WM. E. HILL, of Nebraska City, R. W. Grand Senior Warden.
- FRANK WELCH, of Decatur, R. W. Grand Junior Warden.
- T. W. BEDFORD, R. W. of Brownville, Grand Treasurer.
- J. N. WISE, of Plattsmouth, R. W. Grand Secretary.

On motion of Brother Irish, the report of the committee on "Orphans' School" was taken up. The subject was discussed at considerable length, both pro and con., when on motion, the report of the committee was concurred in, and the resolutions adopted.

The committee on Accounts submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your committee to whom was referred the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report them correct, and recommend the allowance of the Grand Secretary's bill, and that he be authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR,
J. A. GOODLETT, } Committee.
JACOB VALLERY, }

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the recommendation adopted.

The committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following

The M. : W. : the Grand □ was called to refreshment till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

—◆◆—
THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, June 21, 1867.

The Grand □ was called to labor at 8 A. M., Grand Master Furnas in the East, officers and members as before.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Brother Welch from committee on Ways and Means submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution inquiring into the expediency of reducing the dues required of subordinate □, having had the same under consideration, respectfully represent, that they find the Grand □ will have a large surplus of funds on hand after paying the current expenses of this session, the balance on hand being sufficient to pay the probable expenses of the next masonic year; and believing that a reduction in the Grand □ dues would be both wise and proper, respectfully offer the following resolution, and recommend its unanimous adoption:

Resolved, That Section XIX. of the By-Laws of this Grand □ be amended by striking out the words "three dollars" in the third line, and inserting instead, the words "one dollar and fifty cents"; and by striking out the words "one dollar" in the fourth line and inserting instead, the words "fifty cents," so that the section, as amended, shall read as follows: Every subordinate □ shall pay annually to the Grand □, at the stated communications thereof, the following Grand □ dues, to-wit: For each initiation the sum of one dollar and fifty cents, and for each member the sum of fifty cents, but no Grand □ dues shall be required for any member for whom an initiation fee is paid during the same year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRANK WELCH, }
JOHN REED, } Committee.
N. R. WILCOX, }

The report of committee was concurred in, and the resolution unanimously adopted.

Brother Adair, from the committee on Accounts, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the accounts of the M. : W. : Grand Master, beg leave to report them correct, and recommend the allowance of ac-

count No. 2, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. ADAIR,
JACOB VALLERY, } Committee.
J. A. GOODLETT, }

The report was adopted.

Brother Hewitt, from select committee, recommended in paragraph 6 of the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred that certain portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the Grand Representative system, beg leave to report in favor of adopting the suggestions of the Grand Master upon that subject, and therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That the M. . W. . Grand Master be and he is hereby authorized to appoint suitable brethren as resident representatives of the Grand of Nebraska, to the several Grand in the United States and Canada, in accordance with the custom adopted by other Grand Bodies, and to request sister Grand to appoint resident representatives to this Grand .

Respectfully submitted.

O. B. HEWITT,
E. H. CLARK,
G. W. BRATTON, } Committee.
W. R. CAIN,
S. W. HAYS. }

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the resolution adopted.

Brother Armstrong offered the following :

Resolved, That number XV. of the "Rules and Regulations of the Grand of Nebraska, for the government of subordinate , be amended by striking out the words "with the unanimous recommendation thereof," and inserting instead, the words "the applicant resides nearer the he desires to join than to that in the county in which he lives."

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Brother Foglesong, from the select committee recommended in paragraph 4 of report of the committee on the Grand Master's address, submitted the following

REPORT.

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

Your committee to whom was referred that certain portion of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address, relating to the suffering and distressed condition of our brethren in the Southern States, beg leave to report, that, as members of the

Grand \square of Nebraska, we deeply and sincerely sympathize with them in their distress and affliction; and we most devoutly hope and pray that our Great Grand Master above—the giver of every good and perfect gift—will bestow upon our brethren (who are bound to us by an indissoluble chain of affection) the comforts of plenty, with all the happiness enjoyed by them in former years.

And we would recommend that this Grand \square donate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars for the relief of the needy and destitute of our order in the State of Georgia; and that our Grand Secretary be instructed to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for the amount, and forward the same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand \square of that jurisdiction, to be by him distributed according to the necessities of the brethren thereof.

Your committee further recommend that each subordinate \square under the jurisdiction of this Grand \square , be requested, at their regular meeting in July, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to call upon the members and brethren to contribute as liberally as they can for the relief of our distressed brethren. And that all moneys so raised be sent to a committee of three members of this Grand \square , residing at Nebraska City, and to be by them distributed among different \square s of the South.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. ARMSTRONG,	} Committee.
O. H. IRISH,	
G. D. FOGLESONG,	
J. Q. GOSS,	
FRANK WELCH,	

The report of the committee was concurred in, and the recommendations adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers E. J. Senseny, J. A. Goodlett, and T. C. Crenshaw to constitute the committee recommended in the foregoing report.

M. W. O. H. Irish, Grand Master elect, then announced the appointment of following officers for the ensuing masonic year :

- Brother Rev. GEO. R. DAVIS, of Brownville, R. W. Grand Chaplain.
- " GAYLORD J. CLARK, of Plattsmouth, R. W. Grand Orator.
- " BYRON REED, of Omaha, R. W. Grand Lecturer.
- " WM. ADAIR, of Dakota, W. Grand Senior Deacon.
- " GEO. W. BRATTON, of Brownville, W. Grand Junior Deacon.
- " C. T. WHITMORE, of Omaha, W. Grand Pursuivant.
- " C. T. CRENSHAW, of Nebraska City, W. Grand Pursuivant.
- " GEO. D. FOGLESONG, of Nebraska City, W. Grand Marshal.
- " WM. H. MANN, of Falls City, W. Grand Standard Bearer.
- " WM. R. CAIN, of Rulo, W. Grand Sword Bearer.
- " S. W. HAYS, Fremont, W. Grand Steward.
- " G. S. GIBSON, of Omaha, W. Grand Steward.
- " GEO. A. OLIVER, of Bellevue, W. Grand Tyler.

The hour of half-past ten o'clock having arrived, the M. W. the Grand \square was called to refreshment for the purpose of listen-

ing to the Oration, installing the officers elect of the Grand □, and partaking of the refreshments provided for the members of the Grand □ by the brethren of Capital □, No. 3, and Covert □, No. 11; and was formed in procession by the direction of the Grand Marshal, and proceeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church on Thirteenth street, where the Grand Orator, Brother J. Q. Goss, delivered the following

ORATION.

M. W. Grand Master, Fellow Craftsmen, Ladies and Gentlemen :

In standing before this vast audience, composed of many whom we, in masonic language, term "profane," of the representatives of the fraternity of this State, and I have no doubt, of many others—skillful craftsmen—representing the fraternity at large, but not members of this Grand Body, I feel that the duty assigned me, is one of no ordinary magnitude; and, were it not that I have been schooled in the masonic lesson of obedience, my feelings would have prompted me to have declined the honor of being your orator on this occasion.

I shall not, at this time, urge upon you the necessity of becoming masons, or ask you to unite yourselves with the fraternity, for this the regulations and spirit of masonry forbid; but in obedience to the commands of the Grand □, and in accordance with a custom of our order, on occasions like the present, I stand here to address you upon the principles, the aims and object of our institution.

So much has been said and written about the antiquity of masonry that no one, not impervious to the charge of being a mere "copyist," would attempt, on such an occasion as this, or indeed at any other time, to trace the masonic institution through all its periods of prosperity and adversity, from its inception to the present time. In relation to the date of its origin, permit me to say, that it is so far back in the remote ages of the past, that the precise time cannot be determined. This is sufficient proof, if proof be necessary, that masonry is not of modern origin, that it has passed through its periods of prosperity and adversity, and it stands before you to-day with the traces of age upon its brow, yet marked with none of those signs and evidences of decay which age generally produces.

I shall not then on this occasion, delve into the subterranean caverns of the dead past, and, from amid the rubbish and ruins of antiquity, exhume musty records, and from their time-stained pages decipher those mystic characters and letters which tell of the mysteries of the Gymnosophists of India, of the Persian Rite of Mithras, the Egyptian of Osiris and Isis, the Eleusis of Greece, or of the Scandinavian and Druidical Rites. of the Gothic and Celtic tribes, and adduce these as proofs of the antiquity of masonry, for, however much we may search those vaults of antiquity, translate the dusty records of dead centuries, and decorate and beautify the walls of our masonic temple with the fragrant garlands of poesy, or with traditions and legends of the days of yore, it will avail us nothing, unless we know what masonry *is*, and what are its principles and teachings.

In leaving those empyrean heights, intended only for the flights of genius, and contenting myself with traveling in more practical paths, and an examination of

the vital, living present of masonry,—that in which we live and move, and with which we have to do,—I ask your indulgence for the brief time allotted me on this occasion.

Masonry is founded in the very wants of the nature of man. When the human emerged from the hand of the Divine Being, there was implanted within him a desire for society and for social intercourse. The declaration of God, that "it is not good for man to be alone," applies as well to every individual and to all classes of society, as it did to Adam in the garden. Through the ages that have rolled into eternity since God created man, and looked upon every thing that he had made, and pronounced it "very good," down to the present, this longing for social intercourse has maintained its position in the human breast and inspired man with noble aspirations and desires to elevate himself and his fellow man in the scale of moral and social being. It is true that there are some who have none of those Heaven-born aspirations and longings within their bosoms, who are content to grovel in ignorance, and who seek not their own good or the welfare of their race. Such as these can never become masons. It was but the beatings of the pulsations of our common humanity that laid the corner stone of the masonic temple, that has placed block upon block in the walls of this stupendous edifice, and that will continue to infuse life and energy into the hearts of those who bow at its altars, until the temple shall be completed in all its parts—the keystone having been placed in its proper position—a monument to the wisdom of its founders and builders,—its pillars being strong and enduring, and "beauty" being inscribed thereon in indelible characters.

Man should not live for himself alone, for he is a member of one great family or brotherhood, each member of which derives its support and assistance from the whole, and is therefore a dependent being. This dependence of the parts is true of all created matter, and is beautifully exemplified in all the works of the Sovereign Architect of the Universe, as proclaimed in the dignity, peace and harmony of nature. The animal world breathes out gasses for the vegetable kingdom, and it in turn exhales or stores up those elements that are essential to animal health and vigor. Every mountain slope supports its own herbage, and from the gentle rains which fall from Heaven to moisten their surface, the little rill is formed, which flows into the vale below and feeds the herbage there,—thence it flows onward and still on, until it reaches the boundless ocean, whose waves wash every shore, and upon whose bosom is carried the commerce of the world. The warm gulf stream that flows from the sunny regions of the equator to near the polar coasts, soften the winds of that arctic region; the poles, in return, send forth their vast array of icebergs, which, floating onward, at length reach the torrid zone, and there serve to temper the fierce tropical heat. Thus we find that, by the harmonies of creation, selfishness is condemned, and that from the interwoven service of nature each department gives and receives a corresponding benefit.

This harmony of nature is produced by the organization and order which over all prevails. The idea of organization is in fact connected with that of order. This is true of societies as well as in nature; and the more perfect the organization, the greater the harmony. It makes no difference how discordant the elements of which a society is composed; if there is perfect organization, entire

harmony exists therein. This is beautifully illustrated in masonry; within our may be found men of every shade of opinion, political and religious; yet, notwithstanding those differences, peace and tranquility abound; and while assembled in the room, at least, "brethren dwell together in unity." There is a reciprocity of brotherly kindness, which springs up in the hearts of those who in deed and in truth are masons, that time can not obliterate, and that circumstance can never change. This has been fully exemplified during the strife from which our country has just emerged. When hostile armies met in deadly conflict—when the fiercest passions of hate and revenge were aroused—when the clashing of arms and the booming of the cannon were heard—when the shrieks of the wounded and dying saluted the ear on every hand—above all these, masonry asserted her sway—the mystic sign was not unheeded. It checked those unholy passions of strife, envy, hatred and discord, which, but a few moments previous, had crushed out all the ennobling qualities of the man, and re-kindled within the bosoms of those hostile combatants, those feelings of brotherly love and affection which masonry inculcates.

We do not claim for masonry that it is of Divine origin. It is an institution founded by man, upon those divine principles which underlie all that is truly noble and good in humanity. Its object is to educate man, and to develop him to the fullest extent in all those faculties of his nature that tend to harmonize the human family and to elevate mankind to the highest attainable condition, to which it is possible for human agencies and institutions to raise him. Its teachings are pure and holy, designed to fill the soul of the initiate with higher conceptions of those duties which every man owes to himself, to his fellow man, and to his God. He is taught that to himself he owes the sacred duty of refraining from all those indulgences which tend to impair his faculties and degrade his being; to be temperate in all his desires, and chaste in all his actions, and to place such a restraint upon all his affections and passions as shall most effectually free his mind from the allurements of vice.

To his fellow man he is taught to act upon the principles of brotherly love. From the time when he first crosses the threshold of the masonic temple, through all the forms and ceremonies of the three degrees, until he becomes a full brother among us, and as long as he continues to worship at the masonic altar, he is constantly reminded that it is his duty to practice brotherly love, relief and truth. Love to his fellow man, and especially to the brotherhood, is strongly inculcated; and he is taught that the unity and harmony that pervades the Universe, should form conspicuous elements in the human character. To the individual who has been fully prepared at heart to become a mason, how beautifully sublime must fall upon his ear the exhortation to "behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." He learns that

"There is a calm in friendship's hour,
 There is a spell when hearts unite,
 There is a magic in that power,
 That leads to better worlds of light—
 That cheers the soul with heavenly ray,
 And tells about a peaceful home,
 And, 'mid the gloom of sorrow's day,
 Says softly, 'brighter hours will come.'"

This unity constitutes the secret of the permanence of our order. At our communications, all those subjects which tend to produce discord and contention are strictly forbidden. Political partizanship is forever debarred, and cannot enter within our walls. In this respect, masonry is indeed peculiar. The founders of the institution, and those who built upon the foundations so skillfully laid, have ever solemnly declared that this prolific source of bickering and strife should never enter within her doors. How truly good and pleasant, then, is it, when the heart has become careworn and chilled by the beating of pitiless storms of adversity, to enter there, where "kindred hearts in fond embrace doth meet." When the angry waves of the troubled ocean of political contests, have tossed us about, and almost made shipwreck all the faith, hope and clarity that once existed within our breasts; when fierce prejudices and passions have been engendered, how good and how pleasant to enter the \square room, where this fruitful source of jarring discord cannot enter, and where heavenly peace is a welcome and delightful guest.

In religious matters also, Freemasonry holds itself aloof from any and all attempts to control the opinions of its members. It is true, that we recognize the existence of Church and of State; but we also recognize to its fullest extent, the fact, that were we to go farther than this, were we to point out the party to which those who become associated with us should belong, were we to lay down the principles or tenets of a religious faith and practice to be observed and believed by all, we should endanger the very existence of our order. In religion, therefore, where religious denominations *begin* to construct their systems of faith, masonry halts. Here her path lies in a different direction from theirs. Denominations, or religious sects, adopt a theology peculiar to the views of their founders, and to these views their devotees must subscribe; while masonry demands from its disciples a recognition of a simple and primitive faith in Deity, an acknowledgment of, and a pure simple trust in Him as the author and giver of all good—those principles in which all men who are not atheists agree—leaving it to their own consciences as to their application of this faith to their daily walk and conversation; thus reserving to itself the sacred mission of propagating the principles and true ideas of a brotherhood of man as extended as humanity itself, and of uniting in the bonds of friendship and love those who otherwise must have remained at variance, and possibly at enmity with each other. In the \square room, then, we may truly say that

Earth's distinctions vanish here;
 We know no race, nor sect, nor clan,
 Only the brother tired and dear;
 Only the mason and the man.

Hail, holy, happy brotherhood!
 Truth, love and friendship bind in one
 Hearts that are true, sincere and good,
 By thy refining influence won.

There are certain prominent points of masonic duty, of which no mason can be ignorant, although he may not be acquainted with all the minutæ and ceremonies of the order. The peculiar traditions and doctrines which are included in the lectures may, by him, have been unexplored; but the principles of

Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth—of Faith, Hope and Charity—have all been inscribed upon his tracing-board in such bright, indelible characters that he cannot be uninformed as to his duties in relation thereto.

The true mason is continually seeking opportunities for the exercise of those virtues of which I have just spoken, and which have formed so prominent a part in his masonic education. He knows his duties, and knowing, seeks to reduce them to practice; for with him masonry is a living *reality* and not *theory* alone. It is in the practice of those virtues that he delights, for he has learned that in doing good there is much joy. Is a brother afflicted and distressed, his hand is ever ready to aid and assist him, and to relieve his wants and necessities. The blessed influences of brotherly love and charity—twin daughters of Heaven—prompt him to those noble deeds of benevolence which give joy and gladness to many a weary, sad and sorrowing heart.

Masonic charity is not limited to simple gifts and contributions of money or other tangible material of worldly goods, although these, when necessary, are right and proper, and are included within the term charity. The being who is compelled, by the force of adverse circumstances, to beg from door to door, feels grateful for a crust of bread or other food with which to appease the cravings of hunger. Thanks are uttered for a pair of shoes to protect the feet, or a coat to shield the body from the chilling blasts of winter. He calls these acts charity, because they alleviate his bodily sufferings and provide for him the necessaries of physical life. True charity, however, extends beyond these, to *all* the wants of the great brotherhood of mankind. Have the cold and pitiless storms of a selfish, unfeeling world beat upon the heart, charity throws around it her broad mantle of brotherly love and affection, which warms and infuses into its whole being new life and animation, and as the genial showers and summer sun cause the face of nature to smile and look glad, so the drops of genial affection and the rays of brotherly love, beaming from the benign countenance of one whose heart is prompted by the honest impulses of genuine charity, cause the soul of the recipient thereof to overflow with gratitude and joy. Is a brother led astray by the erring propensities of his nature, this charity prompts the true mason to gently remind him of his faults, to whisper good counsels in his ear, and to aid and assist him in all his efforts at reformation. She bends over the poor fallen brother, and with her broad mantle hides from the inquiring and condemning gaze of the world the self-inflicted shame and degradation, and at the first dawn of returning reason, she lifts him again to his feet, and by the gentle allurements of affection, endeavors to lead him back to the paths of rectitude and self-respect. She enters the house of mourning, and there, unto the saddened heart that has been bereft of some loved one by the cruel hand of death, she presents the cup of sympathy and affection, and pours the oil of consolation into its bleeding wounds.

This is the charity which envieth not another and which puffeth not itself, which is kind and forbearing, full of long-suffering, and goodness, and truth; and this charity every mason should practice.

It is to be feared, however, that there are some who become members of the fraternity for the benefit they expect to derive from it, rather than from a desire to confer blessings and benefits on others. They are advocates of brotherly

love, when that love is to flow from another's breast towards them, but which kindles within their own hearts no sympathetic spark of love and affection. They believe it to be a duty to relieve the distressed, and who more distressed than they? They hope that great good will enure to them from their association with masons, and above all they believe that charity is the greatest of the christian graces, and they have also learned that "charity begins at home." Such men have no sentiment in common with the teachings and spirit of masonry. Within their breasts there pulsates no emotion of pure love. They live for themselves, and for themselves alone; and their hearts, if any they have, are like the glaciers of the Alps and the icebergs of the arctic seas. I thank God that but few such ever darken the doorway into the masonic temple; and those few soon find that the \square is no place for them, and they soon cease to frequent our assemblies, for the heartfelt greetings and fraternal communion there enjoyed are but torments to their uncongenial natures.

Faith, Hope and Charity are so interwoven that they cannot be separated. They are stars which give light and luster to the mason's pathway here, urging him onward to the exercise of the noble principles of the order to which he belongs. Faith lends to him her seraphic wings, whereby he soars above the transitory things of earth, and beholds the Great Architect of the Universe, and learns to adore Him as the chief good; while Hope points him to a home beyond the tomb. He has "faith in God, hope in immortality," and these engender within his bosom "charity toward all mankind." These stars shine with brighter lustre, as he becomes more and more in harmony with the teachings of masonry. The poet has sung :

There are three stars of lustre bright,
Which cheer the mason's conflict here;
And cast their pure and holy light
Across life's billows dark and drear.

The star of Faith, when doubts arise,
And veil the troubled heart in gloom,
Points to bright realms beyond the skies,
And lasting joys beyond the tomb.

When o'er life's ocean, rude and wild,
Our fragile barks are madly driven,
The star of Hope, with radiance mild,
Points to a harbor safe in heaven.

When reckless of a brother's tears,
Down pleasure's slippery track we go,
The star of Charity appears,
And points us to that brother's woe.

Oh! brethren of the mystic tie,
Pure light upon our path will shine,
If on these stars we fix our eye—
"Faith, Hope and Charity divine."

Masonry is a permanent institution. Its existence dates far back into the annals of the past; and although empires and kingdoms have been overthrown, and changes and revolutions have taken place in governments and in society, since it first had a being, yet masonry still lives, having withstood the ravages of

time, the shafts of persecution, through periods of prosperity and adversity; and to-day occupies a prominent position on the earth—yea, it has to-day a living, vital existence, and will continue to exist as long as time shall be. It stands forth to the world as a tried institution. She has been weighed in the balances, and "Tekel" has not been written against her.

Notwithstanding the ancient origin that masonry can boast, the permanent character that she sustains, and the moral influence of her teachings, she has, in all ages, been assailed by her enemies, and the shafts of persecution have been hurled against her—yet without effect. We may congratulate ourselves, however, that organized opposition has long since ceased; yet there are still some who bring objections against the order. These objections have been met and answered from time to time, until they have become stale; and, to masons, it seems almost a waste of time to consider them. There are one or two, however, that I will at the present time briefly consider, coming, as they do, from a source that deserves some attention, and also to combat any idea that may be entertained of their truth. Some of our clerical friends (?) have, not long since, asserted that "masonry teaches infidelity." We, who belong to the fraternity, know full well that this charge is utterly unfounded; but coming, as it does, from those who profess to be ministers of the gospel of Christ, and who consider it to be their duty to warn mankind against all attempts to overthrow the influence of the christian religion—and in this work we bid them God speed—some might be induced to believe the charge. Let us first inquire as to the means of knowledge of those who thus testify against us. Are they now, or have they ever been, masons? If not, they know nothing about masonry, except so much as they can derive from sources that are open to all who do not belong to the institution. All others, then, have as good an opportunity of judging as they. Read, then, our masonic literature—our Monitors—which give all that is connected with the ceremonies of masonry, that instructs the candidate as to the principles of the order. View the class of men who are masons; look at them as they appear before you to-day; and tell me if they are not men who rank as high in community as those even who oppose us. Some of our members are even ministers of that same gospel of peace. Examine these things carefully, and you can readily determine whether the charge of "infidelity" is well founded. Masonry challenges your scrutiny in this, as well as in everything or objection that is urged against her.

There are others who bring wholesale charges against masonry, because some of its members violate its teachings. Is one mason intemperate in his habits, then masonry teaches and encourages drunkenness. Does one member swear, then masonry teaches profanity. And thus, from the misdeeds of its members masonry is brought into disrepute, and its enemies exultantly exclaim: "I would not belong to an order that teaches or allows such practices as these."

Stop one moment, my friend, and see what would be the result of your reasoning. Are you a member of some one of the christian denominations? Do all who profess religion, or who belong to any of those denominations, live in accordance with the doctrines of christianity? If not, then you must denounce christianity, sever the ties which bind you to the sect to which you belong, and come out from among them.

Again: God created man pure and holy. He has laid down his laws for the government of the human race. He says that "no drunkard shall enter the kingdom of Heaven." He has commanded us to "swear not at all," thus forbidding intemperance and profanity; yet men in society and in the world, yea even outside the masonic ranks, become drunkards and are profane, thus violating the laws of the Creator, and committing those very vices that thou condemnest in masonry. Go then, thou objector against masonry on account of the misconduct of some of its members, and find upon this wide world some place—some lovely spot—where these vices do not exist, and there, perchance, thou mayest dwell in peace, with no compunctions of conscience on account of being associated with those who are contaminated with those vices. If thou canst not find so blest a spot upon this earth, let thy body take to itself wings and fly to some more congenial sphere, where sin was never known, for here thou canst not find a resting place, for those vices which thy soul so abhorrest, to a greater or less extent, cover every portion of this fair earth.

In conclusion, Fellow Craftsmen, let me ask you whether we, ourselves, are not to a great extent, the cause of those objections against our beloved order? And here, at the close of this session of the Grand \square , as we are about returning to our homes to engage in those duties which devolve upon us in our several stations in life, and which we as masons are taught, "that we are on no account to neglect," let us ask ourselves a few plain, practical questions. Do we attend to our duties as masons, as we ought? Do we live up to the principles of the order that we profess to love and cherish? Do we act towards ourselves, our fellow men and our God as masonry has taught us we should? Craftsmen, be it ours to exemplify by our life and conduct, the noble principles of masonry. Let us, in all our actions, make a constant application of those principles, that others, seeing our good works, may be constrained to acknowledge the utility of masonry, and that our influence, silent, yet ever working, may draw to the support of our order the good and true of every land. Take lovely charity by the hand; do whatsoever she commands, and sweet peace will dwell within your faithful breasts. The widow's tears will engrave in indelible characters the benefits of masonry. The mother's heaving breast—the infant's cries—the orphan's thanks shall answer all objections against the masonic institution. Learn then, my brethren, the art of doing good, of producing peace amidst the jarring elements of disturbed nations—of producing order out of chaos, and harmony out of discord. Learn to handle well the tools of masonry—especially the "trowel," and with it spread well that cement of brotherly love and affection which produces no discord nor envy, but instead thereof, that "noble emulation of who best can work and who best agree." Then, when the dim lamp of life is expiring, when we are about to close our labors in the \square below, to join the celestial \square above, where the "Supreme Architect of the Universe presides," we shall feel conscious of having well performed our work,—of having done good, square work; and we shall feel happy, knowing that we are in possession of the passwords which will gain us admission into that \square of the just, the true and the good, being "duly and truly prepared" to become associated with those true craftsmen who have gone before.

If from our throbbing hearts shall flow
 Pure streams of friendship, truth and love,
 When we "dimit" from the Lodge below,
 Brothers, we'll join the Lodge above.

After the oration the officers were duly installed.

The Grand Marshal again formed the Grand □ in procession and proceeded to the Court House, where they partook of a sumptuous repast. After which, the Grand □ was again formed in order and returned to their hall.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The M. . W. : the Grand □ was called to labor at 2 o'clock P. M., M. . W. : O. H. Irish, Grand Master, in the East, and the newly installed officers at their stations.

On motion of Brother Foglesong, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ are due and are hereby tendered to the brethren of Capital □, No. 3, and Covert □, No. 11, for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have received and entertained the members of this Grand □ during its present session; and that we will ever revert with pleasure to the many kind acts which we have received at the hands of our brethren at Omaha City.

On motion of Brother Past Grand Master Furnas, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby authorized to purchase a desk and a set of necessary books for the use of the Grand Secretary's office, and to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer, during the interim, for the necessary amount of funds to pay for the same.

On motion of Brother Past Grand Master Furnas, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ are hereby tendered Brother J. Q. Goss, Grand Orator, for the excellent oration this day delivered before the Grand □, and that a copy thereof be solicited for publication with the proceedings of this session.

On motion of Brother Goss, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ are due and are hereby tendered to M. . W. : Past Grand Master R. W. Furnas, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Grand Body, and for the energy by him displayed in attending to the business of the craft in this jurisdiction during the two years past, in which he has been their M. . W. : Grand Master.

Brother Bedford, from the committee on Pay-Roll, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

To the M. W. the Grand of Nebraska:

Your committee on Pay-Roll respectfully report the following named officers and members of the M. W. the Grand of Nebraska entitled to the sums set opposite their names, respectively, and recommend the payment of the same.

All of which is submitted.

T. W. BEDFORD,
T. C. CRENSHAW,
GEO. Y. WALLACE, } Committee.

PAY-ROLL OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE M. W. THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA A. F. & A. M. FOR THE TENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, HELD AT OMAHA, JUNE 19, A. D. 1867, A. L. 5867.

NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.	Miles.	Mileage.	Per Diem.	Total.	NAME OF LODGE.	No. of <input type="checkbox"/> .	RESIDENCE.	REMARKS.
OFFICERS.								
R. W. Furnas, Grand Master.....	75	\$ 7 50	\$ 4 50	\$ 12 00	.....	.....	Brownville .....	.....
O. H. Irish, Deputy Grand Master.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
Wm. E. Hill, Grand Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
Frank Welch, Grand Junior Warden.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Decatur	Paid as representative.....
T. W. Bedford, Grand Treasurer.....	75	7 50	4 50	12 00	.....	.....	Brownville.....	.....
J. N. Wise, Grand Secretary.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Plattsmouth.....	Paid as representative.....
A. G. White, Grand Chaplain.....	200	20 00	4 50	24 50	.....	.....	Fort Kearney.....	.....
George Armstrong, Grand Lecturer.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Omaha.....	.....
J. Q. Goss, Grand Orator.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Bellevue.....	Paid as representative.....
E. J. Senseny, Grand Marshal.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
G. D. Foglesong, Grand Senior Deacon.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	Paid as representative.....
G. L. Stevenson, Grand Junior Deacon.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	.....	.....	Nebraska City.....	.....
C. T. Whitmore, Grand Tyler.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	.....	.....	Omaha.....	.....
MEMBERS.								
N. R. Wilcox, Worshipful Master.....	10	1 00	4 50	5 50	Nebraska.....	1	Bellevue.....	.....
John Q. Goss, proxy for Senior Warden.....	10	1 00	4 50	5 50	Nebraska.....	1	Bellevue.....	.....
J. A. Goodlett, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	.....
John Reed, Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	.....
W. W. Wardell, proxy for Junior Warden.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Western Star.....	2	Nebraska City.....	.....
E. A. Allen, Worshipful Master.....	.....	.....	4 50	4 50	Capital.....	3	Omaha.....	.....

PAY-ROLL—CONTINUED.

NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.	Miles.	Milango.	Per Diem.	Total.	NAME OF LODGE.	No. of □.	LOCATION OF LODGE.	REMARKS.
MEMBERS—Continued.								
J. N. Rippey, Senior Warden.....			\$ 4 50	\$ 4 50	Capital.....	3	Omaha.....	
M. Dunham, Junior Warden.....			4 50	4 50	Capital.....	3	Omaha.....	
A. P. Cogswell, Worshipful Master.....	\$ 75	\$ 7 50	4 50	12 00	Nemaha Valley.....	4	Brownville.....	
O. B. Hewitt, Senior Warden.....	75	7 50	4 50	12 00	Nemaha Valley.....	4	Brownville.....	
Wm. Adair, Worshipful Master.....	95	9 50	4 50	14 00	Omadi.....	5	Dakota.....	
Jas. Stott, proxy for Senior Warden.....	95	9 50	4 50	14 00	Omadi.....	5	Dakota.....	
Jacob Vallery, proxy for Worshipful Master...	25	2 50	4 50	7 00	Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
J. N. Wise, Senior Warden.....	25	2 50	4 50	7 00	Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
A. B. Smith, proxy for Junior Warden.....	25	2 50	4 50	7 00	Plattsmouth.....	6	Plattsmouth.....	
Frank Welch, Worshipful Master.....	60	6 00	4 50	10 50	Decatur.....	7	Decatur.....	
C. S. Chase, proxy for Senior Warden.....	60	6 00	4 50	10 50	Decatur.....	7	Decatur.....	
David R. Holt, proxy for Worshipful Master...	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	Donated to Orphans' Educa-
W. H. Mann, Senior Warden.....	110	11 00	4 50	15 50	Falls City.....	9	Falls City.....	tional Fund.
E. H. Clark, Worshipful Master.....	15	1 50	4 50	6 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....	
Nathan Carter, Senior Warden.....	15	1 50	4 50	6 00	Solomon.....	10	Fort Calhoun.....	
J. S. Gibson, Senior Warden.....			4 50	4 50	Covert.....	11	Omaha.....	
Geo. Y. Wallace, Junior Warden.....			4 50	4 50	Covert.....	11	Omaha.....	
G. D. Foglesong, Worshipful Master.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
S. L. Gant, Senior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
T. C. Crenshaw, Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Nebraska City.....	12	Nebraska City.....	
W. R. Cain, Worshipful Master.....	100	10 00	4 50	14 50	Orient.....	13	Rulo.....	
G. W. Bratton, Worshipful Master.....	67	6 70	4 50	11 20	Peru.....	14	Peru.....	
J. W. Moore, proxy for Junior Warden.....	50	5 00	4 50	9 50	Peru.....	14	Peru.....	
S. W. Hays, Worshipful Master.....	46	4 60	4 50	9 10	Fremont.....	15	Fremont.....	
Totals.....	\$186 80	\$175 50	\$362 30					

The Grand Secretary submitted the following statement in regard to the late Monitor □, U. D.:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska :

Your Grand Secretary begs leave to state that the Treasurer of the late Monitor □, U. D., having complied with the resolution adopted by this Grand □ at its last session, by paying to the Grand Treasurer the amount due the Grand □, (\$105.60) and returning the assets to the Grand Treasurer, and their dispensation to the Grand Master, he has, in compliance with said resolution, issued certificates to the brethren of said □, who received their degrees therein.

Respectfully submitted.

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary.*

The statement was received.

Grand Secretary Wise, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, stated on behalf of the committee, that owing to business engagements and other unavoidable hindrances, the committee had not been able to complete their labors without omitting in their report a review of the proceedings of a number of sister Grand □, which came to their hands at a very late day; and hence, desiring to present as full and perfect a review as possible, the committee ask that they may have further time, and be permitted to make their report to the Grand Secretary in time for publication with the proceedings.

The request of the committee was granted.

On motion of Brother Past Grand Master Furnas, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand □ are hereby tendered to the ladies of Omaha for the very excellent manner in which the entertainment, given this day, was served, and for their untiring efforts and success in rendering the hour pleasant, and one long to be remembered; and that the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to furnish the Ladies' Association having the affair in charge, an attested copy of this resolution.

Brother Past Grand Grand Master Jordan, from committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand □ of Nebraska:

Your committee to whom was referred certain proposed amendments to the By-Laws of this Grand □, remaining among the unfinished business of the last session, respectfully state:

1st. That the amendments proposed to Article 10 of Section IV., and also to Section XVIII. of the By-Laws, seek to repeal the provisions allowing per diem and mileage to members of this Grand Body. Your committee therefore recommend the rejection of these propositions.

2d. The proposed amendments of the twelfth paragraph of the "Rules and Regulations," in words following:

"XII. No shall initiate into the mysteries of the craft any person whomsoever, without first being satisfied by a test or otherwise, that such candidate has not made application to some other and been rejected; and if it shall appear that he has been so rejected, then the must be satisfactorily convinced that the objection to his initiation has been withdrawn, and the unanimous consent of the rejecting him must be obtained before he can be initiated," your committee recommend the adoption of.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. C. JORDAN,)
GEO. ARMSTRONG,) Committee.
D. H. WHEELER,)

The report and recommendations of the committee were adopted.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' SCHOOL.

Brother O. H. IRISH, Grand Master, Chairman.

- " N. R. WILCOX, Nebraska , No. 1.
- " J. A. GOODLETT, Western Star , No. 2.
- " R. C. JORDAN, Capital , No. 3.
- " O. B. HEWITT, Nemaha Valley , No. 4.
- " JAS. STOTT, Omadi , No. 5.
- " J. N. WISE, Plattsmouth , No. 6.
- " JAMES ASHLEY, Decatur , No. 7.
- " WM. H. MANN, Falls City , No. 9.
- " J. P. ANDREWS, Solomon , No. 10.
- " C. F. CATLIN, Covert , No. 11.
- " S. R. GANT, Nebraska City, No. 12.
- " J. V. HOLLEBAUGH, Orient , No. 13.
- " S. P. MAJORS, Peru , No. 14.
- " E. H. ROGERS, Fremont , No. 15.

On motion of Past Grand Master Furnas, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to notify Columbus , No. 8, that unless said is reported at the next session of this Grand , and its dues paid, or some good and satisfactory reason given why it has not done so, its charter will be declared forfeited.

On motion of Brother Foglesong, it was

Resolved, That M. . W. . Grand Master Irish, Past Grand Master Furnas, and R. . W. . Grand Secretary Wise, be and they are hereby appointed a committee to procure a standard for the use of this Grand , and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to draw his warrant on the Grand Treasurer for sufficient funds to pay for the same.

On motion of Brother Past Grand Master Jordan, it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Grand ☐ be included in the printing of the whole of the proceedings of the Grand ☐ from 1857, and that, in addition to the number ordered by resolution of the last session, one hundred copies be printed for circulation among the sister Grand ☐ and the subordinate ☐ of this jurisdiction.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Past Grand Masters Furnas, Armstrong and Wheeler, trustees of the Orphans' Educational Fund.

There being no further business the M. W. the Grand ☐ of Nebraska closed in ample form, peace and harmony prevailing.

O. H. IRISH, *Grand Master*.

Attest:

J. N. WISE, *Grand Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Nebraska :

Your committee have received the proceedings of the following Grand , from the hands of your R. W. Grand Secretary :

Alabama,	for 1866.	Lousiana,	for 1867.	North Carolina,	for 1866.
Arkansas,	" "	Maine,	" 1866.	Ohio	" "
California,	" "	Maryland,	" "	Oregon,	" 1860.
Canada,	" "	Massachusetts,	" 1865.	Pennsylvania,	" 1866.
Colorado,	" "	Michigan,	" 1867.	Rhode Island,	" "
Connecticut,	" "	Minnesota,	" 1866.	South Carolina,	" "
Delaware,	" "	Mississippi,	" 1867.	Tennessee,	" "
Dist. Columbia	" "	Missouri,	" 1866.	Texas,	" "
Georgia,	" "	Montana,	" "	Vermont,	" "
Illinois,	" "	Nevada,	" "	Virginia,	" "
Indiana,	" "	N. Hampshire,	" 1865.	Washington,	" "
Iowa,	" "	New Jersey,	" 1867.	W. Virginia,	1865-66-67.
Kansas,	" "	New York,	" 1866.	Wisconsin,	for 1866.
Kentucky,	" "				
France,	for 1866 and 1867.			Ireland,	for 1865 and 1866.

We find in these Grand papers a vast fund of useful information, from which we have endeavored to cull such matters as would be of interest to the craft in this jurisdiction; and it is a source of profound regret to your committee, that the space to which our report should—under existing circumstances—be confined, precludes the reproduction of a vast amount of information, which appears in these sundry documents. We are sorry that every brother cannot have the privilege of perusing these valuable records.

The first of these welcome visitors is

ALABAMA, 1866.

M. W. WILSON WILLIAMS, Grand Master.

The Grand held its 46th Annual Communication, December 3d, with representatives from 179 subordinate .

The address of the Grand Master is devoted, in the main, to reporting decisions made by him during recess, and from the number and variety of the cases

demanding legislation, he evinces singular ability for his high station, and an excellent knowledge of the principles of masonic law.

We are glad to notice that the resolution of the Grand , by which it declined to recognize representatives appointed by other Grand , and to appoint representatives near other Grand , was repealed on motion of the Grand Secretary. Fraternal intercourse, in our opinion, ought to be encouraged, not only between subordinate , but Grand Bodies. Jurisdictional lines, we think, should be no barrier to the interchange of those courtesies so peculiar to the brotherhood.

Worshipful William C. Penick was made the recipient of a Past Grand Master's jewel, and replied to the presentation speech in most touching language—feelingly alluding to his great age and vanished hopes—the late war having stripped him of almost all worldly possessions.

Brother Penick, as chairman of committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented quite a lengthy report, in which our Grand is noticed, and the oration of R. W. O. H. Irish, complimented.

The order seems to be flourishing, notwithstanding the many and severe losses the subordinate have sustained. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary, and indeed most of the Grand Officers, were re-elected.

ARKANSAS, 1866.

M. W. E. H. ENGLISH, Grand Master.

This Grand held its 34th Annual Communication November 5th, at Little Rock. Upon a call of the roll 108 subordinate responded, by their representatives.

The address of the Grand Master is characterized by ability, and also by a very deep feeling in reference to the condition of many of the rooms which "had been consumed by flames kindled by the war." During the year preceding this Annual Communication, were rebuilt and refurnished; charters duplicated, and many new established.

In reference to the question as to whether or not a brother who is under charges of unmasonic conduct, at the time of his death, should be buried with masonic honors, and as to whether or not the usual resolutions of tribute to his memory should be passed, it is decided that the question "depends upon the nature of the charges, and the *prima facie* indications of their being well founded," and that, "if the charge is for a grave offense, and apparently well grounded, the funeral honors and publication of resolutions should be withheld." We seriously question the soundness of this decision, and hold that in masonry, as well as in law, it is right and proper to consider one innocent until his guilt is proved. On this point we refer the committee to the decision of Grand Master Swigert of Kentucky, in 1858. In the case of a member who denounced the Worshipful Master as a "liar and rascal," the member admitted that he used the denunciatory language, and offered to prove the truth of the denunciations in justification. It was held, that although he believed that his charges were true, nevertheless, it was unmasonic to denounce him, such course tending to provoke strife. With this decision, we most heartily agree.

The death of Brother Thomas D. Merrick, for many years Grand Secretary,

was feelingly alluded to in the address of the M. · W. · Grand Master, and was the subject of fitting action by the Grand □.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is pleasantly written, and contains much of interest. Reference is made to the rule laid down by the Grand □ of Alabama in 1848: "That a subordinate □ under the jurisdiction of this Grand □, cannot reinstate a mason to membership who has been suspended or expelled by another jurisdiction, without first obtaining the consent of that jurisdiction; and the committee in their report seem to think, with Grand Master Penick of Alabama, that in certain cases this has worked great hardship. The committee would do well, in our opinion, to remember that the rule laid down by the Grand □ of Alabama is but a reaffirmation of a general masonic law.

Brother E. H. English was re-elected Grand Master, and Brother Wm. D. Blocher was elected Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1866.

M. · W. · GILBERT B. CLAIBORNE, Grand Master.

This Grand □ held its 17th Annual Communication in San Francisco, October 13th. Representatives present from 122 chartered □□.

Grand Master Claiborne read his annual address, which we wish we could reproduce in these pages. A few paragraphs of this eloquent speech, only, can we give space to. He says:

I believe, from the best information received, that the general condition of our society is one of eminent prosperity. The numerous instances of recent record by which the sincerity of our professions have been tested and nobly illustrated, have done much to strengthen the bond which ever unites us; and hands, lately raised in wrath, have joined around our common altars, sinking the past in oblivion. The Grand □□ have just reason for conscious pride in the wisdom of their action during their perilous day and generation, and may rightfully expect that those who shall succeed us will remember how earnestly and faithfully they strove to preserve, unspotted and unblemished, the integrity of the ancient charges which they were commissioned to guard. Freemasonry in America has for a second time borne itself bravely and purely through the perils of storm, and when the night which seemed to close around our horizon looked darkest, and the tempest of passion howled fiercest, its hopeful votaries gathered closest around its altars."

To the all-important question of voting, he claims the notice of the Grand □ in these timely words:

"Permit me to direct your attention and that of the craft generally, to another subject of importance; not, however, for the purpose of provoking legislation, as the local and general law is sufficiently explicit when properly studied. I refer to applications by the □□ for dispensations to permit them to receive and act upon the petitions of rejected applicants. I have received some such documents in which it was evident that the statement of facts alleged could only have been prepared as the result of illegal and reprehensible discussion of the secrets of the ballot-box. My predecessors have spoken clearly concerning the sanctity and inviolability of this safe-guard; and I but emphasize their words when I say that a known act of disregard for its character should never be permitted to go unrebuked or unpunished, according to its grade of offense. I have learned that in some instances confessions have been drawn out by insinuation, that members have been approached and asked directly how they voted, and upon what grounds an adverse ballot was cast, and that expostulation has been used against the reason thus extorted.

I have learned, too, of isolated instances of political antagonism, and of a spirit of retaliation, as reasons assigned for the issue of a dispensation to re-ballot. These exceptional cases are rather to be regarded as evidence of the imperfection of human nature, than of the existence of infectious disease in our jurisdiction. It is hardly necessary to say that the assignment of such reasons do not argue in favor of granting a dispensation, but rather appeals to the executive authority to direct disciplinary measures. I have recommended to those [] with which I have had occasion to communicate on the subject of petition for such purposes, that the vote be taken by ballot instead of the uplifted hand. The constitution provides that "it shall be by an unanimous vote," without directing how that vote shall be discovered. It will be readily perceived, that unless the ballot is used, the conscientious opponent is compelled either to disclose how he originally voted, or to absent himself from his [] on such occasions, to avoid invidious prominence, if such things may be. Feeling that I had no authority, under our laws, to *require* the use of the ballot on such occasions, and that the language is not imperative in its direction, I chose to intimate an opinion that the use of the ballot would appeal stronger to the discretionary executive authority than the vote *viva voce* or by uplifted hand.

The report of Brother Abell, the efficient Grand Secretary, is very full, and enters minutely into the condition of the order. It seems hardly possible, with such an excellent business head, that any other than "good work, true work, and square work," should be found in the jurisdiction.

Brother Henry H. Rhees, from committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a full and elaborate report. Under the consideration of the proceedings of the Grand [] of Connecticut, the following language is used, to which we give our hearty concurrence: "As to the practice of granting dispensations to hurry men through the degrees of masonry, emergent cases are seldom meritorious—very frequently mercenary." And again: "Hasty makings and craftings and raisings—like hasty marriages—make room for leisurely repentings." In commenting on the journal of Maryland, and in regard to the "*Conservators Association*," Brother Rhees says: "Our recollection is, that Nebraska takes up the gauntlet in behalf of that association, but that Grand [] is, we think, solitary and alone in the matter." We think our good sister, California, is mistaken as to our having assumed any championship in the matter—as on the other hand we have not *denounced*—such things die natural deaths, and need no hastening on the one hand, as they are rarely benefitted by espousing their cause on the other.

The Grand [] of California is fortunate in having such an excellent corps of officers. The journal is well prepared, neatly printed, and is a model in every respect. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected, of course.

CONNECTICUT, 1866.

M. W. : ELI S. QUINTARD, Grand Master.

The 78th Annual Communication of this Grand [] was held in New Haven, May 9th—76 chartered [] represented.

Grand Master Quintard read his address, from which we extract the following, as being both sound advice and very important:

My attention has been called to the subject of balloting for candidates, which, in many cases, tends to promote difficulty and disagreement in our []. This difficulty occurs, to my own mind, from a want of a proper understanding of the line of duty in discharging one of our most important trusts. Many times I have

been led to believe that personal or party feelings have been allowed to influence a brother's good judgment. I know of no other remedy in cases of this kind, than for the brother to ask himself the question—applying it to himself—am I doing as I would wish others to do unto me? And let his own conscience decide.

It also becomes my duty to call your attention to the fact which has become so prevalent in many of our [] of hurrying candidates through the different degrees without being perfected in that immediately preceding. Some plan should be adopted, as in your judgment may be deemed wise, in order to prevent this growing evil.

Truly this advice is "timely and good." and we are glad to notice that the Grand [] seem waking up to the fact that much danger is to be apprehended from the growing popularity of the order, in the indiscriminate admission of almost any one that may apply, and the bestowal of "more light" upon those who have not proved their right to it.

The R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master makes a report of official labors, in which he gives a list of the [] visited by him officially. We wish that some such system were introduced into this jurisdiction, that the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or some other Grand Officer, could make it a part of his duty to visit, advise with, and encourage the [] by giving them good and wholesome instruction. We particularly commend the closing remarks of the Deputy Grand Master: "Brethren, be careful! Better that five worthy men remain without our doors, than that *one* who is unworthy should be admitted. We should consider the black ball as 'one of the working tools of our profession.'"

The Grand Lecturer also presented an account of work done, which must have been highly gratifying to the Grand [].

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence, and no oration, the journal only recording the proceedings of the Grand [] and the returns from subordinate [].

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

COLORADO, 1866.

M. . W. . ANDREW MASON, Grand Master.

The 6th Annual Communication was held at Central City, October 1st, the representatives of six [] being present.

The address of the Grand Master is quite short, being simply a statement of his official acts, and announcing the general prosperity of the order in his jurisdiction.

The Grand Secretary presented a very brief report on Foreign Correspondence, merely giving the names of the Grand Bodies from whom journals had been received.

It is much to be regretted, that from the existing postal law—letter postage being charged on all printed matter going west of Kansas, our brethren in the "far West," are denied the privilege, to a great extent, of perusing the statistics and other interesting matter yearly "brought to light" throughout the country. We can only hope that this item of postal communication will soon resume its wanted course.

In looking over the "By-Laws pertaining to []" under the head "Confer-

ring Degrees," our attention is attracted by the peculiar wording of the 35th section: "No working under the jurisdiction of this Grand shall be allowed to do any work *irregularly unless it be by dispensation from the Grand Master*, and any working under such dispensation shall return the same to the Grand Master." The italics are ours, and indicate the point which we fear we do not comprehend. We supposed that even a *Grand Master* could not give a dispensation to any to work "*irregularly.*" And that in fact, the dispensation of a Grand Master made that which would have been irregular, regular.

The M. : W. : Chas. Withrow was elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : E. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary.

CANADA, 1866.

M. : W. : W. B. SIMPSON, Grand Master.

This Grand Body held its 11th Annual Communication in Montreal, July 12th, at which 138 were represented.

The address of Grand Master Simpson is full of sound masonic advice. The order in this jurisdiction is apparently in a healthy and flourishing condition. There are within the jurisdiction 183 , numbering 6263 members in good standing. The confederation of the provinces will place the Grand of Canada, in relation to the order in the other provinces, as the Grand of British North America, while each province will have a provincial Grand .

On the subject of uniformity of work, after calling the attention of the Grand to the fact that he had, the previous year, suggested the advisability of appointing Grand Lecturers, but that for the sake of economy, the Grand had adopted another plan, which had proved a failure—the Grand Master says :

Now, brethren, believe me, this is the falsest of all false economy, for nothing can be more calculated to lessen the love of our brethren for masonry, than a want of system, correctness, and uniformity of work. Why is it that we have so many unaffiliated masons in our midst? Undoubtedly because they have either never been taught, or their young love has been cooled by the slovenly working of their . Correct, then, this evil, without loss of time; let the necessary questions be invariably put to the candidate in the ante-room before his initiation, rigidly enforce the law requiring the candidate to be well instructed in the preceding degrees before he is advanced higher; compel every Worshipful Master elect to pass an examination as to his qualifications to fill the chair, before he is installed into that high and responsible office; above all, appoint a Grand Lecturer, who shall teach our to be prouder of the correctness of their work than the accumulation of material; and I am satisfied that in less than a twelve-month you will not only see a noble advancement towards perfect masonry, but such a large increase in our roll of membership, by the return to our fold of the unaffiliated, as will amply repay the Grand the outlay I now recommend.

We think in these remarks and suggestions of the Grand Master of Canada, there is a volume of good, sound sense.

M. : W. : Brother W. Mercer Wilson was elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : Thos. Bird Harris, re-elected Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE, 1866.

P. : G. : S. : W. : WILLIS HOLDEN, as Grand Master.

The 60th Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Wilmington, June 27th. There were representatives present from eleven .

The M. : W. : Grand Master and R. : W. : Deputy Grand Master, were both absent.

The address of the Grand Master was read by the Grand Secretary, and is a brief document. While referring to the blessings of peace, he rejoices that nothing occurred during the civil strife to mar masonic harmony, and says:

The virtues to which our temple is dedicated, have shone but the more brightly amid the storm through which we have passed, and attracted by their rays, we have seen throngs seeking to gain admission to its portals.

There is no report from committee on Foreign Correspondence.

M. : W. : Daniel McClintock was elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : John P. Allmond, Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1866.

R. : W. : R. B. DONALDSON, as Grand Master.

This Grand met in Semi-Annual Grand Communication in Washington City, May 1st. Fourteen represented.

The business transacted was of an almost entirely local nature. The Grand Secretary reported the names of quite a number of brethren who had been appointed as representatives near sister Grand .

Special communications of the Grand were held June 18th and October 13th, to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of Past Grand Master William Winston Seaton, and R. : W. : Wm. G. Parkhurst, late Senior Grand Warden of the Grand .

The Annual Communication was held November 6th, at Washington City, M. : W. : Geo. C. Whiting, Grand Master, presiding. Fourteen were represented.

We find quite a lengthy report in the proceedings of this Grand , in reference to a difficulty which has arisen between a subordinate of the jurisdiction of Iowa, and one of the jurisdiction of this Grand , and in the settlement of which, it appears, the respective Grand Bodies have interposed.

These difficulties and controversies, especially between friends, are much to be regretted, and we sincerely hope the matter may be amicably adjusted.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a detailed report on the proceedings of twenty-six Grand , our own among the number.

This Grand disbursed during the year ending with this Grand Communication, the sum of \$5,744.19 for charitable purposes. The amount expended for such purposes during the last six years, is \$19,139.68. Number of members in good standing, 1978; amount of Grand dues, \$1,907.00.

M. : W. : Geo. C. Whiting was re-elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : Noble D. Larner, elected Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA, 1866.

M. : W. : JOHN HARRIS, Grand Master.

This Grand Body met in Grand Communication at Macon, October 31st. There were represented 186 out of 254, leaving 68 unrepresented.

In the very able address of M. : W. : Brother Harris, two points of the utmost importance to the craft are dwelt upon. Non-affiliated masons are treated

as running sores, detracting from the vigor of the masonic body. We suggest the application of the actual cautery to remove this evil. So long as inaction permits the growth and spreading of this universally denounced condition, just so long will masonry suffer, and the craft will, at no distant day, have to adopt rigorous measures of self-preservation from a disease which is fast assuming all the characteristics of a contagion.

The faithful tyling of the outer door against the admission of unworthy members, is strongly urged by Grand Master Harris, and there is scarcely a throughout the land which will not say amen to his efforts in this direction. Most of us have suffered from this evil, and we all know that the profane are only too eager to seize every opportunity of burdening the sins of an immoral member upon the craft.

The proceedings of thirty-two Grand are commented on by the committee on Foreign Correspondence of this jurisdiction, and the committee have our thanks for the very *happy* notice of our own among the number.

We regret the reproduction of offensive words in masonic publications; when angry thoughts flash through a brother's mind 'twere better to seize the "trowel" than the pen. The praise awarded to those addresses, inculcating a spirit of brotherly love, and urging such conduct in word and deed as would bind up the unhealed wounds of proud and noble souls, is worthy all honor, but would it not have been well enough to have proven the earnestness of that praise in carrying out the precepts inculcated?

There are in this jurisdiction 263 , as follows: 254 chartered, 6 U. D. and 3 to which charters were granted on petition. The number of affiliated masons is reported *about* 10,460; initiations during the past year, 1,171, and it is claimed several hundred more might be added from unheard from.

W. : M. : John Harris was re-elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : Simri Rose, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS, 1866.

M. : W. : H. P. H. BROMWELL, Grand Master.

The Grand of this State met in Grand Communication in Chicago, October 2d, with representatives from 458 .

The address of M. : W. : Bromwell is a sound, straight-forward, business-like document. In this address it is recommended "that all Masters, Wardens, and their proxies, be ordered to appear in Grand wearing the respective jewels of their offices." We commend the suggestion to serious consideration, as well worthy of being followed.

We observe from the reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, that the order is in a good financial condition, and infer from this that the craft in Illinois are prosperous.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence furnish no report.

M. : W. : Jerome R. Gorin was elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : H. G. Reynolds re-elected Grand Secretary.

INDIANA, 1866.

M. W. HARVEY G. HAZELRIGG, Grand Master.

The Annual Communication of this Grand Body was held at Indianapolis, May 29th, with representatives from 296 chartered [] and 22 under dispensation.

The address of the Grand Master is a very able, well-written document, and indicates no little masonic ability. It contains matter which we have read with a good deal of interest. We extract the following paragraphs upon the treatment and cure of non-affiliation:

The propriety of increasing initiation fees and abolishing subordinate [] dues entirely, is discussed at some length by M. W. J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master of Louisiana, with the usual ability with which that brother discusses all questions relating to masonry. It is proposed as a remedy for non-affiliation. The field is large and well supplied with flowers, but rather barren of fruit. The subject of non-affiliation, which has occupied so much of time and talents of many of our distinguished masons, seems to me to be easy of solution. Grand [] have only to deprive all those who remain unaffiliated of all masonic rights and privileges, and the evil is cured. This is short, it is simple, it is easy. The mason who will not bear a small burthen, and thereby secure to himself a greater good, is unworthy the name and the association of masons, and should be cut off; and the mason who cannot do it, will find no difficulty in retaining his affiliation without it.

It is the voluntary act of the individual to become a mason, and if he wish, let him as voluntarily withdraw, and thereby relieve the fraternity from all obligations to him, and deprive himself of all claims whatever. If an individual remain a member of any organization whatever, against his own free will and consent, he will be a very unprofitable and disagreeable companion, fomenting and encouraging discord and confusion whenever an opportunity presents itself; we had therefore, better let him depart in peace, treating him as an alien and a stranger who has no part nor lot with us.

We confess there is to us a good degree of sound sense in the arguments of Grand Master Hazelrigg upon this vexed question.

In regard to the status of "Army-made Masons," the Grand Master says:

While some Grand [] hold that these army-made masons should all be held as clandestine, others suggest a healing process. Now, I can't subscribe to the position of either. Those made in army [] are either masons or they are not. If they are, they should be treated as such, and need no *healing*; if they are not, there is nothing to *heal*. Old fabric manufactories used to have a kind of cloth they called "shoot-about." It mixed up colors and threads in such a way that it was hard to distinguish what was the predominating color or substance. It was a bastard affair, about such as I think this healing process would produce.

Instead of bothering our brains to find something about which we can have contentions and dissensions, let us cultivate peace, union and brotherly love. Treat these army-made masons, whose [] have ceased to exist, just as we do all other unaffiliated brethren; and when they wish to affiliate, let them petition the proper [] for membership, setting forth in their petition the reason why it is not accompanied by a dimit, (the dissolution of their [], or whatever the facts may be,) and if the [] to which their petition is presented is satisfied the facts are as stated, and find the brother otherwise worthy and well qualified, they will admit him; otherwise not, and he will remain an unaffiliated mason.

How often is it that [] forfeit their charters, or have them, for some cause or other, arrested; the members thereof thereby becoming unaffiliated and without dimit? Now, did anybody ever suppose, that these brethren, thus circumstanced, could never affiliate because they could not present a dimit with their

petition for affiliation? In such cases it is only necessary to state the facts, why a dimit is not presented, then if the □ is satisfied of all the necessary facts, the difficulty ceases.

The position assumed on this subject, we conceive to be the true one, and the one calculated to work out the most happy solution of the problem.

Upon the subject "Masonry and Religion," the Grand Master speaks in the following beautiful strain:

It has sometimes been said, even by learned masonic writers, that masonry was not religion, nor do we now propose to say it is; but we do propose to place it in proper position, and leave to others, for the present, to say what it is. That all professed masons are christians, no one will maintain. That, however, is not the fault of masonry, but the frailty of human nature; and I suppose the number is few that would maintain that all professors of religion are christians. That they are not, is not the fault of the church or christianity; her teachings are pure and holy, and, if practised by all, would be productive of quite different results from what are sometimes witnessed. Even so with masonry. I apprehend that no one will doubt the verity of the christian religion, because one of the chosen twelve, in an unguarded and unfortunate moment, denied his Master; nor the authenticity of the Apostolic character, because another of the twelve, yielding to the temptations of Satan, betrayed the Savior. The history of the world teaches us that man, in his most improved estate, is the subject of frailties, weakness and error; and though he may be almost constantly under the teachings of virtue, morality and religion, yet in some unguarded moment he falls by the wayside. So it is with both members of the churches and of the □; yet religion and masonry, I hold, are blameless in that respect.

It is not strange that different theologians should use different language to convey their ideas of what constitutes religion, nor should it be thought more strange if every masonic writer should not use exactly the same words to define a good mason. A learned and inspired writer has said, that "pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father, is this, to visit the fatherless and the widow in their affliction, and keep himself unspotted from the world." This definition is not only simple, but comprehensive enough to embrace man's entire duty to his Creator, his neighbor and himself, and by the performance of which he will, so far as any act of his will do it, make himself a good christian.

A writer about the beginning of the present century well said: "A good mason is an honest man, one who duly pays his duty to his great Creator, one who strives by honest industry to excel in that trade, profession, or science, he is called to; one who is just in all his dealings and dependencies, cultivating his mind and behavior with social adepts and brotherly benignity in all the duties of life; one who would willingly do to all men as he would have them to do to him." This definition embraces the Golden Rule. Obedience to it will do to live by, it will do to die by. It is masonry in its pure and unadulterated form, it is the masonry taught in our □, and it *ought* to be practiced by all.

Almost the first lesson taught every initiate is, that he should never use the name of Deity, but with that reverential awe which is due from the creature to his Creator, to implore His aid in all his laudable undertakings, and to esteem him as the Chief Good; this is taught and re-taught, impressed and re-impressed upon him in every stage of his progress, from the ground floor to the summit of Ancient Craft Masonry.

We trust we may be pardoned for quoting so fully from Brother Hazelrigg, but he has such a happy faculty of reflecting our views and sentiments upon divers interesting topics, that we are irresistibly forced to make use of him. The fact is, we would like to reproduce nearly the whole address of this Most Worshipful Grand Officer, but space forbids.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by the Grand Master. It

is simply a tabular statement of statistics of twenty-six Grand —not including Nebraska.

On the subject of eligibility to the Master's chair, the following question was submitted and referred to a committee, and their answer elicited as follows:

Is it in accordance with the Ancient Charges and long-established masonic usages for a brother to be elected Master of a , who has not been elected and installed as Warden?

Your committee would reply that it is not. The Ancient Charges and long-established masonic usages require a brother to have been elected and installed and serve as Warden of a legally constituted before being eligible to election as Worshipful Master.

This report was adopted, yeas 169, nays 77.

The craft in this jurisdiction is flourishing. Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

IOWA, 1866.

M. W. E. A. GUILBERT, Grand Master.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Davenport, June 5th, at which there were represented 106 chartered and 13 U. D. .

Grand Master Guilbert's salutatory from the "Grand East" to the "Sons of Light," practicing the "noble science and the royal art" in this jurisdiction, is fully up to the standard of his former efforts. There is a vast amount of excellence throughout the address, but the "mantle of charity" causes the caloric generated in the effort to extricate the virgin metal from the very ornate decorations beneath which it is buried, to force open all our pores in a profuse mental perspiration. Notwithstanding the poetical twist which this important document is wrapped in, it is not excelled in masonic value by any handed us for review.

All the writings of this Most Worshipful brother prove him to be a ripe scholar, a profound thinker, a fine orator, and one versed in masonic lore and familiar with the ancient landmarks, usages and customs of the fraternity; and, but for his superlative propensity for display of *quotations* and *incomprehensibles*, his productions would be exceedingly readable—and so they are.

As a faithful laborer in the masonic vineyard, there are few his equals. As evidence, hear his own language:

At this juncture a *resume* of the labors I have performed on behalf of the Grand , may not be deemed inappropriate. During the three years and nearly eight months I have discharged the duties of the Grand East, the correspondence of the office has amounted to about sixteen hundred letters, five hundred and twenty of these having been written during the past masonic year. Aside from the time devoted to this large correspondence, to the preparation of addresses, circulars and encyclicals, I have given from my engrossing business, at no small cost to my exchequer, some one hundred and fifty days in all, these being devoted to Schools of Instruction and visitations. Add to this expenditure of time, the one hundred full days given to the Grand and its schools, and to subordinate , during the three years preceding my accession to the Grand Mastership; and then consider the frequent demands made upon the time of such an officer, especially if he have the dangerous reputation of being approachable and willing to work; and also notice the other fact, that during these years I have conferred the degrees on fully one hundred and thirty persons, and have served over three years of the time as Master of a ; have served four years as presiding officer of two other associate masonic bodies, in which, as in the , a large amount of work has been done; that I have filled the onerous

office of Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment; have performed a variety of laborious duties in a patriotic direction, and all the while have answered the demands made upon me by a very large and exacting practice professional, and by college duties, it will be conceded that, on behalf of this esteemed Grand Body, to which I am profoundly grateful for its frequent expressions of confidence, I have done about as large an amount of work as any one could have done under similar circumstances. Fortunately, I am by nature and inclination a reasonably industrious man, and seek to be economical of time, otherwise I never could have done even this much. The effect upon my nervous system of the diverse labors, has not been most agreeable, and yet, in the consciousness of having exerted myself to the full extent of my ability to further the interests of our beloved institution in this jurisdiction, and in my undying love for her principles and her philosophy, I have found the blessed medicine "which physics pain," and rewards me as fully as I deserve. I have regretted that I was not rich enough to devote my last year in the Grand East *wholly* to the order. Had I have been so, it would cheerfully have been all bestowed upon the craft. I make these personal allusions in no vainglorious spirit; for I assure you that I am not satisfied with what I have accomplished; but I would have the few who think I have taken matters lazily, know just how I have been situated, and thus induce them to right the unintentional wrong they do me. I have made masonry a subject of delighted study for many years, and, therefore, I came to this station somewhat educated for its incumbency, otherwise I could not have done my duty at all well. With, I think, a pretty correct idea of the uses and responsibilities of the Grand Mastership; with a profound reverence for the dignity of the station; with a loyal regard for the Grand \square which has so often honored me; and with an ambition to leave the order better for my having served it, I have "pursued the even tenor of my way," thrusting my official toga in no frater's face, striving to be careful of the best interests of the whole; earnestly preaching a crusade against work errors, and in favor of thorough cultivation of the masonic graces, and laboring patiently to deserve this epitaph when I shall be borne to the "equal grave" by mason hands, and shall be buried with mason honors, if so be I shall then be deemed worthy the high honor of such entombment and of having such an inscription engraven on my monumental head-stone: "He was a faithful Grand Master. He did what he could. He is remembered in the \square ." In view of these honest statements, brethren, I invoke you to regard my official career with a fraternal rather than "a critic's eye," remembering my wish to serve you, forgetting the errors I may inadvertently have committed, and believing my avowal, that although the head of your Grand Master, in view of the fallibility of human nature, which affects us all alike, may sometimes have been wrong, his heart, many of whose supremest throbs are dedicated to the service of the far-descended order, has been *right* all the time. Finally, brethren of the M. . W. . the Grand \square of Iowa, I congratulate you that everywhere in our jurisdiction the "perturbed spirit" of hostility to the work is at rest, and that the sublime motto—*one heart, one way*—is adopted by all and singular of the craft, and so I yield myself, and the results of my stewardship, to your fraternal hands, and give you the warm salutation, hail, and God speed.

The report on Foreign Correspondence—from that bright mason, Brother W. B. Langridge—disposes of the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand \square with marked ability, and in that true masonic spirit which is sure to bring forth "more light."

There were at this Grand Communication 188 \square in Iowa. The order is described as *rapidly increasing*. This remark holds good of so many jurisdictions, that we again suggest greater and renewed caution in the admission of members. The prosperity of masonry is not in its numbers, but in the mental and moral worth of its material.

M. . W. . Campbell K. Peck was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Theodore S. Parvin re-elected Grand Secretary.

produced by causes which are now, and have been for over a century, steadily operating, and not the less effectively because almost unnoticed. I wish, also, to direct masonic attention to the subject, as the matter is one of great interest to masons and importance to masonry. The institution—founded upon wisdom and virtue, untrammelled by sectarian restrictions, above the rivalry of creeds, judging none, and welcoming the worthy of all religions—*must* recommend itself to good and intelligent men, when other systems less tolerant, fraternal and philanthropic, fail to obtain their confidence or secure their endorsement.

We refrain from commenting upon this passage, farther than to question the propriety of the evident inference to be drawn from the concluding lines. Masonry was not *erected* upon any ruins, nor will it ever *thrive* upon them. The following decisions are eminently wise and masonic. The *opinion* on the last is not strong enough. The making of a maimed man a mason is so evidently wrong, that it should be interdicted by every Grand \square in the United States. We have met masons who never could, and never will, be able to go through the forms—good and moral men, it is true, but neither “upright in body,” “hale,” nor “entire in limbs.”

My masonic decisions during the past year have been numerous, but almost all of them such as any Master of a \square ought to be able to decide without reference to any other authority. That “the schoolmaster is abroad,” is unquestionable, but with the experience which I have had during my service as Grand Master, I am inclined to believe that, in his masonic capacity, there are some parts of our State which have not yet been favored with his visits. I present only those decisions which are of general interest.

1. Is it proper to initiate, pass or raise more than one candidate at the same time?

Answer.—Candidates should be initiated singly; and it is incorrect work, if not positively improper, to confer any portion of either degree upon more than one candidate at a time. The ritual of masonry is solemn and impressive, and when a degree is conferred upon more than one candidate at the same time, it is impossible to do justice to the spirit and intention of the degree.

2. Can a \square receive and act upon the petition of a candidate living under the jurisdiction of another \square ?

Answer.—No \square has a right to draw material from the quarries of another, without having first obtained permission.

3. Can the ballot be reconsidered?

Answer. On the same evening, for good reasons, and with all the brethren present who voted, reconsideration would not be a violation of any masonic law or landmark; but the practice is dangerous, and should be discouraged or forbidden.

4. Can a person who is maimed, or in whom any of the senses are defective, be received into the order?

Answer.—Masonry requires physical perfection in the candidate,

“Having no main or defect in the body,
Hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered,
Upright in body, of hale and entire limbs,
In no manner maimed, lame, or defective.”

But there has grown up a disposition in this country to relax the strictures of the rule, or at least interpret it with great latitude. In my opinion, the innovation is wrong, and the rule should be preserved and insisted upon in all its original strictness.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence embodies a digest of the proceedings of thirty-six Grand \square s, and is a succinct business document, alike creditable to the committee and useful to the craft.

M. . W. . M. S. Adams was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . E. T. Carr re-elected Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA, 1867.

M. W. W. M. PERKINS, Grand Master.

The Annual Communication of this Grand \square was held at New Orleans, Feb. 11. About one-third of the \square under this jurisdiction were represented.

The address of the Grand Master is a very able document. We make the following extract :

From several sources there has been a pressure for some modification or evasion (by special dispensation) of that clause in our constitution which positively forbids the reconsideration of unfavorable ballots. Several cases of apparent hardship have been presented; but having had occasion to consider this subject in one way or another for many years past, and being well convinced that it would be unsafe to deviate in the least from this well established regulation, I have refused to dispense with the requirement. St. James' \square , No. 47, presented a case in which an applicant was rejected because he was mistaken for another party of a name nearly similar. As my reply to this application serves as an answer to many others, and gives my views of the subject generally, I will read an extract from my letter of April 26, 1866, to the Worshipful Master of St. James' \square :

"This subject has been fully and freely discussed and carefully considered, not only at the time of adopting the constitution but since, and the invariable decision has been that the regulation should be adhered to.

"It is considered, that if we establish the precedent of reconsidering an unfavorable ballot, there will be constant efforts to ascertain who have cast black balls, and the reason therefor, with a view to reconsideration, and that this will lead to unpleasant discussions, ill-feeling and discord, evils which it is our special duty to guard against.

"Neither you nor I, nor any one else, can properly know how others have voted, nor why unfavorable ballots have been cast. No member should ever, by act or word, expose his own ballot; if one may say he has voted favorably, others of course can, and they *will*, do the same, and thus the secrecy of the ballot will be practically done away with.

"I can readily and fully appreciate the feelings of sympathy and desire to do justice to unsuccessful candidates which prompts these applications for the re-opening of the ballot; but I hold that the interests of masonry are of paramount importance, and that it is better that worthy candidates, whose first knockings at the door may have been improperly responded to, should wait with patience a few months, than that we should make, as it were, openings in the wall, through which the friends of rejected candidates would be continually trying to bring them in, producing confusion and discord among the craft, and undermining one of the strongest supports of our temple."

This decision is right,—we are men—we should be careful that we make no mistakes. If they inadvertently occur, the remedy is *patience* and a *repetition* of the knocking at the door in proper season. Personal feelings should not hoodwink the guide-stars of the order for the individual gratification of any one.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is a brief, but concise epitome of the proceedings of thirty-three Grand \square . Brother Hornor is entitled to great credit for the able, courteous, and truly masonic manner in which these reviews are conducted. All asperities are avoided, and where a difference in opinion exists, it is so fairly and masonically stated, that we cannot refrain from urging similar committees to *look to New Orleans*. The report closes by a *resume* of the principal questions agitating the masonic mind.

There are reported 123 \square making returns; members, 6128; initiated, 918; passed, 675; raised, 647; affiliated, 348; dimitted, 522; died, 180; stricken from

the roll, 123; suspended, 12; expelled, 9; reinstated, 48. The applications and rejections are not stated.

M. . W. . Abel J. Norwood was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . James C. Barchelor, Grand Secretary.

MAINE, 1866.

M. . W. . WM. P. PREBLE, Grand Master.

This Grand met in Annual Communication in the city of Portland, May 1st. There were 119 represented, and seven unrepresented.

The address of Grand Master Preble is a model, in its way, of what your committee deem such a document should be, full of sound, practical sense. It breathes the careful yet loving spirit of genuine masonry. Out of some fifty decisions made by the Grand Master, fifteen are published with the address. The thirteenth of these decisions is as follows:

A member in good standing can legally prevent a candidate from being accepted in his by giving notice to the Worshipful Master that he shall not be able to attend the communication when such a candidate (naming him) will probably be balloted for, and that if present he should object to him in the manner recognized among masons. Upon such notice to the Worshipful Master, it would be his duty to have the candidate entered on the minutes as rejected. The notice to the Worshipful Master should properly be in writing, in order to avoid misapprehension. A member being absent from the town where the is holden, retains all his rights of objecting to candidates as much as if present.

We think this decision eminently just, and in perfect consonance with the harmony inculcated by the *ancient charges*. The fourteenth, we are of opinion, is in error, from the fact that the admission of such a party is, in reality, the effect of *deceit practiced by him* upon the . We admit, however, that custom upholds this decision. But the pruning-hook should not be withdrawn where rotten limbs are discovered. We quote the decision, as follows:

It is a well-settled principle of masonic law, that after a man has been initiated he cannot be tried or dealt with for anything he has done when not a mason, or on account of his character, provided it was or might have been known or ascertained upon due inquiry.

The 15th decision, which is in the following language: "A gives its consent to another to receive and act upon the petition of an applicant whose residence is within first 's jurisdiction. Second upon a ballot rejects the candidate and then by a vote transfers the candidate to first , the exclusive jurisdiction of the first is restored," we think, is in direct opposition to the principle which governs the 13th, and we think the grounds, upon which it is based, untenable.

The proceedings of thirty-one Grand have been ably reviewed by the committee on Foreign Correspondence. The entire report of the committee is in the best spirit—courteous, but firm—just, but merciful. We cannot do better than reproduce here the remarks of the committee in their *resume* of the statistics laid before them:

We had hoped to furnish an accurate statistical table. But after a good deal of labor, (in some cases counting the published list of members given by the Grand) we can only offer the following partial and imperfect table. If each Grand would publish a summary of its returns, the labor would be light. Come, Brother Grand Secretaries, furnish us a recapitulation of the members,

work, &c., of your subordinate [] and let us see *what we are*, and what we are doing. It will be seen that twenty-eight Grand [] show a membership of nearly 225,000. The whole number of masons in the United States must be over 300,000. Twenty-four Grand [] return over 40,000 initiates in a single year! Probably the whole number of initiates in the United States for the past year will reach the enormous number of 60,000! These facts are almost startling. It is some offset, however, that fifteen Grand [] report nearly 7,000 rejections. But the large number of suspensions and expulsions shows that the black ball might have been used in former years more than it was, with benefit to the fraternity.

We would there could be written on the walls of every [] room in the land in characters of living light, the admonition, "*Guard well the outer door.*" * *

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

MARYLAND, 1866.

M. : W. : JOHN COATES, Grand Master.

This Grand [] held its Annual Communication in Baltimore, November 19th. There were representatives present from 47 [].

A short but appropriate address was delivered by the M. : W. : Grand Master.

Three dispensations were granted for the organization of new [], during the six months preceding the meeting of the Grand [].

There is but little in the proceedings of this Grand Body of interest to the craft at large. We notice, however, the following preamble and resolution from Harmony [], No. 53, of this jurisdiction, submitted to the Grand [] by Brother Gerry:

Whereas, Washington [], No. 156, Ancient York Masons, Donmore Centre, Penn., have repeatedly received and acted upon petitions from men residing within the jurisdiction of the Grand [] of Maryland, and of this [], and persist in continuing the practice, although protested against by this []; therefore,

Resolved, That our representatives to the November Communication, A. L. 5866, of the Grand [] of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, of Maryland, be and are hereby instructed to call the attention of the Grand [] to the above-stated facts, and urge that immediate action be taken to protect us in our right of jurisdiction, and to sustain the dignity and supremacy of the Grand [] of Maryland in its own territory; and further, that a certified copy of this resolution be submitted to the Grand [].

Your committee know nothing further of the facts, than as they appear from the reading of the above extract. But, as this matter of jurisdiction has been the cause of a great deal of unpleasant discussion in and between Grand [], we think it high time that they should take such action as will settle the question by laying down *law* for the government of their subordinate [].

We also notice the following resolution, adopted by the Grand []:

Resolved, That no [] in the city of Baltimore shall act on any petition for initiation, unless the whole amount to be paid for the three degrees accompany the petition."

With this resolution we heartily concur, and think it would have been still better if it had been made applicable to the whole jurisdiction. We like the plan.

The proceedings of only fourteen Grand [] are reviewed; our own for 1865 and 1866 among the number. Favorable notice is made of the addresses of the Grand Master and Grand Orator in 1865, as also of the address of the Grand Orator and the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence of 1866.

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

MASSACHUSETTS, 1865.

M. : W. : WM. PARKMAN, Grand Master.

The proceedings of this Grand Body contain little or nothing which is of interest to the craft, beyond its own jurisdiction. There is no notice whatever of the proceedings of other Grand \square , and while it celebrates its *one hundred and thirty-second anniversary*, we must confess that the manner in which the returns are published, would lead any one to believe that but very little system had accrued to the management of its affairs, and that this Grand \square was but little the senior of our own.

M. : W. : Charles C. Dame was elected Grand Master, and R. : W. : Charles W. Moore re-elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA, 1866.

M. : W. : G. M. PRESCOTT, Grand Master.

The Annual Communication of this Grand \square was held at St. Paul, October 23d, R. : W. : P. P. Hubbell, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The entire proceedings occupy some twenty-two pages of the pamphlet. The M. : W. : Grand Master Prescott occupied the East in the evening session, at which thirty-three \square were represented. The address is a clear-headed production. Two points of interest are touched upon but not decided; 1st. The interference of a \square between brethren to settle business differences; 2d. The admission of the maimed.

Grand Master Prescott touches up that "*questio vexata*," uniformity of work. We subjoin his remarks on the subject:

A few words now in regard to the esoteric work of masonry—plain words, too, brethren. In my masonic infancy, listening to the grave discussions of those from whom I, as a neophyte, sought instruction, I trembled for the institution, because all did not agree upon the precise words to be used in our work and lectures. I thought every sign, every ceremony and every expression, had its origin when—well, you know,—when masonry began; and to learn that the words—nay, worse still, the very ceremonies wherein I had so faithfully represented a renowned predecessor—materially differed in different jurisdictions, was to learn that there might be a taint of modernism even in our ancient institution, which would surely prove, some day, that all its venerable gray hairs were the work of wig-makers. I have learned some things since, and among the things learned are—that the Preston Lectures, so called, are (perhaps) Preston's Lectures; that the Webb work, so called, is Webb's work; that the Willson work, so called, is Willson's work, and Barney work, is Barney's work, and Morris work, is Morris' work, and Pierson work, is Pierson's work, and—so on through the whole catalogue of authors and revisers. I have learned, too, that all these men have the same skeleton of facts, (traditional, to be sure, but wonderfully concurrent,) which they have tried to fill out with sinew and muscle, and—it must be confessed—a great deal of adipose; and I have learned ever to be looking through and beyond the modern trappings and trying to realize the great truths so grandly "veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Thus looking and trying, I have said to myself, this is a noble old skeleton. Had not we better, instead of stuffing it out with pillows and sawdust till it shall look as slick and fat as a hypothetical alderman, just put bone to his bone, and adding only enough of sinew and muscle to make it work, save all the rounding out of form and decking out of person for independent speculative discourse?

The remainder of the proceedings have the appearance of being hastily prepared; no comment upon any sister Grand \square is to be found, nor are any statistics given by which the progress of masonry, in this jurisdiction, can be arrived at.

From the report of the committee on Returns of \square , we gather that at least 54 chartered and 2 U. D. \square exist in Minnesota; showing an amount due the Grand \square of \$2,524.75. The committee on Examination of the Treasurer's and Secretary's books, show a balance on hand of \$4,196.67.

M. . W. . C. W. Nash was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . William S. Combs Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI, 1866.

M. . W. . JOHN F. HOUSTON, Grand Master.

This Grand \square met in Annual Communication in St. Louis, May 28th. There were representatives from 161 \square .

The address of the M. . W. . Grand Master is a masterly production, full of love and watchfulness for the order; nevertheless, the following extract shows feeling we had not expected from masonry:

That stupendous confederation which so recently, and so near us, sought to re-enact that terrible conspiracy which, our traditions inform us, was fraught with such peril to the order near the completion of the temple, dissolved in the presence of that moral power which unites this institution with the attractive force of the principle which binds together the universe. Life indeed was not sought in the event of failure; but the conspirator had already posted his accomplices about the ways that lead to the sacred precincts of the interior of the Mystic Temple, ready, at one fell stroke, to annihilate the order of Ancient Freemasonry, and to appropriate and apply its honorable insignia to the uses of an unholy ambition. However, "vaulting ambition o'er-leaped itself, and fell on the other side." The fell spirit has sought the gloomy recesses of the rocks in the mountains, there to stifle remorse by accusation and excuse. "The king has hedged in its egress; so let it perish." Alas! "poor Morris."

The *Io! triumphe!* style looks, to say the least, very questionable between masons holding opposite opinions.

The rough treatment of "army-made masons," recommended in the address, is not in keeping with the charitable spirit which pervades this production. If such are *possessed of the art*, by reason of having traveled in that beaten path in which so many have gone before, and if they who conducted, received, and inducted them had authority under the ancient charges and landmarks, we see no good reason for the tyrannical edict contained in Grand Master Houston's address.

Perhaps the secret of this denouncing "army-made masons," as "irregular and clandestine," rests in these few words of this address: "that an army in the field, where immorality more or less abounds." What a slur on the thousands of masons who met on the high hills and in the low vales during the late unfortunate civil strife! What a reward for the influence they wielded in smoothing the asperities of "grim-visaged war." Truly the implied opinion of Grand Master Houston is not in keeping with his well-known generosity; and many a manly heart will feel sore over our brother's sweeping charge against army masons.

We turn from this portion of the address to the remarks on "Temperance" with unfeigned pleasure and relief. The following extract is worthy of being hung in "letters of gold" in every mason's home:

Most sincerely do I regret the necessity which compels me again to admonish the brethren of an observance of our first great cardinal virtue, "Temperance." I mean by that the temperate use of, not total abstinence from, distilled and fermented liquors as a beverage. It has been my misfortune, within the past year, to have seen masons so seriously under the influence of liquor that every muscle and ligament of the body, every thought and conception of the mind, every feeling and sensibility of the soul, seemed chained to the car of the bottle or the still-house, and down they were rushing with headlong fury to the dungeon of despair or the prison house of woe. My brethren, intemperance has swayed the fortunes of man long enough. Its high pretensions in soothing the sorrows and blunting the afflictions of our race, are no longer accredited amongst masons. Instead of its acting as a balm and a cordial, in mitigating the woes that fester the human heart, and thereby release the broken spirit, it but adds to the tortures of our pilgrimage on earth, and leaves the soul exposed to the terrors of the future in unmitigable despair.

Nine-tenths of all the crimes committed against the laws of God and man have had their origin in the too free indulgence in ardent spirits. Trace the history of the scaffold, the penitentiary and the dungeon, and learn a lesson more appalling and frightful than the gulf of despair could teach, more startling and horrid than the desolation that follows pestilence or famine. A constant indulgence in intoxicating drinks will, like the blighting and blasting sirocco of Egypt, wither and parch the most lovely and exalted name that ever wore human form, and dry up the holiest and noblest fountain that ever gushed from the bosom of man. To the work, then; to the work! And whilst there is one member amongst us who, in spite of all the impressive ceremonies and beautiful lessons taught, still continues to tread the dreary path of dissipation, let us never relax our energies in his behalf, or cease to warn him of the dangers which beset his path; and although we may fail in a few instances of reclaiming a brother, such as are totally lost to self destruction, yet the proud consolation of having done our duty in his behalf will counterpoise the regret of the failure. And to know that we have been the means, either by precept or example, of extricating a brother from the wreck of character or fortune; to know that we have been the means of restoring to the fond and anxious wife all the joys, the smiles, and the comforts of life; to see the heart in its gladness, and the soul in its exultation, bounding and springing for joy, as pure and lucid as the fountain that gushed from the rock when struck by the rod of the prophet; to know and witness these things is enough to inspire us with a zeal that nothing should abate, and with an ardor that nothing should overthrow.

The report of R. W. Deputy Grand Master J. D. Vincil is short. His closing remarks we append, and heartily join in the sentiment expressed in the last sentence, for masons and masonry wheresoever dispersed around the globe:

Allow me to say, Most Worshipful Sir, in conclusion, that while there is much prosperity in the order where I have been officially and privately, there is one fact painfully apparent; there is too much intemperance among the masons of Missouri. 'Tis alarming to contemplate the fearful inroads the demon is making into the fraternity. The world looks on and says, "Masons are no better than other men." The evil is growing, and *must* be checked.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Brother Geo. Frank Gouley, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Lodges. In veneration and love for that veteran reviewer—the lamented Brother O'Sullivan—who at that date lay prostrate under the afflictions of long continued disease, Brother Gouley calls it a "substitute" report. He states that he has believed it to be his duty to eschew the poisonous venom of sectional bigotry with which some of the proceedings are infected, and adds:

We have also found, on the other hand, that some of the Grand Lodges during

the past years of war and passion, have "fallen into the hands of the Philistines"—the politicians—and these, at our hands, are entitled to no quarter, and received none. If there is one creature on the face of God's earth, that is more of an intolerable curse to vital and legitimate Freemasonry than another, it is a politician, who has not the common sense or common decency to keep his political or sectional views to himself, without intruding them into the sanctity of the □ room, Grand or subordinate, either in public addresses or private discussions.

Pursuing this course, Brother Gouley brings to his aid such phrases as "political appeal to the prejudices of his audience"; "Spread-Eagle flourish"; "Mason's Menageries"; "considerable military and political genius"; hyperbolic style of the incomprehensible"; "burden of the song is almost entirely political, made up of quotations from the Army Songster"; "peculiar political color"; "it is sectional, therefore not masonic"; more acceptable "had all allusions to the right or wrong of the late contest been entirely ignored." To gently remind an erring brother of his failings and use our best endeavors to reclaim him, being a part of every mason's duty, your committee believe that such phrases towards sister Grand □, are, to say the least, *unfortunate*, and tend not to assuage the feelings aroused by the late unfortunate civil war. Masonry has a higher and nobler mission than the perpetuating of feuds. Aside from such expressions as we have quoted, the report is creditable to Brother Gouley. The proceedings show 1415 initiations; 1297 passings; 1279 raisings; 596 admissions; 811 dimissions; 90 suspensions; 770 rejections; 28 expulsions; 171 deaths; 9558 members.

M. . W. . and Rev. John D. Vincil was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . A. O'Sullivan re-elected Grand Secretary.

MONTANA, 1866.

M. . W. . JOHN J. HULL, Grand Master.

This Grand □ held its second Annual Communication at the city of Virginia, October 1st, with representatives from four □.

The Grand Master's address is a short, concise, business document, for the most part devoted to local affairs. An attempt being made to repeal the action of the last Grand □ in the matter of "*conservators*," a resolution was adopted directing "Brothers Hosmer, Hedges and such brothers as may volunteer to submit to this Grand □ at its next communication their views of said association."

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is remarkable, alike for its brevity and good sense. Owing to the fact that books and pamphlets are subject to *prepaid letter postage* on the *overland route*, but few proceedings were received from sister Grand Bodies, and therefore but eight proceedings were passed upon by the chairman, R. . W. . W. Sanders, Grand Secretary.

Financially, the Grand □ of Montana, per Grand Secretary's showing, is indebted to him \$42.22, while the committee on mileage report \$513.00 due for attendance upon this session. We sincerely hope this part of the business will be carefully revised, for it is one of the essentials to successful working and importance.

There are 229 Master Masons reported in the jurisdiction.

The M. . W. . Grand Master and R. . W. . Grand Secretary, were re-elected.

MICHIGAN, 1867.

M. . W. . S. C. COFFINBURY, Grand Master.

This Grand Body held its Annual Communication at the city of Adrian, January 9th, with a representation from 174 [] [].

The address of Grand Master Coffinbury is a very excellent document, worthy the perusal of every mason in the country. He submits to the Grand [] several questions which had been propounded to him, together with his answers thereto, which we think are correct. We quote the following question, and the answer the Grand Master gives, which embodies our views:

What is the duty of the Master of a [] when he learns, to his certain knowledge, that a candidate after he has been elected and before his initiation, is unworthy, and ought not to be admitted as a mason?

Answer. His first duty is to refuse to initiate the candidate. His second, to inform the candidate in a courteous manner that he cannot be admitted. His third, to see that the fee accompanying his petition is returned to him in due season. As a general rule, the fee becomes the property of the [] upon the election of the candidate, but, as the candidate advances the fee with the expectation of receiving value therefor from the [] in return, and as the [] refuses to return such value as he expected, it is unjust to retain the fee; and justice is one of the cardinal virtues of masonry. While justice nicely poises her balance and requires us to render unto every man his just due, charity requires us to receive no man's money for nought. His fourth, to see, in the future, that strict inquiry and due investigation into the character of candidates shall prevent a like necessity and save the Worshipful Master the discharge of a like unpleasant duty.

The Grand Master notices the death of Past Grand Master Lewis Cass, in a very appropriate review of his life as a statesman, as a citizen and as a mason.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a review of the proceedings of thirty-six Grand [] [], our own among the number.

We beg to assure our brother committee of Michigan, as our excuse for the short-coming noticed by them, that we have not been possessed of their proceedings for at least two years previous to 1867, for some cause unknown to us. We hope that fraternal intercourse may not, henceforth, be interrupted.

There were in this jurisdiction 2679 initiations; 1660 rejections; 38 expulsions; and 99 deaths. The total membership is 13,154. The receipts of the Grand [] from all sources is \$8,367.95. The craft are exceedingly prosperous in this jurisdiction, and one of the committee extends to them his fraternal greeting, as it was in "No. 57" where he first saw masonic light.

M. . W. . S. C. Coffinbury was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . James Fenton Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI, 1867.

M. . W. . GEO. W. PERKINS, Grand Master.

This Grand [] held its 49th Annual Communication at Vicksburg, January 21st, with 135 [] [] represented out of 286, leaving 151 unrepresented.

The Grand Master's address is not remarkable for anything except the pervading trust in Divine aid "to avert the awful catastrophe—the death of civil liberty and the utter prostration of every material interest in our State and throughout the South." The following sensible remarks on subjects receiving, at present, less attention than they merit, we extract for the benefit of the craft:

There is a subject to which I desire, first and foremost, to call your attention. It is one that, in our Masonic Statute Book, comes under the head of "offenses." Now, brethren, we have good and wholesome laws against drunkenness, gambling and profane swearing—laws which, if faithfully executed, would relieve our order from much, nay all, of that reproach which the outside world is so prone to heap upon it. But, unfortunately for masonry, and still more unfortunately for those who violate the laws and their solemn obligations, these laws are very seldom if ever enforced, and the aggressors are almost universally permitted to go unpunished and consequently unreformed. This leads directly to the growth of these great evils from day to day among us. I, therefore, trust that the Grand will pass a special resolution in regard to the rules against these degrading offenses, making it imperative upon all the subordinate in the State to enforce them.

I recommend that something be done to stop the great and alarming increase of the class of persons known as "non-affiliated masons." Nearly all the Grand of the several States have agreed that they are unworthy masons. It was once decided by the Grand of this State that dimitts should not be granted to members, under any circumstances, except the applicant is leaving the jurisdiction of the ; and this decision was put in the shape of a law, which, I believe, still stands unrepealed. Many masons obtain dimitts for the purpose, ostensibly, of joining other , and then fail to do so—thus becoming non-affiliated. I earnestly submit that the Grand should take the proper steps to remedy this crying evil.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty Grand , stating that the report was prepared under circumstances singularly unfortunate, and "amidst constant interruptions, perplexities and afflictions." The report needs no praise from us; it is a most excellent production, gleaned the full kernels from the dross, and written in a true masonic spirit.

Brother Murphy's "tile" has not reached us, but our "paw" shall ever be extended towards the possessor of so genial a heart as Brother Murphy's.

In the concluding portion of the report we find the following, and commend it to the careful perusal of this Grand Body:

The unprecedented increase of membership burdens the reports from all quarters, and the oldest and wisest warn the craft of approaching danger from this. The only remedy is a thorough and faithful investigation into the character of all applicants, not so much to satisfy yourselves that there is nothing wrong about him—but rather to find if he can bring any strength and support to the order—if being entered and passed he might be raised and come to preside over the , and then become Grand Master. We suggest to all committees on petitions for degrees, to consider these questions: Is he really and truly an honest man? Does he know and will he obey the moral law? Is his character and standing in the community such as to bring honor and strength to the institution by his connection with it? Can you, and will you trust your fortune—your honor—your widow and orphans to his care and keeping? If you can, then recommend him. If you cannot, then in the name of God and masonry don't—for the want of courage to do the right—recommend him to your .

Returns were received from 225 ; initiations reported, 1215; passings, 1113; raisings, 1087; admissions, 71; dimissions, 993; suspensions for non-payment of dues, 1740, and for un-masonic conduct, 21; expulsions, 28; reinstatements, 332; deaths, 226. Total number of Master Masons reported as members, 9618.

M. W. John T. Lamkin was elected Grand Master, and R. W. D. P. Porter re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEVADA, 1866.

M. W. JOSEPH DEBELL, Grand Master.

The second Annual Communication of this Grand Body was held at Virginia City, September 18th. There were represented eight chartered and one under dispensation.

The Grand Master delivered a short but excellent address, chiefly, however, of local interest. We notice one decision made by the Grand Master, which we heartily endorse. In answer to the question "How are Mormons to be treated who claim to be masons, present themselves for examination, and ask the privilege of visiting," he says:

The right to visit is not an inalienable right, but it may be temporarily lost, or impaired. For instance, a suspended or expelled mason loses that right until he is restored. Again: one that has been convicted of crime, although no charges may have been preferred against him, should not be permitted to sit with "the just and true;" and why? simply because the peace and harmony of the would be disturbed. So, one known to be living in the daily violation of what is known as the proprieties and decencies of life, setting at nought the moral law, as laid down in that Great Light that is ever open upon our altars, should by the same rule be excluded from our assemblies. Therefore, you will take notice, that Mormons claiming to be masons, be excluded from the right of visiting; and also, that petitions for the degrees of masonry shall not be received from any person who is known to be a Mormon.

It is difficult to discriminate, and we must take the general character of the people, and decide for the permanent good of the craft in general, and of your in particular. As a people, it is well known that they are polygamists, living in direct violation of the law of God, as given to us in the Decalogue, and also in contempt of the laws of the land, and consequently not good masons, for I hold that a violation of the laws of the land is a masonic offense. This view of the case will necessarily work a hardship to a few who profess mormonism, yet may not accept the article of polygamy.

The common rule in law, that it is "better that ninety-nine guilty ones escape than one innocent person should be unjustly punished," must be reversed when applied to masonry, for it is far better that ninety-nine faithful craftsmen should be temporarily deprived of their masonic privileges than one contentious, refractory or unworthy member should gain admission within a , and thus disturb the peace and harmony of the whole.

The true craftsman, (if any you have, who profess mormonism,) will see the truth of this proposition, and patiently accept the "situation" in which he finds himself, and quietly submit to the "powers that be," with the assurance that "time, patience and perseverance" will accomplish all that he may desire.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence review the proceedings of nineteen Grand , including Nebraska for 1865. They take exception to our suspending and expelling members for the non-payment of dues.

The "General Summary," which touches upon the several subjects of "masonic law," "work and lectures," "education," &c., we think most excellent, and would be glad to see that feature of the report of the committee adopted by other Foreign Correspondence committees; and we regret that we are unable to adopt the plan in this report.

The committee on jurisprudence endorse the Grand Master's decision on "mormon masons," and add: "that the man who is not true to government and faithful to the laws of his country, is unworthy the name of mason, and should not be admitted into the great masonic family."

A short address was delivered by W. . Robert H. Taylor, Grand Orator. We quote the following closing sentences; they are sublime:

The noblest deeds of men shall be forgotten; the sublimest monuments of art shall crumble into dust; the pomps and pageantries, the conquests and defeats of the ages shall cease to exist in history; thrones may fall, empires may decay; but, for the soul of man—when these earthly [] shall be closed; when "man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets"; nay, when all the splendors of this great globe shall have faded away—a glorious immortality remains.

"The soul, of origin divine,
God's glorious image, freed from clay,
In Heaven's eternal sphere shall shine,
A star of day!
The sun is but a spark of fire,
A transient meteor in the sky;
The soul, immortal as its sire,
Shall never die."

A special communication of the Grand [] was held at Carson City, September 24, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the United States Branch Mint, M. . W. . John C. Currie conducting the ceremonies, a very interesting report of which is contained in the Grand [] proceedings.

The number reported initiated, 126; passed, 129; raised, 129; expelled, 3; died, 6; rejected, 49; Master Masons, 610; receipts from dues, \$1,706.00.

M. . W. . John C. Currie was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Robert H. Taylor Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1866.

M. . W. . J. EVERETT SARGENT, Grand Master.

The Semi-Annual Grand Communication of this Grand [] was held at Concord, December 27, 1865, with representatives from thirty-one [].

Nothing but strictly local matters were discussed.

The Grand Annual Communication was held at the same place June 13, 1866, at which fifty-three chartered [] and four under dispensation were represented.

The address of Grand Master Sargent is a well-written paper. It opens thus:

Brethren: Our devout and humble thanks are due to Almighty God for the merciful protection and care which He has extended over us during the past masonic year. Within the precincts of our sacred temple throughout this jurisdiction all has been harmony and fraternal love; our ways have been ways of pleasantness, and all our paths have been paths of peace.

The growth of our order has been rapid and extensive, and we have no reason to doubt that, with the increase of numbers, the broad field of masonic charity and brotherly love has been expanded, enriched and beautified. The present happy union of feeling and sentiment between the Grand and subordinate [], indicates, as we trust, the stability of each and of all, and gives promise, as we fondly hope, of a future more prosperous and glorious than the past.

We congratulate our brethren of New Hampshire on this happy state of affairs in their jurisdiction.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-one Grand [], our own, singularly enough, are not among the number. The review of North Carolina is, in our humble opinion, two caustic for masonry. We give the closing of this part:

And now, as we take leave of our North Carolina brethren, we crave a bit of masonic charity for ourselves. It is easy to call hard names and bandy epithets more forcible than polite, and for this diversion some have a more natural aptitude than others, but it is not gentlemanly or *masonic*. And, although in regard to our fellow-citizens in question, our Southern brethren may have been "purified by the unrestrained associations of childhood, and by the joys and sorrows of life," while to us of a less favored clime these elevating influences have been denied, we pray that we may not be counted among the "pinched-up, stilty, stingy, blatant, presumptuous meddlers," for with this choice language the committee, M. . W. . E. G. Reade, chairman, conclude their report.

The closing remarks of Brothers Connor, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, are such as will receive a hearty *amen!* They are so good that we re-produce them here:

In closing our report, our apology for its imperfections must be our inexperience. The duty we have undertaken to perform has been heretofore discharged by brethren whose masonic attainments and experience amply qualify them for the task. From those brethren whose experience enables them to appreciate the nature and extent of our labors, we *know* we shall receive all reasonable indulgence, and from the craft at large we ask a charitable criticism of a performance which we trust will not prove entirely unacceptable.

The renewal of correspondence with our Southern brethren, after so long an interruption, affords occasion for mutual congratulation. Most of them accept the situation gracefully. Let all do so at once, and cheerfully, and let us all, North and South, around our common altar, rehearse our ancient charges, and renew our early vows.

We have faith in the mystic, fraternal chain—now, if we will it, stronger than ever—hope for our country, whose book of constitutions will now be guarded more vigilantly than ever by the tyler's sword; and in this faith, and with this hope, we close our report, "with charity for all, and malice toward none."

The returns foot up \square , 62; members, 4712; initiated, 709.

W. . M. . John H. Rowell was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Horace Chase re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY, 1867.

M. . W. . WILLIAM SILAS WHITEHEAD, Grand Master.

This M. . W. . Grand Body held its 18th Annual Communication at the city of Trenton, January 16th, with 68 \square represented.

The address of the Grand Master is written in that true masonic spirit which must commend it favorably to every mason in the land. On the subject of *dress*, he says:

Being thus most auspiciously on the high road to a uniformity of work in this jurisdiction, I shall, at the risk of being regarded as an enthusiast upon this subject, call the attention of the Grand \square to a matter of uniformity in another respect, not so dignified, perhaps, as that to which I have alluded, but one which I think the Grand \square may profitably consider,—I refer to a uniformity in masonic clothing.

As I cast my eyes over this large assembly, representing all the \square in this jurisdiction, the varieties of masonic clothing, presented to my view, are as numerous as the \square represented. Aprons with square corners, and aprons with round corners, white aprons and aprons whose whiteness is marred by printer's ink, aprons bound with blue and aprons not bound, aprons of cotton, of linen, of silk, of satin, of velvet, and alas, too rarely, aprons of pure, white lambskin; jewels pendent from the collar and jewels pendent from the lappel of the coat; broad blue ribbons and narrow blue ribbons; white collars and blue collars, collars with

gorgeous fringe and collars without gorgeous fringe, collars of silk, of satin, of velvet, and no collars at all, collars glittering with tinsel embroidery, with tinsel rosettes and with tinsel stars—all combine to present a view as variegated and brilliant as the changing combinations of a kaleidoscope. By nothing, in nature or art, is the unmeaning glitter of the masonic clothing of the officers of our subordinate [] equalled, unless, perhaps, it be by the "purple and fine linen," the "sounding brass and tinkling cymbals" which adorn the persons of the grand officers.

"There are who lord it o'er their fellow men
By most prevailing tinsel."

But it is not in accordance with the spirit and purpose of the masonic institution to attract the public gaze by ostentatious parade, or to develop the vanity and love of display of its members. Masonic clothing was intended for instruction and not for unmeaning display. The badge of a mason is the plain, simple, and unadorned lambskin, or white leather apron; but we are taught that it is more ancient than the Order of the Golden Fleece; more honorable than the mantle and badge of the Knights of the Garter. The emblem of a mason's rank and dignity is not the gaudy collar upon his breast—it is the jewel that hangs from the collar. The true spirit of masonry is better evinced by a rigid and uniform simplicity than by all the outward pomp and circumstance with which we can invest it.

It is not my purpose to ask from the Grand [] any present or sudden legislation upon this subject, the effect of which would be to burthen the [] with an unexpected expense. I have thought that the matter was worthy of serious reflection, which might eventuate in some future action.

And the committee on the address say:

The remarks of the Grand Master in regard to masonic clothing, are well worthy of attention, and your committee would recommend the appointment of a committee, whose duty it shall be to propose some plan by which greater uniformity may be established in reference to the regalia of the officers, and the clothing of members.

In which your committee, heartily believing that in strict enforcement of the minor details rests the great secret of good discipline, cheerfully concur.

The following decisions were made by the Grand Master:

The decisions of the past year, which are at all important or novel, are the following:

1. A [] cannot be regularly opened unless the charter is present, except in the presence of the Grand Master.
2. It is not necessary, in order to complete his membership in a [], that the candidate should sign the By-Laws. As soon as he is raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason he becomes, *ipso facto*, a member of the [] to which he has presented his petition.
3. The Worshipful Master has the right to place either of his Wardens, or a brother from the floor, in the East, and permit him to confer either of the degrees.
4. Indefinite suspension does not relieve the suspended brother from his masonic obligations, nor does it deprive his [] of jurisdiction over him. If during the suspension, he should be guilty of gross unmasonic conduct, his [] has the power to try him on charges and expel him.
5. The peculiar forms and ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry are immutable. It is unlawful to add to them for the purpose of making them more binding in the case of a particular candidate.
6. A "regular summons" is usually in writing or print, issued by order of the Worshipful Master, signed by the Secretary and authenticated by the seal of the []. I am of opinion, however, that a verbal summons by the Worshipful Master is equally binding upon the brother to whom it is given.

7. Neither the Worshipful Master, Senior or Junior Warden can dimitt from the during his term of office.

8. It is not lawful for any in this jurisdiction to exempt a candidate, whether he be a clergyman or a layman, from the payment of the initiation fee, as required by the 8th General Regulation of the Grand .

9. It is not regular for a to receive a candidate's verbal or written promise to pay, in lieu of his initiation fee.

10. A cannot deprive an accused brother of counsel when the report of the committee comes before the for its final action.

11. The accused brother has the right to be present in the while the discussion of his case is going on. When the vote is taken, he should be directed to retire.

12. The word "month," when used in masonic General Regulation or By-Laws, is to be construed as a lunar month, or four weeks.

13. A member's dues commence from the time that he is raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. An Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft cannot be charged with dues.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of 28 Grand , our own being of the number.

This report is a fair, impartial document, and reflects credit on the committee. It is pleasant to read a masonic publication when every word gives assurance that neither authors nor ink contained any gall. The dignity of any Grand Body of the craft cannot but suffer when the hyssop of prejudice is thrust forward as meat and drink for the brethren; and we are proud of the absolute ignoring of those useless asperities, sharp unmasonic criticisms and uncalled-for severities that have crept into so many "proceedings" in the latter days.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

NEW YORK, 1866.

M. W. R. ROBERT D. HOLMES, Grand Master.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at New York, June 5th, 578 represented.

The address of Grand Master Holmes is replete with masonry.

The Grand of Hamburg is again accused of maintaining and recognizing two clandestine in this jurisdiction. One portion of the address we sincerely hope may reach every in the United States. We subjoin:

The correspondence with the Grand Master during the present year has been enormous, and only about two-thirds of it was actually necessary. The great difficulty is that brethren see fit to consult that official instead of the constitutions and the transactions of this Grand , and the consequence is that a mass of unnecessary correspondence is sent in upon the Grand Master. As my predecessors have done frequently, I must urge upon Masters and Wardens of to study the constitutions and the transactions; without a knowledge of which they can not fully and correctly perform their duties. In this connection I am able to state that R. W. Brother William T. Woodruff has recently done the craft a highly important service, for which I tender him my thanks, and I am sure that, on consideration, this Grand will deem it proper to tender him theirs also. He has compiled all the decisions on questions of law and usage made by this Grand during the last fifteen or sixteen years, and they will soon be printed and ready, at a trifling price, for distribution. I recommend that every brother become provided with that document.

It is too often the case that officers of subordinate , either from ignorance where to look for authority, or a reprehensible indolence which renders it easier

to bore the Most Worshipful Grand Master than hunt up published decisions, write long letters of inquiry about the most trivial matters which any tolerably well informed mason should understand.

The following opinion we give in full:

I have had before me several cases where candidates have been rejected by mistake; the most recent of which was brought to my notice just before the commencement of the present month. All of them are cases of hardship, but yet I have decided that they must wait the prescribed time before their proposition can be again received, I not having the power to extend relief. In one of the cases, a son who was proposed, was thought by those who cast the black balls to be the father. When they discovered their mistake they felt great regret that they had cast adverse ballots and violated an implied decision of this Grand , by declaring their error, and stating the manner in which they had voted. This brings me to a consideration of the somewhat vexed question of the "secrecy of the ballot." I believe that this expression simply means that no brother shall be questioned as to, or in any manner be made to disclose, whether he cast a white or a black ball, but the manner of his balloting is to be kept secret unless he chooses to disclose the fact that he voted adversely to the admission of a candidate and then he must take the consequences of having done so from an unmasonic or unmanly motive. I have reflected deeply upon this subject, and have conversed upon it with many well-informed brethren and can not perceive any evil that can result from the disclosure by a brother that he has cast a black ball. On the contrary, in all cases of unintentional wrong, mistake or even of suspected mistake, it is but just and proper that the party who deems himself mistaken should be permitted to state his error. Some have assumed that such a course might disturb the harmony of the . I think that the very contrary effect would be the result. A brother who had proposed a candidate who had been rejected, would much rather hear that he had been rejected through error than to have him stand stamped for six months, and perhaps forever, as unworthy of associating with masons. I am pained to say that cases have come to my knowledge and to that of many others now before me, where members of whose candidates have been rejected out of revenge, laboring under a vague suspicion as to the brethren who cast the rejecting balls, have cast black balls against all candidates thereafter proposed, without knowing their social positions or qualifications, and in some cases without even knowing the candidates personally or by reputation. If such conduct as this, by which the good names of men are assailed and a stab at character given in the dark is to be the sequel of suspicion as to the first referred to black ball, it would be far better that the dastardly acts should be leveled against the candidates of the one who had cast the offensive ballot, rather than that those of the many should be struck at in the haze of surmise or suspicion. That no brother can be called upon to disclose the manner of his vote, and that brethren can not declare that they cast a white ball, are beyond all question. The former would be a violation of the personal right of secrecy, and the latter would lead to the disclosure of those who had cast a black ball. I have not made nor hinted at any decision on this question; I have simply stated my individual views, and leave it with the wisdom of the Grand , under the belief that the committee on Jurisprudence should give it consideration.

The following suggestion is re-produced here, not only because it is eminently good, but to the end that it may receive attention from such Grand Bodies as have omitted to notice it. The plan is feasible—the intent charitable, and the obvious result is for the good of the craft:

Brother George S. McWatters, of LaFayette , No. 64, has addressed to me a communication, the substance of which has received my unqualified approval. He suggests that there be placed in every room a book in which members or visitors may enter the fact that they possess the power to give or obtain employ-

ment for any brother desirous of obtaining it, at the same time declaring the character of the work. Brethren wanting employment can also enter their names, and business, or trade in the same book. They and the children of deceased masons may by this means be found employment, as may also the widows. He also suggests, that in cities weekly abstracts be made of the books and sent to Boards of Relief, or to some central point where they can be inspected. This plan has been successfully adopted in the last named. It is certainly practicable on its face, inexpensive and, in my judgment, worthy of a trial.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of thirty-two Grand , besides nineteen Grand Bodies in Europe and the British Possessions of North America.

The "political sighs" and "spread-eagle screams" of such Grand as have seen fit to meddle with the things external to masonry, are touched with a generous pen, the spirit of forbearance, and masonic earnestness being everywhere visible throughout this able, well-written and most creditable production.

From the report of the "committee on jurisprudence and condition of masonry," we extract the following comment as their 7th proposition, being the one bearing on balloting quoted in the foregoing extracts from the Grand Master's address:

VII. The subject of balloting, as presented and so ably argued in the M. . W. . Grand Master's address, is one which has ever occasioned the greatest differences of opinion (some of them attended with unhappy results,) among the brethren. The rules properly applicable to the subject have long been well settled, some of them it may be unwisely, but we believe none of them injuriously. Without pausing therefore, to affirm or deny the positions of the M. . W. . Grand Master, we prefer to content ourselves with the exposition of the law as it is, as the soundest and safest rule, and it is to repeat the language of Subdivision 12 of Section 8: "That the ballot for candidates or for membership, is strictly and inviolably secret." And we adopt this course, not from any disrespect to our honored Grand Master, but for the very contrary reason that we have such regard for his opinions, both from his high character as an intelligent mason and able lawyer, that we feel a reluctance in venturing our own judgments where they conflict with his.

The statistical tables of the District Deputy Grand Masters, except the 4th and 8th, are very full and exceedingly valuable. We regret that a recapitulation was not presented. We gather from these tables, leaving out the 4th and 8th, which were not returned, that there are reported to Grand for that year, members, 42,531; expulsions, 46; rejections, 2247; deaths, 450. This is indeed a grand showing, and it is not surprising that so excellent a deliberative body as the Grand of New York could be found in so large a number of masons.

M. . W. . Robert D. Holmes was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . James M. Austin Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1866.

M. . W. . EDWIN G. READE, Grand Master.

This Grand held its Annual Communication at Raleigh, December 3d, at which 122 were represented.

The M. . W. . Grand Master opens his annual address as follows:

There were at our last Grand Communication 163 , working under charters. With the charters granted them, and the dispensations issued since, the number of at this time approximates 200. There were at the same time more than 12,000 members. With estimated initiations since, the number of

members must approximate 13,000. This is an average of more than two [] for every county, and comprises one-eighth of the whole adult white male population of the State. I have corresponded with most of the [] and with many of the brethren; I have instructed the officers, and especially the Grand Lecturers, to be diligent and earnest, not only in teaching the ritual, but in inculcating a high moral standard. I have reason to believe from their reports, and from the order which reigns, and from the increase of numbers, that they have been successful, and that the fraternity were never so numerous or more harmonious. The exceptional cases appear in the reports which I have filed and are not numerous.

My information from other jurisdictions is of the same cheering character. This is the more gratifying and the more remarkable, as we have passed through the severest ordeal to which benevolence was ever subjected. Everything else is broken, divided, discordant. But over the whole world we are friendly, and know no other name than brother. The lesson taught us is one of commendable pride of our ancient and noble institution, to which men flee in times of peril as to a rock of safety.

Our relations with our sister Grand [] are of the most satisfactory and fraternal character. The only disturbance threatened was with the Grand [] of New York. At our last communication we had information, upon which we reasonably relied, that the Grand [] of New York had sent an emissary into the State to establish negro [], and that a negro [] had been established at Newbern. I have corresponded with the Grand Master of New York, and I am happy to say that the fact was not so. It seems that there is a negro Grand [] in the State of New York, and that it was the negro Grand [] which had sent out the emissary. The only ground of complaint which we can have against the Grand [] of New York is, that she did not warn us of the existence in her midst of a negro Grand []. The excuse for this is, as I judge from my correspondence with the Grand Master, that they regard it as "perfectly harmless." But so it is not regarded by us. Among a population so degraded and ignorant as the negro population of the South, our institution, so powerful for good when properly guarded, would be as powerful for mischief when thus abandoned. Indeed, a spurious body of masons, whether black or white, is a matter of serious alarm, ought never to be considered as "perfectly harmless," and the craft ought instantly to be put on their guard. And this we say, not in any spirit of acrimony, but in the freedom of friendly counsel.

The "mystic tie" is touched upon in a passage full of beauty, and closes thus:

Not many years ago a worthy mechanic removed to a city from a distant State and died before he had made acquaintances, and left his family destitute. The weather was most inclement; their home was cheerless; the mother was sick; the children hungry. One thing after another had been sold for bread, until all was gone. A crisis seemed at hand. They must die or beg. Again she searched to see if nothing remained. She found, neatly folded, a lambskin or white leather apron—the emblem of innocence, and the badge of a mason—which she had seen her husband wear in masonic processions. The tear came, the voice sobbed, and the heart sank. Could she part with it? Was it of any value? Would any one have it? Necessity compelled. She offered it to a merchant. He asked many questions; wrote her name and residence; supplied her wants, and bid her call again. Soon might be seen a group talking earnestly together; soon the widow's uncomfortable tenement was exchanged for a neat cottage; the floor was carpeted; the furniture appropriate; the fire blinked bonnily; the children were fed and clad and glesome, and the widow's heart was happy, and "Carol'd light as lark at morn."

And yet no one knew who did it, and none sought praise for it! This is one of your secrets, brethren, for which the world censures you.

Religion fits men for heaven, and that is the best. Masonry fits men for the world, and that is the next; and these two are friendly to each other.

So long as the Grand Master of the Universe shall preside and give us instructions for our work, so long will we labor in the quarries, and exhibit specimens of our skill. And when He shall declare the temple finished, and shall close His \square on earth and open it in Heaven, we will obey His summons there,

"To bring forth the cap-stone
With shouting and praise."

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of fifteen Grand \square —ours not noticed. It is a fair digest of the most interesting portions of other Grand \square proceedings, which might be of interest to the masons of North Carolina.

From the statistical portion of the proceedings we append the recapitulation entire:

Number of members returned.....	8,828
Number of resident masons not members returned.....	839

Whole number.....	9,667
Number of \square making returns in the year 1866.....	147
Initiated.....	671
Passed.....	640
Raised.....	630
Admitted.....	200
Rejected.....	343
Suspended.....	4
Expelled.....	22
Reinstated.....	1
Withdrawn.....	392
Died.....	109
Resident masons excluded for non-payment of dues.....	76

AGGREGATE OF LODGES.

No. Lodges making returns in the year 1866.....	147
“ “ from which no returns were received.....	11
“ “ chartered by Grand \square , Dec. 1866.....	20

No. Lodges at work.....	178
“ “ gone out of existence.....	82

No. Lodges formerly and at present existing.....	260

AGGREGATE OF MASONS.

Whole number returned.....	9,667
Number not returned (estimated by same ratio as those returned)	725
Estimated membership of \square working under dispensation.....	600

Total membership and resident masons not members.....	10,992

OHIO, 1866.

M. . W. . THOMAS SPARROW, Grand Master.

This Most Worshipful Grand Body met in Annual Communication at Toledo, October 16th, with representatives from 305 chartered \square and 18 under dispensation.

The address of the Grand Master is a well-written document, but chiefly a recital of his official acts, and hence, of but little interest to the craft outside the jurisdiction of that Grand \square .

In speaking of the relation between politics and masonry, he says:

The ever-varying opinions of mankind upon religious and political topics will, perhaps, never be reconciled. Freemasonry does not attempt it; but she invites her votaries to the exercise of mutual candor and forbearance. Her great aim is the preservation of peace and harmony, and the cultivation of the social affections. Accordingly, it is provided that "quarrels about nations and State policy must not be brought within the doors of the □." "We are of all nations, tongues, kindreds and languages, and are resolved against all politics, as what never yet conduced to the welfare of a □, nor ever will."

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence presents a review of the proceedings of twenty-nine Grand □, and is a well-written document.

In his reply to our sister, California, on the subject of occupying halls used by other secret societies, such as "Odd Fellows," "Sons of Malta," &c., &c., Brother Cunningham, chairman of the committee, says:

Some years since the writer had personal knowledge of a □ that, from unforeseen circumstances, felt itself obliged to occupy temporarily a hall owned and used by the Independant Order of Odd Fellows, a society for which the writer has the most profound respect, as he believes it to be an institution productive of good results to our fellow-men. The hall was also used by the "Sons of Malta," and although each body claimed to have very careful persons in charge of their own peculiar emblems, yet when a □ of masons convened it was by no means an unusual occurrence to find the □ room adorned with the paraphernalia of the Odd Fellows, and our plain masonic clothing intermixed with their gorgeous regalia. Neither was it a *rare* thing to find the grotesque masks and gowns of the Sons of Malta strewed upon the chairs, the venerable looking beard and mask of the *Grand Commander*, and the adornments of his satellites conspicuous in the East, and the Grand Tank (*a tub of water and a huge sponge*) doing duty in that part of the □ room where a mason naturally expects to see an altar; whilst in the North (more appropriately, perhaps, as we deem it a place of darkness) could be seen an affair labelled "The Mystic Volume," flanked by a singularly *rough* looking "inclined plane," with sharp cornered rollers; so that under these or similar circumstances, it would require at least a great stretch of the imagination for a mason to believe his □ room to be a "sacred retreat, veiled from the eyes of the profane."

After carefully reviewing the defense of Grand Master Whiting of the District of Columbia, of the action of that Grand □ in permitting its subordinates to make masons of sojourners, or, in other words, residents of other Grand □ jurisdictions, the committee lay down, we think, truthfully, the following propositions:

1st. That a foot note of the Grand Master can not explain away the legitimate meaning of the term citizen, as embodied in the constitution of the Grand □ of the District of Columbia.

2d. That the conferring of degrees upon rejected candidates or citizens of other jurisdictions, without the consent of the □ having jurisdiction, involves an infringement of universally conceded rights (within the United States) of Grand □ and their subordinates.

3d. That no □, subordinate or grand, can legislate away the rights or prerogatives of an individual mason, nor those of another subordinate or Grand Body of masons.

4th. That no □ has the right to initiate, pass or raise a candidate who has been previously rejected by another □, until such action has been legally reversed, or the consent of the objecting □ obtained.

5th. That □, negatively, have rights over "profanes," who are citizens within their jurisdictions, and their consent must be obtained before such citizens can be made masons by other □.

6th. That the ancient constitutions having sufficiently determined as to the qualifications of a candidate and matters relating thereto, any masonic body has the right of protest against the direct or implied infringement of any clause therein contained.

The receipts for dues, dispensation fees, &c., foot up \$12,249.00. The craft in this jurisdiction are in a thriving, healthy condition.

The M. . W. . Grand Master and R. . W. . Grand Secretary were re-elected.

OREGON, 1860.

M. . W. . AMORY HOLBROOK, Grand Master.

This Grand met in Annual Communication at Salem, September 17th. Representatives were present from twenty-two .

The address of the Grand Master is a very fair masonic document, full of wholesome advice; touching, however, upon little that interests the craft at large.

The statistics for that year showed the number of contributing masons to be 783; initiated, 152; passed, 143; raised, 127. Grand dues, \$1,295.08.

We regret exceedingly that we have no later "tidings from the craft" in Oregon, than 1860.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1866.

R. . W. . LUCIUS H. SCOTT, Grand Master.

This Grand held its Quarterly Grand Communication at Philadelphia, December 3d, 186 represented. The record shows nothing but the election of officers and Boards of Trustees.

A Grand Extra Communication was held at the same place December 17th, sixty-two represented.

Resolutions relating to the death of Past Grand Master Josiah Randall were adopted and ordered to be printed with the minutes.

The total receipts for the year are \$53,288.71, and the disbursements \$50,448.87, leaving a balance on hand of \$2,839.84.

The Grand Annual Communication was held at the same place December 27th, R. . W. . Brother Lucius H. Scott Grand Master, presiding. There were representatives from forty-nine present.

The Grand Master's address is a well prepared paper, setting forth matters, more particularly, of local interest. In referring to the progress masonry has made in his jurisdiction during nine years, from 1856 to 1865, he presents the following table of statistics:

1856.	Number of <input type="checkbox"/>	133
	" of Members,	11,195
	" of Members of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> ,	1,046
	Amount of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> Debt,	\$151,000
	" of Charity Funds,	38,125
1861.	Number of <input type="checkbox"/>	172
	" of Members,	13,651
	" of Members of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> ,	1,599
1861.	Amount of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> debt,	\$73,200
	" of Charity Funds,	75,870
1865.	Number of <input type="checkbox"/>	190
	" of Members,	20,256
	" of Members of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> ,	2,165
	Amount of Grand <input type="checkbox"/> debt,	\$11,000
	" of Charity Funds,	98,470

Thus in nine years the increase in the number of [] has been fifty-seven; increase in members, nine thousand and sixty-one; increase in members of the Grand [], eleven hundred and twenty-five; increase in amount of Charity Fund, sixty thousand three hundred and forty-five dollars; and reduction of the Grand [] debt from one hundred and fifty-one thousand to eleven thousand dollars. At the present time—and for several months past—this balance has been entirely paid, and the last bond redeemed and cancelled.

And then makes the following well-timed remark:

In the full fruition of this extraordinary prosperity, is there no danger that brethren will lose sight of those pure and simple principles and practices taught by the early fathers of the order, and inculcated in the ancient landmarks? Few things are better calculated to produce such results than the too rapid accumulation of membership in the different [].

The committee on Foreign Correspondence present a report acknowledging the receipt of proceedings from thirty-four Grand [], but they do not extract from the proceedings, nor prepare a digest of the statistical condition of sister Grand [] by which the craft in Pennsylvania may arrive at a knowledge of the doings and progress of the fraternity at large. And in fact, the proceedings of this Grand Body do not furnish us with the statistical condition of the craft in its own jurisdiction, further than the information given in the foregoing extract from the Grand Master's address.

R. . W. . John L. Goddard was elected Grand Master and R. . W. . John Thomson Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND, 1865-66.

M. . W. . THOMAS A. DOYLE, Grand Master.

This Grand [] held a Festival Communication at East Greenwich, June 26, 1865, from the report of which, we judge our friends in that jurisdiction had a *happy* time. We wish them many just such joyful occasions; and, your committee very seldom object to attending festivals—such as masonry provides. They beget many social pleasures and recollections.

The Grand [] held its Grand Communications at Providence, November 27, 1865, May 21, 1866, and a called Communication June 25, 1866.

We find no address by the Grand Master, and no report on Foreign Correspondence. We find but little in the proceedings of this Grand [] of interest to the craft at large.

The Grand Secretary reports the receipt of \$1,020.00 as dues. The number of initiations was 233; passings, 228; raisings, 214; admissions, 5; rejections, 101; dimissions, 15; total number of members, 2394.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1866.

M. . W. . JAS. L. ORR, Grand Master.

The Grand Annual Communication of this Grand [] was held at Charleston, November 20th, with a representation from thirty-eight [].

The Grand Master's address contains some very wholesome masonic counsel to the brethren of the Grand [], and indicates emanation from a genial heart, such a heart as always beats within a *true* mason's breast.

In speaking of his installation as Grand Master by M. . W. . Brother A. T.

C. Pierson, Past Grand Master of the Grand \square of Minnesota, in Solomon's \square , No. 1, in the city of Charleston, he uses the following beautiful language:

This ceremony was attended by brethren representing nearly every State in the Union—conducted by a worthy brother residing in the far West, and representing a people who, only a few brief months before, were arrayed in arms against our people, but who, as soon as the obligations and allegiance of the belligerents, to their respective governments permitted, united on a common altar, and cheerfully buried the animosities of the past in oblivion. No sooner was peace proclaimed than our fraternal relations were re-established, and the harmony of our temple reconstructed without question, conditions or amendments. The charity of christian churches has not yet been found equal to the obliteration of the bitter dissensions in the past, and yet our brotherhood is firmly—gloriously re-established. Such is masonry! May we prove worthy exemplars of an institution which teaches such tenets as generously dispel from our bosoms all hate and malice against a brother.

There have been some signal illustrations of the complete restoration of fraternal relations among masons in every section of the Union, and of the disposition of \square and brethren to alleviate the misfortunes which have overtaken us in various ways within the past few miserable years.

We like to hear of such a state of masonic zeal, uprightness, circumspection and scrutiny as he speaks of in the following closing remarks of his address:

Brethren, the institution was never in a more flourishing moral and social condition in South Carolina than at the present time. Harmony and good feeling reign supreme in most of the subordinate \square within the jurisdiction—the officers and members are earnest and zealous in their work, and exemplary in their conduct and deportment—the \square are growing more circumspect in scrutinizing all applications for masonic honors, and they are applying the pruning knife with a firm and just hand to unworthy members.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is prepared by the Grand Secretary, R. . W. . Brother Albert G. Mackey, and is a well written paper, full of good doctrine. The report covers fifteen pages, and does not enter into a review of the proceedings of more than a dozen Grand \square . We are sorry that such is the case, and that the report takes within its scope so small a number of Grand \square proceedings, for it would have been, to us, a source of great pleasure to have read the criticisms of so eminent a masonic jurist as Brother Mackey, upon the actions and decisions of the masonic legislatures and courts of the whole country.

In commenting upon the sentiments expressed in the address of Grand Master English of Arkansas, Brother Mackey concludes his report in the following beautiful strain:

I am proud to claim as a friend and brother the man who could give utterance to such noble sentiments, and I am still more proud to feel that, like him, I am a member of that almost divine institution, of which such sentiments can be fully predicated. In the darkest hour of the night which has just passed over us, the star of masonry ever shone with "purest ray serene." In all the suffering and anguish and despair to which we have been subjected, masonry was always present, with its help and its support for the wounded and the captive, its arms of refuge for the widow and the orphan. Where there was the uttermost darkness, there was its light; where there was the deepest sorrow, there was its consolation; where the cloud was blackest, there was its silver lining, to give in the midst of the storm the promise of a calm. The G. . A. . O. . T. . U. . has given to our keeping this venerable institution. Our predecessors have preserved and handed it down to us unimpaired in all integrity—unaltered by the conflicts of nations, or the change of dynasties, and we have, I think, in the last trial through which it has passed, proved ourselves no un-

faithful gaardians of the sacred treasure. May those who come after us, like ourselves and like those who have gone before us, ever remember its puro principles of brotherly love, for so sure as the day comes when the controversies of religion, or the dissensions of politics, are engrafted on the marble columns of our temple, so surely will have arrived the fatal day when masonry shall have received its blow of death—and, prostrated to the earth, it will exhibit only the dismembered fragments of a once mighty institution, at last become the victim of human corruption.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a deficit of \$182.26.

W. . M. . James L. Orr was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . R. S. Bruns elected Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1866.

M. . W. . THOMAS A. HAMILTON, Grand Master.

The Annual Communication of this Grand was held at Nashville December 3d, with a representation from 193 chartered and 23 under dispensation.

The M. . W. . Grand Master being absent, R. . W. . John F. Stover, Deputy Grand Master, presided.

The Grand Master's address is almost exclusively confined to a recital of his official actions, decisions, &c., during the year. In regard to "building material," he uses the following very sensible language:

We were a little pained to learn that the opinion prevailed among many of the brethren that all who applied should be recommended to the , even though the brothers signing the recommendation felt that they could not vote for the applicant. We must condemn this over-good nature on the part of the brethren in presenting the petitions of unworthy men. It is a bad practice. Bad material might sometimes get into the . The brethren should never seek to evade the responsibility of refusing to recommend the unworthy, nor should they shift the responsibility of refusal from one to another. Firmness is a masonic virtue, and should always be observed in preserving the purity of our order. No brother should ever recommend any one unless he is satisfied that he is every way "worthy and well-qualified."

The Grand Master submits his decisions on several questions propounded to him, one of which we append. The point raised is as follows: "A gentleman petitioned — , No. —, for initiation, and was rejected. After the lapse of twelve months, he petitioned a neighboring having the same jurisdictional limits. When the petition came up for action, a member of the first named entered a protest, on the ground that his had exclusive jurisdiction over the applicant, because he had first applied to his . The brother entering the protest disclaimed any objections as to the good character or moral worth of the applicant, and simply raised the question of jurisdiction."

To which the Grand Master makes the following reply:

Where two or more have the same jurisdiction, and the applicant is as well known in one as the other, (as in this case,) he has a right to apply to either, at his option, at the end of his probation.

We cannot concur in the above decision. We believe that a rejected applicant remains the property, so to speak, of the rejecting him, and that the unanimous consent of the *so rejecting*, must be obtained before any other can receive and act upon his petition.

We extract from the report of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence the subjoined question, and their answer, which was adopted by the Grand :

Question. Can a brother be elected Master of a □ without previously having been elected and served as a Warden?

Answer. It has been a practice to elect Masters from those only who have served as Wardens; but the practice is not to be adhered to. □ should select their best men to fill the offices.

This decision is not in harmony with the generally received authorities on masonic law and usage, except in certain plainly defined cases. As, for instance, Section 38 of the Constitution of New York, which is quoted by that eminent masonic jurist, M. W. Brother John W. Simons, in his "Principles of Masonic Jurisprudence," says: "No member can be Master of a □ unless he has been previously installed and served as an elected Warden for one year, except at the institution of a new □, when no Warden or Past Master is found to serve as Master." The 4th ancient charge also contains these words: "No brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellow Craft; *nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden.*" Likewise Brother Albert G. Mackey, who is universally acknowledged, we believe, as good authority, says: "No one is eligible to election as the Master of a □ unless he has previously served in the office of Warden." We might multiply authorities on this subject, but enough has already been said.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence very ably review the proceedings of thirty-four Grand □, our own for 1865 among the number. The report is very interesting to us, and we regret that time and space forbid quotations. The report is prepared by Brother Charles A. Fuller, R. W. Grand Secretary.

An oration, covering some twenty-six pages, was delivered before the Grand □ by Brother P. G. Stiver Perkins. It is a fine production, and we would like to quote from it but cannot do the oration justice without giving it entire.

Total receipts for the year were \$8,594.05. Number of initiations, 2570; passings, 2233; raisings, 2043. Total number of Master Masons, 13,724.

M. W. Joseph M. Anderson was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Chas. A. Fuller re-elected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1866.

M. W. ROBERT M. ELGIN, Grand Master.

This Grand □ met in Annual Communication in the city of Houston, June 11th, sixty-six □ represented.

The address of the Grand Master contains but little of interest to the craft generally. He notices the death of Past Grand Master Ruthven in very appropriate language. He also refers, very feelingly, to two vacant places in his own household—his wife and child. We desire to express our sympathy with Bro. Elgin in his afflictions.

We find but little in the proceedings of this Grand □ of general interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is presented by Brother W. B. Botts, chairman of the committee. It reviews the proceedings of twenty-eight Grand □, our own not mentioned. We see nothing in it demanding special mention at our hands, unless it be a *slight dig* at Mr. (?) Morris and the *Conservators*, which the committee take occasion to make in their *finale*.

Total number of members, 10,025; total receipts, \$10,419.80; chartered \square , 288; under dispensation, 15.

M. . W. . Richard Duglass was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . George H. Bringham re-elected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT, 1866.

M. . W. . LEVERETT B. ENGLSBY, Grand Master.

The Annual Communication of this Grand Body was held at Rutland, January 10th, sixty-eight chartered and three under dispensation \square were represented.

The address of Grand Master Englesby is a sound document, full of wholesome counsel, and although there is little in it that may be of general interest to the craft, it is worthy of being read by those who can appreciate good masonic doctrine. We notice a resolution offered by the committee on Grievances in a report upon the unmasonic conduct of some members of — \square , No. 41, upon a funeral occasion, at which this \square , together with the members of — \square , No. 12, under the jurisdiction of the Grand \square of New Hampshire, participated in the ceremonies. It seems that the unruly members above referred to, became intoxicated, thereby reflecting great discredit on the fraternity at large, and particularly disgracing the members of the \square from the sister jurisdiction; and for which conduct, we think the unruly members, as well as the officers, ought to be brought to a strict account. The resolution is as follows:

Resolved, That the Grand \square of Vermont reprove the conduct of St. Johns \square , No. 41, so far as the conduct of some of its members was concerned, on the funeral occasion of the 3d of April, 1864, and the insufficiency of the trial and punishment thereof, and that St. Johns \square offer an apology for injuries received on that occasion.

We cannot see where this \square received any injuries, unless it was the disgrace brought upon it by the drunkenness of some of its own members, nor do we see why it should be compelled to apologise for receiving such injury.

But, laying aside all *technicalities*, we desire to throw our influence against this abominable, unmasonic practice of intoxication. It is a gross masonic offense, and deserving nothing less than suspension or expulsion.

The Grand Secretary's account shows the receipts to be \$1,893.00

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence contains a review of the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Bodies, our own not in the list. The paper is well prepared, covering one hundred and twenty-five pages—fifty-one of which, are devoted to two Grand \square .

M. . W. . Leverett B. Englesby was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Henry Clark Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA, 1866.

M. . W. . EDWARD H. LANE, Grand Master.


This Grand \square met in Annual Communication in the city of Richmond, December 10th, with representatives from eighty-four \square .



The Grand Master's address is a short but very well written document, opening in the following sensible, masonic style:

I meet you again at the close of this masonic year, greeting you around this sacred altar. Sacred—for it is here we meet as one united family, knowing no difference but that which exists between virtue and vice.


Politicians, for the spoils of office and other selfish ends, may stir up the bitterest feelings and excite the most malignant passions of the human heart; religious fanatics and narrow-minded bigots may foment discord and engender feelings of hatred that all the efforts of the wise and prudent fail to fully counteract; but, thanks to a kind Providence, we come together this night around this altar upon one common platform, exclaiming from the very bottom of our hearts, "How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Here, in this hall, there is no difference recognized between the Jew and the Gentile—no inquiry into differences of opinion, religions or political. We are one. Our feelings—our objects—our aims—are the same. Uninfluenced by mercenary motives, we are determined to fulfill the great end of our mission—"Peace on earth and good will towards all mankind." As Masons, we are peaceable and quiet citizens. And it is a source of the highest gratification to know, that although we have passed through, and are still passing through an ordeal, filling our minds with the most anxious solicitude for the fate of the "Mother of States; yet, amid all this, we rejoice to know that we, as masons, still hold in sacred veneration the three great duties enjoined on us by the teachings of our blessed order—to God, our neighbors and ourselves." We are not desponding. Masonry has stood the trial of darker days than these and kept her garments unspotted. She can and will do it again.

Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, when practised by an honest and faithful brotherhood, can soften down the bitterest feelings that rancor in the human heart. This, by the help of God, we will do, and teach the nations of the earth this lesson, that sooner or later will be learned, that the true interest and happiness of nations, as well as individuals, is secured by dwelling together in "unity."

The committee on Foreign Correspondence acknowledge the receipt of communications from thirty-two Grand , Nebraska included, and in the opening of their report, say:

These reports have been placed in the hands of your committee only during the last few days, and among them we welcome, for the first time among Grand , reports from the new Grand  of Montana and Nova Scotia.

These reports are so voluminous that we have by no means undertaken to read them through. Many of them are too large in size, and contain matter irrelevant to our institution—indeed, they are really *de omnibus rebus, et quibusdam aliis*. Politics, poetry, personal and sectional prejudice, with a small amount of masonry sprinkled in to add a flavor, appear to constitute the mass of them. In most of them the Grand Masters and committees on Foreign Correspondence are simply ventilating their rhetoric, while resolving themselves into mutual admiration or crimination societies.

The best of them by far, and the one that we except from this sweeping censure, is that from Missouri; and the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence from that Grand , we are willing, in the main, to adopt. It is from the pen of Brother George Frank Gouley, to whom we extend a cordial greeting while rendering our most hearty thanks for the pleasure that his lively pages have afforded us. From him we shall make large quotations, because he has so well expressed what we had ourselves intended to have said.

The reports from California and Vermont rank next in merit, and have been perused by us with both pleasure and advantage.

The committee then quote from Brother Gouley; Grand Master of Arkansas; Brother Gouley on District of Columbia; Address of Grand Master Guilbert; Brother Gouley on Brother Guilbert; and also Brother Gouley on Indiana, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia, and the *review* closes.

From reading this report, we are involuntarily led to think, that, when Brother Gouley takes a pinch of snuff, the brethren of the "mother of States" immediately sneeze.

M. W. Edward H. Lane was re-elected Grand Master, and R. W. John Dove Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1866.

M. W. JOHN T. WENTWORTH, Grand Master.

This Most Worshipful Grand Body held its Annual Communication at Milwaukee, June 12th, representatives from one hundred and twenty-eight chartered and eleven U. D. [] were present.

The address of the Grand Master is a paper well prepared, and speaks from a true masonic heart. In reference to the swelling of the ranks of the fraternity by the return of the army from the field of battle, he uses the following well-timed and appropriate language:

But while this increase has added much good material, have we not reason to fear that some that is bad—worthless, even—has also found a place in our mystic temple? We should ever remember that the strength of our institution does not lie in numbers, simply, but in the unity of the spirit, and harmony of our actions as members of the several subordinate [], rather. Nor should we consider ourselves prosperous as an order, simply because of its popularity, and that its praises are upon the tongues of the many. "Woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you," was the solemn warning of Him who spake as never man spake; and may not we, my brethren, profit thereby? Should our noble institution ever be shorn of its strength in any degree, it will scarcely result from persecution, however bitter or fierce. But what the storms of persecution will be unable to do, the potent rays of the sun of popular favor may accomplish.

Although, by such means, its usefulness may for a time be impaired, and its progress impeded, yet, neither the blandishments of the world, the fierce bolts from without, nor the jarring discords within, have been, nor ever will be, able to disturb the foundations of the order; for it is founded upon a rock, and is as stable as aught on earth can be,—yea, more,—its principles are as the pillars of eternal Justice and Truth, and will remain, when all material objects shall have passed away, and be found near the throne of the Eternal.

He closes his address with the following beautiful tribute to masonry, and points the craft in his jurisdiction, to a higher, nobler standard of masonic education and morals:

Masonry is not composed merely of forms and ceremonies. These indeed it has, and employs for the inculcation of great truths, and for which purpose they are chiefly valuable. Through those solemn forms and impressive ceremonies, instruction is imparted to the candidate, calculated to effect in a beneficent manner, his life and conduct. And while we may justly regard the sublime symbols of our order with feelings akin to veneration, let us not be unmindful of that which they so significantly symbolize. Let us not amuse ourselves with shadows, and permit the substance to elude our grasp. And while those beautiful symbols appear to us as "pictures of silver," may we never fail to see, deep set within them, the "apples of gold."

Thus would I urge the craft throughout this jurisdiction to make high attainments in masonic knowledge. To become thoroughly familiar with all that pertains to our noble order; its impressive lectures, and ritualistic ceremonies; its solemn requirements and sacred duties; its ancient landmarks; its constitutions and its laws; its holy teachings and sublime principles. To study, not the name of the thing simply, but the thing itself; and never resting satisfied merely with that masonic education—that learning which "plays around the head, but comes not near the heart." May such acquirements be sought by the exemplification of which, in the life and conduct of its members, the benign influence of our time-honored institution shall be felt by all, "and the whole world be convinced of its good effects."

The committee on Jurisprudence in a report to the Grand \square , pronounce "army-made masons," *clandestine*, and that they are, under no circumstances, to be recognized by the \square of this jurisdiction, "till formally healed."

We think that "army \square " have been productive of a great deal of evil, and that masonry, rather than being benefitted thereby, has been greatly injured. Yet, while we are willing to acknowledge this, we think we ought, in justice to those *good men and true*, who first saw masonic light while in the army, to make the best of the bad bargain we helped to make. We don't believe they are *clandestine*, neither should they be treated as such by any Grand \square . We plead guilty to having made *one* army \square , *but we don't think we are the worse for the deed*. Army \square have existed for a great many years, and from the fact of such existence, we think they have been made "under the law," and hence, per consequence, do not merit the charge of being clandestine. But enough on this subject.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Brother R. DeLos Pulford, chairman, and is a creditable paper, covering only seventeen pages however. It reviews the proceedings of twenty-two Grand \square , ours not included.

We copy the following very appropriate remarks from the opening of the report, because the subject is of general interest, and your committee have reason to know that a certain class of persons described in the extract appended, are to be seen every day in our midst:

There is great reason to fear that officers of subordinate \square are remiss in their duties in not warning brethren against imposters. Every brother must have observed, that in traveling upon cars and steamboats, at stations and landings, he finds displayed masonic pins, rings and badges of various kinds. How natural for the unreflecting to suppose that this display is honest and true, and that the wearer of the badge is a mason. Your committee have reason to, and do know, from actual experience, that much of this is assumed by pretentious persons for the purpose of receiving the friendly aid of masons without having received any knowledge of the real secrets and scientific knowledge of masonry.

While it should not be our object to exclude any of the truly worthy and deserving from the benefits of our order, it should be our object to keep aloof from the idle, curious, the indiscreet and the meddling. Caution should always be observed in greeting of masons, and it is always safer to *know* through the action of a \square or the voucher of a *brother* the actual character and standing of a mason, than to take it for granted upon a mere profession.

The craft in this jurisdiction appears to be in a flourishing condition. Increase of Master Masons for 1865 over previous year, 813; increase of dues, \$637.50.

M. W. M. L. Youngs was elected Grand Master, and R. W. W. T. Palmer re-elected Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1865.

A convention was called at Fairmont on the 12th day of April, 1865, for the purpose of organizing a Grand \square for this State. Grand officers were elected, and after transacting other necessary business the convention adjourned to meet in Wheeling on the 10th of May following.

The convention met pursuant to adjournment, when nine \square were represented.

M. . W. . W. B. Thrall, Past Grand Master of Ohio, was present for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers.

M. . W. . Brother Thrall delivered a very appropriate address, after which the Grand Officers were installed, and the convention was dissolved.

A Grand Communication was held subsequent to the dissolution of the convention, M. . W. . Wm. J. Bates, Grand Master, presiding.

The address of the Grand Master is an able document, devoted principally to the matter of organization of the Grand . A small amount of business was transacted, and the Grand was closed until the 17th of January, 1866.

A Special Communication was held at Wheeling on the 4th of July, 1865, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a monument in the Soldiers Burying Ground.

The first Grand Annual Communication was held at Wheeling on 17th January, 1866, M. . W. . Wm. J. Bates, Grand Master, presiding. Seventeen were represented.

The address of Grand Master Bates is a good masonic document,—chiefly of local interest, however.

Nothing of special interest to the fraternity at large is found in the proceedings of this communication.

A Special Communication was again called at Wheeling on the 3d day of July, 1866, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a new Methodist Episcopal Church.

The second Grand Annual Communication was held at Wheeling January 22, 1867, M. . W. . Wm. J. Bates, Grand Master, presiding. Eighteen were present by their representatives.

The address of the Grand Master is an excellent paper—well prepared, and glitters with true masonic spirit. In discussing sundry questions that arose between this Grand Body and the Grand of Virginia, consequent upon the division of the State of Virginia, and the organization of the new Grand , the Grand Master uses language becoming the dignity of his position, and shows that charity, that love which should ever actuate a brother in all his dealings with his fellow men, and more especially with masons. We quote the following from his address:

Firmly convinced, that the facts and circumstances of the case, as well as the histories of most of the Grand in the United States abundantly prove, that the course pursued in the formation of this Grand was strictly legal, and in entire conformity to the law and usages of masonry, I could not permit the declaration of the Grand of Virginia, that the act creating this Grand , was one of "rebellion," to pass unnoticed. Yet, in discussing the subject, I have endeavored to refrain from any expression calculated to excite unpleasant feelings. I desire to promote peace and maintain harmony with the Grand of Virginia—a body, which, by reason of its wisdom and age, is worthy of our highest respect and veneration. And, although we have constituted a Grand for ourselves, I trust that our regard for the parent Grand will remain unimpaired, and that there will be no severance of association or correspondence; but that in the future, we shall cultivate for each other the most sincere fraternal relations.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence embodies a review of the proceedings of thirty-one Grand . Nebraska, for 1866, noticed. The

document is well prepared and reflects a good deal of credit upon the writer, as well for the style in which it is written, as the moderate, gentlemanly, masonic language employed.

M. . W. . Wm. J. Bates was re-elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Thos. H. Logan Grand Secretary.

WASHINGTON, 1866.

M. . W. . ELWOOD EVANS, Grand Master.

This Grand Body held its Annual Communication at Olympia, September 19th, R. . W. . Wm. H. Wood, Deputy Grand Master, presiding. Six chartered [] were represented.

The address was delivered by the R. . W. . Deputy Grand Master, the M. . W. . Grand Master being absent. It is a short document, and is simply a statement of his official acts.

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence was presented by R. . W. . Brother T. M. Reed, Grand Secretary. It was a digest of the proceedings of twelve Grand [], Nebraska not among the number, its proceedings having been received by the committee too late for notice in their report.

The report of the committee is chiefly an extract from other Grand [] proceedings of the various opinions held in regard to the *jurisdictional controversy* between the Most Worshipful Grand [] of Washington and that of Oregon. As that subject has been pretty thoroughly discussed, we refrain from debating it in this report.

M. . W. . T. M. Reed was elected Grand Master, and R. . W. . Wm. H. Wood Grand Secretary.

FRANCE, 1866-67.

We have before us the proceedings of the Grand Orient of France in the "*Bulletin*." The number for June, July and August, 1866, contains a voluminous discussion of 333 articles constituting the Masonic Code of the order. We regret that time and space interdict the reproduction of this most interesting discussion, but assure our masonic friends in America that it will abundantly repay careful perusal. If the eloquence of some of our brethren in France in this science became what we would term very fervent, it will also be self-evident that such fervency emanated solely from zeal and love of the order.

The Bulletin for July, 1867, contains a very interesting discussion upon the action of the [] of Futurity (*l'avenir*) in adopting certain articles establishing a committee of "Free-thinkers." The following are some of the articles alluded to:

Article 2. The Free-thinkers admit no *truths* except those which are *demonstrated by reason*; no *moral law* but such as is *sanctioned by conscience*.

Article 5. They declare, in consequence, that they *pledge themselves to die outside of all religious forms*.

There are ten articles in the same spirit, and the following form of request is signed and placed in the hands of not less than three brothers—Free-thinkers—for the purpose of having each member's desire carried out,—“I, the undersigned expressly *declare my desire to die and be buried outside of all manner of religious forms*, and I specially charge brothers — — — to superintend the fulfillment of my desires, &c., &c.”

In consequence of this action Grand Master Mellinet suspended "Futurity □," and after a short but eloquent debate, the council maintained the suspension pronounced by the Grand Master, and fixed the term of suspension at six months.

Many and numerous are the beauties in the eloquent addresses of the Grand Master, Mellinet, the Grand Orator, Ratier, and the Orator of the day, Beringer, on the occasion of the magnificent banquet on the 29th December, 1866, and in the remarks of many others of our talented brethren, as reported in the Bulletin.

We repeat our regrets that we cannot give them here, but the perusal of these proceedings has been a source of intense pleasure to us, and will enkindle a feeling of endearing pride of our beloved order, in all who are fortunate enough to read the proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, for they cannot fail to feel that masonry is nobly and truthfully represented in *la belle France*, and that while such zealous love of the order permeates the administration of masonry in that favored land, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity will be more than mere words.

IRELAND, 1865-66-67.

We have perused with peculiar pleasure the documents forwarded us from the Grand □ of Ireland. They give evidence of "masonry in action,"—no glorifications of the order, merely, but the "report of the Masonic Female Orphans' School," an institution founded and supported in accordance with the principles of Freemasonry. The notice of a grand meeting to be held for distribution of prizes to the scholars, are among the papers at our hand.

We are sorry that the proceedings of this Grand □ are not permitted to be published, for it would be a great pleasure to us to know more of the workings of the brotherhood in that "land across the sea."

M. : W. : His Grace Augustus Frederick, Duke of Leinster, was Grand Master, and R. : W. : the Honorable George Hancock, Grand Secretary.

With this, and a sigh of relief, our report closes. We offer it as the very feeble effort to discharge the *important work* of an *important committee*, and we humbly trust the labors of your committee may be viewed with that spirit of indulgence it deserves, rather than a spirit of criticism.

J. N. WISE,)
 GEO. C. BETTS,) Committee.
 D. H. WHEELER,)

Missouri.

In Memoriam.

ANTHONY O'SULLIVAN,

R.: W.: Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Missouri,

DIED AUGUST 11, A. L. 5866.

His Apron was unspotted from the world.

1875

THE UNIVERSITY OF

CHICAGO

LIBRARY

OF THE

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

AND

Pennsylvania.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM H. ADAMS,

R.: W.: Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,

DIED FEBRUARY 11, A. L. 5866.

His work was well done.

Geographical

2nd Edition

WILLIAM H. DAVIS

Rev. Wm. Good Society

Geographical

1850

1850

Pennsylvania.

In Memoriam.

JOHN L. GODDARD,

R.: W.: Grand Master

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,

DIED JULY 17, A. L. 5867.

Another Light has gone out.

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE, JANUARY 12, 1892.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE, IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE SENATE, APRIL 18, 1891.

JOHN J. GORDON,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, N. Y.

ALBANY: PUBLISHED BY J. B. KANE, 1892.

PRINTED BY J. B. KANE,

1892.

LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE M.: W.: THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA.
JUNE, 1867.

NO.	LODGES.	TOWNS.	COUNTIES.	MASTERS.	SECRETARIES.
1.	Nebraska.....	Bellevue.....	Sarpy.....	N. R. Wilcox.....	S. D. Bangs.....
2.	Western Star...	Nebraska City...	Otoe.....	J. A. Goodlett.....	J. J. Imhoff.....
3.	Capital.....	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	E. A. Allen.....	R. T. Beal.....
4.	Nemaha Valley..	Brownville.....	Nemaha.....	A. P. Cogswell.....	S. B. Tuttle.....
5.	Omadi.....	Dakota.....	Dakota.....	Wm. Adair.....	James Stott.....
6.	Plattsmouth.....	Plattsmouth.....	Cass.....	E. T. Duke.....	W. H. Anderson
7.	Decatur.....	Decatur.....	Burt.....	Frank Welch.....	J. B. Ira.....
8.	Columbus.....	Columbus.....	Platte.....	No Returns.....	
9.	Falls City.....	Falls City.....	Richardson.....	H. O. Hanna.....	L. VanDeusen...
10.	Solomon.....	Ft. Calhoun.....	Washington.....	E. H. Clark.....	Jas. S. Riddle...
11.	Covert.....	Omaha.....	Douglas.....	C. F. Catlin.....	J. S. Baker.....
12.	Nebraska City...	Nebraska City...	Otoe.....	G. D. Foglesong...	B. W. Knott.....
13.	Orient.....	Rulo.....	Richardson.....	J. V. Hollebaugh	
14.	Peru.....	Peru.....	Nemaha.....	Milton S. Peery...	J. F. Neal.....
15.	Fremont.....	Fremont.....	Dodge.....	S. W. Hays.....	E. H. Rogers.....

STATEMENT OF THE WORK

OF THE SEVERAL □ SUBORDINATE TO THE GRAND □ OF NEBRASKA, SHOWING THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP IN THE STATE, JUNE, 1867 :

No.	NAME OF LODGE.	LOCATION.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Master Masons.	Amount of Grand □ Dues.
1	Nebraska □.....	Bellevue.....	11	11	11	1	7	4	4	24	\$ 57 00		
2	Western Star □.....	Nebraska City.....	6	5	7	8	1	1	1	11	75 91 00		
3	Capital □.....	Omaha.....	10	8	8	13	1	1	1	1	99 119 00		
4	Nemaha Valley □.....	Brownville.....	8	8	11	5	1	14	2	56	72 00		
5	Omadi □.....	Dakota City.....	6	5	3	1	1	3	1	33	51 00		
6	Plattsmouth □.....	Plattsmouth.....	4	6	5	4	1	7	1	72	79 00		
7	Decatur □.....	Decatur.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	22	22 00		
8	Columbus □*.....	Columbus.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
9	Falls City □.....	Falls City.....	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	36	50 00		
10	Solomon □.....	Fort Calhoun.....	13	14	12	1	1	1	1	30	58 00		
11	Covert □.....	Omaha.....	16	15	16	6	1	1	1	49	75 00		
12	Nebraska City □.....	Nebraska City.....	23	27	27	14	1	7	1	52	98 00		
13	Orient □.....	Rulo.....	21	6	4	1	1	1	1	18	78 00		
14	Peru. □.....	Peru.....	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	15 00		
15	Fremont □.....	Fremont.....	15	12	11	1	1	1	1	20	54 00		
Total.....			140	120	116	51	1	8	1	155	6	595	\$919 00

* No report for this year.

SUSPENDED, EXPELLED, AND REINSTATED.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No.	LODGE.	LOCATION.	NAME.	DATE.
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Clark, H. T.	Dec 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Strickland, S. A.	Dec. 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Schimonsky, S. W. Y.	Dec. 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Prichard, Martin	Dec. 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Preston, J. H.	Dec. 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Beeman, S. G.	Dec. 18, 1866.....
1	Nebraska...	Bellevue.....	Joyce, William	Dec. 18, 1866.....

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

7 |Decatur.....|Decatur.....|Leaming, S. T.|May 30th, 1867.....

EXPELLED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

3 |Capital.....|Omaha.....|De Loss, T. H.....|July 10, 1866.....

REINSTATED.

3 |Capital.....|Omaha.....|Thayer, J. M.....|Nov. 5, 1866.....

AT REST.

No.	LODGE.	LOCATION.	NAMES.	DATE.
4	Nemaha Valley	Brownville.....	Brightmeyer, William.....	Sept. 24, 1866.....
4	Nemaha Valley	Brownville.....	Plasters, John.....	July 29, 1866.....
11	Covert.....	Omaha.....	Little, Wm. A.....	May 21, 1867.....
12	Nebraska City.	Nebraska City.....	Moodie, John W.....	March —, 1867.....
13	Orient.....	Rulo.....	Vandal, H. J.....	August 7, 1866.....

GRAND LODGES

IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

IN NORTH AMERICA.

GRAND LODGES.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	RESIDENCES.	ORGANIZED.
Alabama.....	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.....	June 14, 1821.....
Arkansas.....	Wm. D. Blocher.....	Little Rock.....	Feb. 22, 1832.....
California.....	Alex G. Abell.....	San Francisco.....	1850.....
Canada.....	Thomas B. Harris.....	Hamilton.....	Oct. 10, 1855.....
Colorado.....	Ed. C. Parmelee.....	Central City.....	Aug. 2, 1861.....
Connecticut.....	Jos. K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.....	July 8, 1789.....
Delaware.....	John P. Allmond.....	Wilmington.....	June 6, 1806.....
Dist. Columbia.....	Noble D. Larner.....	Washington.....	Feb. 19, 1811.....
Georgia.....	Simri Rose.....	Macon.....	Dec. 16, 1786.....
Illinois.....	H G. Reynolds.....	Springfield.....	Ap'l 6, 1840.....
Indiana.....	William Hacker.....	Indianapolis.....	Jan. 12, 1818.....
Iowa.....	Theodore S. Parvin.....	Iowa City.....	Jan. 8, 1844.....
Kansas.....	E. T. Carr.....	Ft. Leavenworth.....	March 17, 1856.....
Kentucky.....	J. M. S. McCorkle.....	Louisville.....	Oct. 13, 1800.....
Louisiana.....	Jas. C. Batchelor.....	New Orleans.....	July 11, 1812.....
Maine.....	Ira Berry.....	Portland.....	June 1, 1820.....
Maryland.....	J. H. Medairy.....	Baltimore.....	Ap'l 17, 1787.....
Massachusetts.....	Chas. W. Moore.....	Boston.....	Ap'l 30, 1733.....
Michigan.....	James Fenton.....	Detroit.....	June 28, 1826.....
Minnesota.....	Wm. S. Combs.....	St. Paul.....	Feb. 23, 1853.....
Mississippi.....	D. P. Porter.....	Jackson.....	July 27, 1818.....
Missouri.....	Geo. Frank Gouley.....	St. Louis.....	Ap'l 23, 1821.....
Montana.....	Wilbur F. Sanders.....	Virginia City.....	1866.....
Nevada.....	W. A. M. VanBokkelen.....	Virginia City.....	Jan. 16, 1865.....
New Hampshire.....	Horace Chase.....	Hopkinton.....	July 8, 1789.....
New Jersey.....	Joseph H. Hough.....	Trenton.....	Dec. 18, 1786.....
New York.....	Jas. M. Austin.....	New York.....	Sept. 5, 1781.....
North Carolina.....	D. W. Bain.....	Raleigh.....	Jan. 14, 1771.....
Ohio.....	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.....	Jan. 7, 1808.....
Oregon.....	J. E. Hurford.....	Oregon City.....	Sept. 15, 1851.....
Pennsylvania.....	John Thomson.....	Philadelphia.....	June 20, 1764.....
Rhode Island.....	Charles D. Greene.....	Providence.....	June 25, 1791.....
South Carolina.....	Robert S. Bruns.....	Charleston.....	March 24, 1787.....
Tennessee.....	Charles A. Fuller.....	Nashville.....	Oct. 14, 1794.....
Texas.....	Geo. H. Bringham.....	Houston.....	Dec. 20, 1837.....
Vermont.....	Henry Clark.....	Burlington.....	Oct. 14, 1794.....
Virginia.....	John Dove.....	Richmond.....	May 6, 1777.....
Washington.....	Wm. H. Wood.....	Stellacoomb.....	Dec. 9, 1858.....
West Virginia.....	Thomas H. Logan.....	Wheeling.....	April 12, 1865.....
Wisconsin.....	Wm. T. Palmer.....	Milwaukee.....	Dec. 18, 1843.....

ABROAD.

Gr. Orient of France.....	Thievenot.....	Paris.....	.....
Gr. Lodge of Ireland.....	John E. Hynderman.....	Dublin.....	.....

APPENDIX

TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA,

CONTAINING THE

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS,

RULES OF ORDER,

STANDING RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

OF THE GRAND LODGE,

TOGETHER WITH

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF SUBORDINATE LODGES,

THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY, BURIAL SERVICE,

AND MISCELLANEOUS FORMS.

A FRENCH
CONSTITUTION

GRAND LODGE OF FREEMASONS

MEMORIAL

Whereas the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, in its annual communication to the Grand Lodge of the United States, has presented the following memorial:

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

P R E A M B L E .

WHEREAS, every Grand possesses the inherent power to form a Constitution as the fundamental law of its masonic action, and to enact such By-Laws from time to time as it may deem necessary for its own government, and to make such rules and prescribe such regulations for the admission of its subordinate as will insure the prosperity thereof, and promote the general good of masonry; and whereas, every Grand is the true representative of all the fraternity in communication therewith, and is in that behalf an absolute and independent body, with supreme legislative authority: *Provided always*, That the ancient landmarks of the order be held inviolate: *Therefore*, upon these principles, which have never been disputed, the Grand of Nebraska does hereby ordain, establish and promulgate the following Constitution and By-Laws for its future government, and does make and prescribe the following Rules and Regulations for the government of the under its jurisdiction:

ARTICLE I.

This Grand shall forever hereafter be known by the name and style of the Grand of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II.

The Grand shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, and Grand Tyler, with such other officers as it may from time to time create; together with the Masters and Wardens, or their proxies, duly constituted, of the chartered under its jurisdiction; and such Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters as shall be present and are members of a subordinate .

ARTICLE III.

The Grand shall hold a Stated Communication at least once in every two years, at such time and in such place as may be designated in its By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION OF THE

ARTICLE IV.

The Grand shall not be opened nor shall any business be transacted therein unless there be present a representative from at least three of the chartered , but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day, until a constitutional quorum shall attend.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Grand shall be styled and take rank as follows:

The Most Worshipful Grand Master.
 The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Orator.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer.
 The Right Worshipful Grand Marshal.
 The Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.
 The Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.
 The Grand Tyler.

ARTICLE VI.

No brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master or Grand Warden, who has not been duly elected, installed and presided over a subordinate

ARTICLE VII.

At each Stated Communication of the Grand there shall be elected by ballot from the brethren who are at the time constitutionally eligible to seats therein, a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Grand Senior Warden, a Grand Junior Warden, a Grand Treasurer, and a Grand Secretary; all other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, with the advice and consent of the Grand .

ARTICLE VIII.

No Grand Officer shall officiate in the station to which he is elected until he has been legally installed.

ARTICLE IX.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master has the right to convene the Grand in Special Grand Communication on any emergency which in his judgment may require it. He has the power, at his discretion, to assemble any subordinate and preside therein, inspect its work, and require a strict conformity to the constitutional Rules and Regulations of the order. For good cause he may suspend the functions of any such until the ensuing stated Communication of the Grand . He has the command of every other Grand Officer, touching the duties and ministrations of their several offices, and may call on any and all of them at any time for advice and assistance on all business relative to the craft.

ARTICLE X.

In case of the death, absence or inability of the Grand Master, the powers and duties of his station for all regular and necessary purposes, shall, for the time being, devolve upon the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, or Grand Junior Warden, in the order here enumerated.

ARTICLE XI.

During the recess of the Grand the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, severally, have power to grant dispensations under their private seals for instituting new .

ARTICLE XII.

No dispensation shall be granted for constituting a new except upon the petition of eight Master Masons, one of whom must be a Past Master, and the recommendation of the nearest the location of the new , vouching for the moral character and masonic qualifications of the petitioners.

ARTICLE XIII.

No warrant or dispensation for the institution of a new , shall be granted for a less sum than ten dollars, and no charter shall be granted for a less sum than twenty-five dollars in addition to the dispensation fee herein provided for.

ARTICLE XIV.

No charter or dispensation for constituting new shall be granted to any person or persons whomsoever, residing out of this Territory (or State) if within the jurisdiction of any other constitutional Grand .

ARTICLE XV.

The Grand has original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of masonic legislation and appellate jurisdiction from the decisions of the subordinate , and its enactments and decisions upon all questions shall be the supreme masonic law of the Territory (or State). It shall prescribe such rules and regulations for the government of the subordinate as will, in its arbitrament, conduce to the welfare, prosperity and happiness of the craft, and may require from them such dues and fees as will at all times discharge the engagements of the Grand .

ARTICLE XVI.

The book of Constitutions, hereunto attached, this Grand does recognize and adopt as the fundamental Laws, Rules and Regulations for the government of masons, and declares that it should be frequently read and perused by Masters and other craftsmen as well within the subordinate as thereout, to the end that none may be ignorant of the excellent principles and precepts it inculcates.

ARTICLE XVII.

The Constitution may be altered or amended in the following manner only: The proposed alteration or amendment must be made in writing at some Stated Communication; if seconded by a majority of votes it shall be entered upon the minutes and be thereby submitted to the several subordinate for their approval or rejection. If two-thirds of the approve thereof, by certificate over their respective seals, to the next succeeding Grand , the Grand Master shall put the question upon its adoption, and if concurred in by a vote of three-fourths of the members present, it shall from thenceforth be considered as a part and parcel of this Constitution.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

SECTION I.

There shall be an Annual Communication of the Grand □, except for good cause the same be adjourned for a longer period, but in no event shall such adjournment extend beyond the period of two years.

SECTION II.

The stated meetings of the Grand □ shall be held at —, on the — day of —, annually.

SECTION III.

On the day appointed for the meeting of the Grand □, a Master Mason's □ shall be opened in ample form at 10 o'clock A. M., when the M. · W. · Grand Master shall appoint a committee to examine visiting brethren, and committee to examine credentials, each to consist of three members. So soon as a constitutional quorum of □ is ascertained to be present, the Grand □ of Nebraska shall be declared open for the dispatch of business, and the Grand Master shall then appoint the following standing committees, each to consist of not less than three nor more than five members, to-wit: A committee on Accounts; a committee on Charters and Dispensations; a committee on Foreign Correspondence; a committee on Ways and Means; a committee on Charity; a committee on Grievances; a committee on Unfinished Business; a committee to prepare a Pay-Roll; a committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, and a committee on Returns of subordinate □, whose duty it shall be to examine and correct such returns.

SECTION IV.

The standing committees of the Grand □ shall perform and discharge the following specific duties, to-wit:

1. The committee to examine visiting brethren shall perform the duties of their appointment according to established masonic usage.
2. The returns of the subordinate □ and the credentials of representatives and proxies, shall be referred to the committee appointed to examine credentials, who shall report the number of □ that are represented, the names of the representatives and proxies, with the number of votes to which each is entitled.

3. It shall be the duty of the committee on Accounts to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, settle and balance the same, and report the actual state of the funds to the Grand .

4. The committee on Charters and Dispensations shall particularly examine the work, records and By-Laws of all under dispensation, and the proceedings of the Grand officers granting the same; they shall examine the amended By-Laws of all the chartered submitted for the approval of the Grand ; they will note all matters that are improper or unconstitutional in any of such work, records and By-Laws, and report to the Grand , with such recommendations as they shall deem meet and proper in the premises.

5. The Foreign Correspondence of the Grand , including all communications made by other Grand , shall be referred to the committee on Foreign Correspondence, whose duty it shall be to examine the same and report all matters found therein which affect the general or local welfare of the craft, accompanied with such recommendations as they may consider expedient.

6. It shall be the duty of the committee of Ways and Means to take into consideration the condition of the funds and estate of the Grand , and all propositions and resolutions effecting its revenue which may be offered; they shall specifically report thereon, and may recommend any measures which, in their opinion, will operate financially for the benefit of the institution.

7. All applications for appropriations from the charity fund of the Grand shall be submitted to the committee on Charity, who shall consider the same and make report thereon to the Grand .

8. All matters of controversy and grievance brought before the Grand shall be referred to the committee on Grievances, whose duty it shall be to examine into the same and report for the action of the Grand .

9. It shall be the duty of the committee on Unfinished Business to examine and report from the journal of the previous session all such matters as were then pending and undetermined.

10. It shall be the duty of the committee to prepare a Pay-Roll, to ascertain and report the per diem and traveling compensation allowed to the representatives and members of the Grand .

11. It shall be the duty of the committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to investigate and report upon all questions that may be referred to them by the Grand : *Provided*, that with the consent of the Grand said committee may retain any question or paper referred to them and report thereon at the next regular Grand Communication.

SECTION V.

It shall be considered the duty of the M. · W. · Grand Master to communicate in writing, immediately after the appointment of the standing committees, a statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand , with such other matters as he may deem advantageous to the craft; he shall also give to the Grand information upon subjects of masonic interest, and recommend for its consideration any measures he shall deem expedient; which communication

shall be referred to such appropriate committees as its various details require. The Deputy Grand Master shall also report, in writing, any official acts performed by him during the recess of the Grand .

SECTION VI.

The M. . W. . Grand Master is not authorized to make or second any motion; but on all questions where there is an equal division, he shall give the casting vote.

SECTION VII.

It is the duty of the M. . W. . Grand Master to install his successor and his Deputy, when present; but he may, if he sees fit, authorize any worthy Past Master to install all the other Grand officers.

SECTION VIII.

The M. . W. . Grand Master shall appoint, at each stated Communication of the Grand , a Grand Steward, a Grand Sword Bearer, and two Grand Pursuivants.

SECTION IX.

In the event of the death, resignation or removal of any of the Grand Officers, during the recess of the Grand , the M. . W. . Grand Master has authority to appoint any suitable brother to fill the vacant station, and install him into office.

SECTION X.

It is the duty of the M. . W. . Grand Master, in office or *pro tempore*, to subscribe the journal of the Grand at every Grand Communication; and no transcript or minutes therefrom shall at any time be printed or published until examined by him, and subscribed as aforesaid.

SECTION XI.

On all questions arising in the Grand , the Grand Officers, together with such Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters as may be present and are members thereof, shall each be entitled to one vote; and the Master and Wardens of each subordinate , or their regularly constituted proxies, shall each be entitled to one vote; but in no case whatsoever shall a member, by virtue of any proxy or authority, cast more than three votes.

SECTION XII.

The Grand Tyler shall not, *ex officio*, be entitled to any vote in the Grand .

SECTION XIII.

It shall be competent for the Master and Wardens of any subordinate to appoint a suitable brother, being a member of some under this jurisdiction, his or their proxy to the Grand , certified under their official signatures; and it shall in like manner be competent for any , the officers of which decline attending the meeting of the Grand , and to appoint their proxies as aforesaid, to designate and make choice by resolution, of some brother having the qualifications aforesaid, the proxy of said ; which resolution must be certified by the Secretary thereof, and shall entitle the brother appointed to three votes;

Provided however, that no representative or proxy from a subordinate □ shall hold a seat in the Grand □ until he shall produce evidence that the □ he represents has discharged in full its Grand dues.

SECTION XIV.

All decisions of the Grand □ shall be determined by a majority of the votes given. The yeas and nays may be ordered upon any question at the request of three members, when the roll shall be called and every vote counted.

SECTION XV.

The Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds, securities, and vouchers of the Grand □, and shall pay all orders from the moneys on hand that may be directed by the Grand □ or otherwise constitutionally drawn. It shall be his duty to attend all the Communications of the Grand □, with his books of account, vouchers for money paid out, and all necessary papers relating to his office, in order that the same may be inspected and his accounts settled; and he shall meet with any Grand committee, when required, whose general or special province it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand □. Before entering upon any of the duties of his office, he shall give bond with security, as the Grand □ may direct, conditioned for the faithful discharge thereof.

SECTION XVI.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to record the transactions of the Grand □; and he shall attend personally each Grand Communication, with the necessary books and papers of his office; he shall keep the seal of the Grand □, and affix the same with his attestation to all instruments required to be so executed; he shall receive, receipt for, and immediately pay over to the Grand Treasurer, all Grand dues, fees and other moneys, handed in at any Communication of the Grand □, taking a proper voucher therefor; he shall keep a faithful journal of all its proceedings, distribute the same when ordered to be printed for circulation, and conduct any correspondence required of him under the orders of the Grand □ and the directions of the Grand Master; he shall procure all necessary books and stationery, and shall have charge of all the records, papers, parchments, certificates and documents, other than those belonging to the Grand Treasurer; he shall do and perform any other duties customary to his office, and the established usages of masons; and for his services in full he shall receive a salary of fifty dollars per annum.

SECTION XVII.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to attend the Communications of the Grand □. He shall, under the advice and with the concurrence of the M. . W. . Grand Master, cause the work of the several □ to be uniform; and upon any question and difference of opinion arising in the discharge of this duty, the decision of the Grand □, when in session, and of the Grand Master at all other times, shall be final. He shall visit the subordinate □ at least once each year, and communicate the proper and uniform mode of work. And for his services shall be paid by the Grand □, upon presentation of his bill for the same; *Provided*, it shall not amount to more than one hundred dollars per annum, and mileage at the rate of five cents per mile traveled.

SECTION XVIII.

Each subordinate □ is required to be represented at the Stated Communications of the Grand □; such representation shall be paid out of the funds of the Grand □, ten cents for every mile traveled going to the Grand □, to be estimated by the most direct and traveled route, and one dollar and fifty cents for each day's attendance; *Provided*, that no brother shall receive compensation as the representative or proxy of more than one □, or more than one representative from one □; *And provided also*, that no representative, delegate or proxy, who leaves said Grand □ before it is closed, shall receive any compensation for his travel or attendance, unless he be excused on account of sickness or other providential causes arising after his leaving home to attend said Grand □.

SECTION XIX.

Every subordinate □ shall pay, annually, to the Grand □, at the Stated Communication thereof, the following Grand □ dues, to-wit: For each initiation, the sum of one dollar and fifty cents; and for each member, the sum of fifty cents; but no Grand □ dues shall be required for any member for whom an initiation fee is paid during the same year.

SECTION XX.

Every subordinate □ which shall not be represented for two successive Grand Communications, and neglects for two consecutive years to discharge its Grand dues, shall be suspended from all its masonic functions; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to give such delinquent □ immediate notice thereof; and unless, within one year from date of suspension, the said □ shall faithfully discharge all arrearages, or show good cause to the contrary, it shall forfeit its charter and be struck from the roll of □; and in no case and under no pretence whatever, shall such □ be resuscitated until all Grand dues be paid, together with a dispensation fee of ten dollars, and twenty-five dollars upon applying for a charter.

SECTION XXI.

When a charter shall be surrendered or become forfeit, the whole of the property of the subordinate □, of every kind and description, shall be vested in the Grand □, and subject to its disposal.

SECTION XXII.

The subordinate □ shall have authority to assess such dues upon their members, from time to time, as they shall deem just and expedient, and the By-Laws of each □ shall designate the amount so assessed, and the time for the payment thereof. And if any member shall fail to pay such dues at such stated times, he shall be considered delinquent, and it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to cause a notice to be served on the delinquent member, in person, if a resident within the county in which said □ is situated, at least ten days before any other action shall be taken; and if the brother shall reside outside of the county, notice shall be mailed to the post-office nearest his residence, at least thirty days before any further action is taken; which notice shall be deemed sufficient. And it is hereby made the imperative duty of the Worshipful Master, by and with the

consent of the , to cause the Secretary to enter "Suspended" every member who shall be in arrears, and forthwith to notify him of the same; and if within a reasonable time thereafter, as the may determine, the member so suspended does not discharge his dues, he may be expelled.

SECTION XXIII.

The Master of each shall cause the Secretary to give immediate notice to the Grand Secretary, of every suspension or expulsion that is ordered in his , whether for non-payment of dues, or otherwise; and it is hereby declared that suspension or expulsion works an absolute forfeiture, for the time being, of all masonic privileges.

SECTION XXIV.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary, in making up the annual minutes of the Grand for publication, to embrace therein a list of the suspensions and expulsions from the several subordinate , setting forth the cause in each particular case.

SECTION XXV.

Whenever the Grand shall abrogate the decision of a subordinate , suspending or expelling a brother, and thus restore him to the benefits and privileges of masonry, he shall not thereby be reinstated to membership in the subordinate without unanimous consent.

SECTION XXVI.

Every society of masons applying for a dispensation shall, before the same be granted, deposit with the M. . W. . Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master issuing the same, the sum of ten dollars for the use of the Grand ; and provided its work is approved by the Grand , the sum of twenty-five dollars deposited with the Grand Secretary or Grand Master shall be entitled to a charter.

SECTION XXVII.

No dispensation shall authorize a to work beyond the period fixed for the next succeeding stated meeting of the Grand at which time the dispensation, together with a copy of the By-Laws and a record of its proceedings, shall be presented to the Grand for inspection, when the dispensation may be continued, a charter granted or its labors interdicted, as the Grand may deem meet.

SECTION XXVIII.

No under dispensation shall be permitted to hold a public celebration on any masonic occasion whatever, unless the consent of the M. . W. . Grand Master, or in his absence, of the Deputy Grand Master, be first obtained.

SECTION XXIX.

No is authorized to commence work under its charter until the officers thereof have been regularly installed; and for this purpose whenever a charter is granted, the M. . W. . Grand Master, or in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master, shall appoint a suitable and early day for constituting said and for the installation of its officers, and when convenient shall in person conduct such ceremony. They have the power, however, at their discretion, to appoint some worthy Past Master to act as their proxy on such occasions.

SECTION XXX.

Every resolution or motion, contemplating an appropriation from the funds of the Grand □, shall be proposed by, or referred to some standing committee of that body before it can be acted upon.

SECTION XXXI.

When an appeal from the decision of a subordinate □ on any matter of masonic discipline shall be perfected and entered in the Grand □, it shall be referred to the standing committee on Grievances, or decided without such reference, if deemed most expedient; and in either case, the subordinate □ or the appellant brother, shall have the benefit of any additional testimony, provided the same has been taken agreeably to the notice prescribed in the Rules and Regulations of the Grand □, for the government of the □ under its jurisdiction.

SECTION XXXII.

No By-Law shall be altered or done away, or new one adopted, until the proposed alteration, amendment, nullification or addition be reduced to writing and seconded by five members. It shall then be entered upon the minutes and lie over until the next succeeding stated meeting of the Grand □, when, if approved by two-thirds of the members present, the same shall be adopted: *Provided*, that by an unanimous vote any proposition as aforesaid, may be acted upon instantly.

RULES OF ORDER

FOR CONDUCTING THE BUSINESS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

1. The Most Worshipful Grand Master shall take the chair every day precisely at the hour to which the Grand shall have adjourned on the preceding day, when the journal shall be read, to the end that any mistake or improper entries may be corrected.

2. During the hours of business the members are required to keep their seats and observe strict order and decorum, and no member shall leave the hall without leave, or absent himself from the service of the Grand unless he have permission, or be sick and unable to attend.

3. When the M. . W. . Grand Master or presiding officer rises all debate shall cease, and there shall be strict silence.

4. Every member shall stand when he speaks, and shall address himself with respect and decorum to the presiding officer for the time being. He shall not be permitted to say anything which will have a tendency, wantonly, to inflame or irritate, as the sole objects of debate are to enlighten and expand the mind on the subject under discussion, to elicit truth, and to conscientiously endeavor to have everything done decently and in order.

5. The M. . W. . Grand Master or the presiding officer shall be the judge of order and debate. When his decision is fairly questionable an appeal may be made to the Grand , but such appeal must be neither captious, contemptuous or contumacious. Truth, justice and candor must be the desiderata in such appeal.

6. No member shall be permitted to speak more than twice upon any subject, unless it is merely to explain, without permission from the Grand . If any member is twice called to order at any one meeting for transgressing these rules, and is guilty of a third offense of the same nature, the presiding officer shall peremptorily order him to leave the Grand , and he may further be amenable to reprimand, suspension or expulsion, as the Grand shall deem proper.

7. When a question is put it shall be the duty of every member present to vote, unless for good cause the Grand may excuse him, but no member shall vote upon any question in the event of which he is personally interested.

8. No motion shall be entertained until it is seconded, and there shall no debate be had thereon until it is stated by the chair.

9. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, with the name of the mover indorsed thereon, if the chair or Grand Secretary desire it.

10. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, to amend, or to postpone indefinitely; which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are here arranged, and the motion to adjourn shall always be in order and be decided without debate.

11. Any member may call for the division of a question, which shall be divided, if it comprehends questions so distinct that, one being taken away, the rest may stand entire for the decision of the Grand \square . A motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible.

12. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move for the reconsideration thereof.

13. All questions shall be propounded in the order in which they were moved, except in filling up blanks, when the largest sum and longest time shall be first put.

14. No report shall be received from any of the committees of the Grand \square , unless the same be reduced to writing and signed by at least a majority of the members thereof.

15. No committee shall sit during the sitting of the Grand \square without special leave.

16. These Rules of Order may be altered, added to or abrogated at any meeting of the Grand \square , two-thirds of the members present concurring therein.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA,
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

I. A subordinate shall consist of at least a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, a Treasurer, Secretary, Senior and Junior Deacon, a Tyler, and as many members as are convenient. The officers above enumerated shall be elected by ballot, by a majority of votes, at the stated meeting in November or December, annually, and be installed into office as near the festival of St. John the Evangelist as practicable.

II. No brother shall be eligible to the mastership unless he has been elected and served in the station of Warden in some regular . In the absence of the Master the Senior and Junior Warden, according to rank, shall succeed to the duties of his station.

III. Each subordinate possesses the inherent right to enact By-Laws and ordinances for its own government, provided the same are not inconsistent with the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand and the fundamental principles of masonry. And to the end that these shall be preserved always inviolate, it is hereby declared that no By-Law or ordinance of government of a subordinate shall be of any permanent validity until approved by the Grand .

IV. Each shall assemble for work at least once in every calendar month; and if any under this jurisdiction shall cease to meet for twelve successive months, it shall forfeit its charter and be erased from the Grand book. Previous to advancements, all candidates shall be examined in open in the degree which they have taken, and be found to possess at least a knowledge of that degree.

V. All the proceedings, ballotings and business of the , shall be had in a of Master Masons, that of conferring the inferior degrees alone excepted.

VI. No religious test shall ever be required of any applicant for the benefits of masonry, other than a steadfast belief in the existence and perfections of Deity; and no under this jurisdiction shall receive any candidate without the acknowledgment of such belief.

VII. No □ shall confer the first three degrees in masonry for a less sum than twenty dollars. A *unanimous* vote must be had in favor of the applicant for each degree, but in no case shall a ballot be taken until the money required for the fee shall be in actual deposit.

VIII. No □, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, shall initiate, craft, or raise, unless a Past Master be present and presiding.

IX. All applications for initiation, or for membership, shall be made at the regular and stated meeting of the □, and lie over at least from one Communication to another, unless by a vote of three-fourths of the members present it shall be regarded a case of emergency; when, by a *unanimous* vote, a ballot may be ordered.

X. After a petition is regularly received by a subordinate □, and entered upon its minutes, it shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the said □, at least three-fourths of the members present concurring therein.

XI. If any member of a subordinate □ shall, from trifling, captious, sinister or unworthy motives, attempt to arrest the legitimate work of his □, he shall thereby be rendered amenable to masonic discipline. And it is made the duty of the □, in all such cases, to proceed to the investigation thereof, and to reprimand, suspend, or expel the offending member, as a majority present may deem best.

XII. No □ shall initiate into the mysteries of the craft any person whomsoever, without first being satisfied by a test or otherwise, that such candidate has not made application to some other □, and been rejected; and if it shall appear that he has been so rejected, then the □ must be satisfactorily convinced that the objection to his initiation has been withdrawn, and the unanimous consent of the □ rejecting him must be obtained before he can be initiated.

XIII. No □ shall receive into membership a mason from any other □, until he shall produce satisfactory evidence that he has paid all dues to the □ of which he was last a member.

XIV. No one can become a member of a subordinate □, or be entitled to any vote therein, until he has received the third degree in masonry.

XV. No candidate shall be received in any □ out of the county in which he resides, if there is a regular working □ in such county, unless the applicant resides nearer the □ he desires to join, than to that in the county in which he lives. If there are two or more □ in any county, then the candidate must apply to the □ nearest his residence. In a town or city, any □ therein may receive an applicant, resident of such town or city.

XVI. It shall be unlawful for any □ under this jurisdiction to receive, as a visitor, a brother while known to be under sentence of suspension or expulsion from any constitutional masonic body.

XVII. When the physical disabilities of a candidate are not such as to prevent him from being initiated into the several degrees and mysteries of Freemasonry, his admission shall not be construed an infringement upon the *ancient landmarks*, but, on the contrary, will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of the institution.

XVIII. In no case, for non-payment of dues, shall a subordinate □ publish in a newspaper the suspension or expulsion of any of its members, unless the consent of the Grand □ or of the M. · W. · Grand Master be first obtained.

XIX. The subordinate □ have the power, at their discretion, to require all Master Masons residing within their respective jurisdictions to contribute pecuniary aid to purposes strictly masonic, but this power shall not be exercised except with proper caution and deliberation.

XX. Each subordinate □ shall bury a deceased worthy member of its body with masonic rites, if requested by the decedent in his lifetime, or by his near relations after his death, and in all other cases such masonic honors may be granted or withheld as the □ may consider best.

XXI. When convenient, the several subordinate □ should be supplied with libraries of useful and practical books, and it is enjoined upon them, as often as it is feasible, to introduce into their meetings lectures and essays upon masonic polity and the various arts and sciences connected therewith.

XXII. Subordinate □ not only possess the power, but it shall be their express duty to take cognizance of brethren within their vicinities, whether subordinate to the jurisdiction of this Grand □ or otherwise, and to suspend or expel from the privileges of the order any brother who shall be found guilty of unmasonic conduct, subject however, to an appeal to the Grand □.

XXIII. No subordinate □ shall proceed to suspend or expel a brother for unmasonic conduct of any description whatever, except for the non-payment of dues, unless it be upon written charges and specifications, made out and filed with the Secretary, whose duty it shall be to furnish the accused brother with a copy thereof, if of a nature to be reduced to writing, at least ten days previous to the trial, with notice of the time and place of trial. It is the privilege of the accused to take any proof or testimony to be heard in evidence that he may desire upon giving three days' notice to the Master of the □; and in all cases when the hearing comes on, the whole of the testimony shall be reduced to writing, and be carefully preserved by the Secretary of the □: *Provided*, that when a brother charged as aforesaid shall abscond, proceedings may be had in his absence, without notice.

XXIV. Any brother feeling himself aggrieved by the decision of the □, pronounced against him, may at any time within one year thereafter, take an appeal to the Grand □; and on his application, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of such □ to make out and forward to the Grand Secretary a certified copy of the proceedings had in his case, with the original testimony, as far as the same shall have been reduced to writing.

XXV. These Rules and Regulations may be altered or amended in the same manner as prescribed for the alteration or amendment of the By-Laws of the Grand □.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

I. *Resolved*, That the jurisdiction of each □ extends over the *non-affiliated* as well as the *affiliated* mason, and that they are equally amenable for unmasonic conduct.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1858.

II. *Resolved*, That a non-affiliated mason who shall, for the space of six months, reside in any county wherein is a working □, without making application for membership therein, shall forfeit the privilege of visiting said □; and, if he still fails or refuses to make application, as aforesaid, for the space of twelve months, he shall then forfeit all claim to masonic rights or benefits.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1858.

III. *Resolved*, That it is improper for an individual mason to examine a traveling brother for the purpose of vouching for him to admit him into a □, without having been appointed by the Worshipful Master or presiding officer, for that purpose; and that no avouchment shall be taken for the admission of a visiting brother founded on such examination; nor the avouchment of a brother, unless he has been in open □ with the brother so proposing to visit.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1858.

IV. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand □ that no man can become a mason unless he can avow a belief in the Holy Scriptures. And it is also the sense of this Grand □ that the demand for such belief does not conflict with the universality of Freemasonry, but that in every land and with every nation where masonry exists, the Holy Writings are respected, and some form of belief *in them* required from candidates for admission to the mysteries of the order.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1858.

V. *Resolved*, That the Grand □ of Nebraska will guard the ancient landmarks and enforce respect for them by every means in her power.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1858.

VI. *Resolved*, That hereafter, before the granting of a charter, the applicants therefor shall be required to furnish the Grand Secretary with all the facts, incidents and preliminary steps connected with the organization of the □.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1859.

VII. *Resolved*, That the committee on Foreign Correspondence be and they are hereby instructed to collect and have published with the proceedings of this Grand □, the names of all expelled and suspended masons of other jurisdictions with which this Grand □ is in correspondence.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1860.

VIII. *Resolved*, That the representatives here assembled, are hereby authorized and empowered to enforce in their respective □ the work adopted by this Grand □.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1861.

IX. *Resolved*, That the "Freemasons Monitor, or Illustrations of Masonry, by Thomas Smith Webb," be adopted as the text book to be used by subordinate [] within the jurisdiction of this Grand []—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1862.

X. *Resolved*, That the Masters of subordinate [] in this jurisdiction be required to have the proceedings of the Grand [] read in their respective [] in connection with the Rules and Regulations for the government of subordinate [], at the first regular Communication after the same shall have been received.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1863.

XI. *Resolved*, That this Grand [], with much pleasure, reiterates the opinion expressed at the last Annual Communication, in favor of what is termed the "Webb-Work," fully believing it to be the true and ancient work practiced by the fraternity in America, a century and more ago, and we earnestly request, and do hereby order, that every [] under the jurisdiction of this Grand [], which has not adopted the said work, be required to do so at their earliest convenience; not alone for its antiquity and beauty, but that strict uniformity in the work of the several degrees may be one of the peculiarities of the Grand [] of Nebraska.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1863.

XII. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master appoint a committee of three, to be denominated the committee on Printing, to whom all matters pertaining to printing for this Grand [], shall be referred.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1863.

XIII. *Resolved*, That all subordinate [] under the jurisdiction of this Grand [], be and they are hereby instructed to procure a sufficient number of lamb-skin or white leather aprons for the purpose of initiation.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1863.

XIV. *Resolved*, That where any brother belonging to any subordinate [] in this jurisdiction has been suspended for non-payment of dues, and said dues shall remain unpaid for the period of six months thereafter, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the [], by and with the consent of said [] of which such suspended brother is a member, to order the Secretary to enter the name of the delinquent brother upon the [] books as *expelled*.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1865.

XV. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand [] it is unwise and irregular for any subordinate [] in this jurisdiction, to initiate, pass or raise more than one candidate at the same time, provided this resolution shall not be so construed as to prevent the giving of the lectures and charges to any number at the same time.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1865.

XVI. *Resolved*, That no motion or resolution shall be entertained by this Grand [], unless the same shall have been put into writing, and a copy thereof furnished the Grand Secretary.—*G. L. Proceedings*, 1866.

XVII. *Resolved*, That a standing committee of one from each subordinate [] be appointed, of which the Grand Master shall be chairman, to take measures to found an institution for the education of orphans of deceased masons. And to this end they are hereby authorized to correspond with the subordinate []; to receive proposals from different points as to location of the same; to provide some method of raising funds, and to report, in detail, at the next Annual Communication of this Grand []. And the Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to

receive such donations as may be made by individuals for this purpose, and to report the same, in detail, at the next meeting of this Grand □.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1866.*

XVIII. *Resolved*, That the committee on Foreign Correspondence shall be appointed by the M. . W. . Grand Master at each Annual Communication previous to the closing thereof, of which committee the R. . W. . Grand Secretary shall be chairman, so that they may be enabled to report at the assembling of the Grand □, such things as may be of interest to the craft.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1866.*

XIX. *Resolved*, That the Secretary of each subordinate □ in this jurisdiction be required to forward, by mail, to every subordinate □ in said jurisdiction, other than his own, official notice of all rejections made by their respective □; stating the name, age, residence, and occupation of each applicant rejected; and each □ shall keep a book, in which shall be recorded each and every such rejection made or reported; and, to the end that the fraternity may not be imposed upon, each applicant, before being prepared for initiation, shall be required to satisfy the □, by pledge or otherwise, that he has never been rejected in any other □: *Provided*, that if any applicant shall file with his petition, a statement in writing, that he has been so rejected, with the unanimous consent for his initiation of the □ rejecting him, then such pledge shall be dispensed with; and no rejected applicant shall be initiated in any other □, until the unanimous consent of the □ rejecting him be obtained.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1866.*

XX. *Resolved*, That the M. . W. . Grand Master be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint suitable brethren as resident representatives of the Grand □ of Nebraska, to the several Grand □ in the United States and Canada, in accordance with the custom adopted by other Grand Bodies; and to request sister Grand □ to appoint resident representatives to this Grand □.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1867.*

XXI. *Resolved*, That any person residing within the jurisdiction of any □ in this State, who shall represent himself to be a mason, but who shall not affiliate with or visit the □ for the space of one year, shall be summoned by the Worshipful Master of said □, into his presence, in order that he may *prove* himself to be a mason. And, upon his failure to obey said summons, or to prove himself to be a mason, as aforesaid, he shall be regarded as an *impostor*, and shall be so reported to the Grand □; and it shall not be lawful thereafter for any mason to hold masonic communication with him, by conversation or otherwise.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1867.*

XXII. *Resolved*, That it is not lawful for a □, in restoring to membership a brother who has been suspended, to charge him *dues* for the time intervening between his suspension and restoration.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1867.*

ORPHANS' SCHOOL.

FUND.

XXIII. *Resolved*, 1st, That for the purpose of creating a fund for the education of the orphans of deceased masons within this jurisdiction, there be and hereby is levied an *annual tax* of one dollar upon each and every member of each sub-

ordinate in the State, and the sum of two dollars upon each non-affiliated mason in the State, to be collected by the subordinate in whose immediate jurisdiction such non-affiliated brother may reside.

2d, The subordinate shall collect and pay over the fund thus raised, to the Grand , at the same time and in the same manner as other Grand dues. The failure of a subordinate to collect, or the failure of a brother, affiliated or non-affiliated, to pay the sum hereby levied, subjects the same to the usual discipline and penalties for non-compliance with Grand and subordinate laws: *Provided*, that, should a subordinate , after exhausting discipline and law, fail to collect the tax levied upon non-affiliated masons, then such subordinate shall not be held responsible for the assessment. The fund thus raised shall be denominated *The Orphans' Educational Fund*, and shall be used for no other purpose.

TRUSTEES.

3d. The Grand Master shall annually appoint three members of the Grand who shall constitute and be denominated a Board of Trustees for the care and management of the Orphans' Educational Fund. Said Trustees, before entering upon their duties, shall each give bond in the sum of three thousand dollars, to be approved by the Grand .

It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to receive all moneys and donations, of whatever kind, collected for, and made to the Orphans' Educational Fund, and invest or dispose of the same in such manner as may to them seem best, and as will the more surely and effectually increase the fund and advance the object designed.

The Board shall submit to each meeting of the Grand a report of their doings, and a statement of the condition of funds and property belonging to the Orphans' Fund.

COMMITTEE.

4th. The Grand Master shall annually, upon the recommendation of each subordinate , or the delegation present, appoint a Standing Committee of one from each subordinate , whose duty it shall be to solicit and receive from their respective or members, or others in their vicinity, individual or donations of money or property from time to time, and as they may deem best, to be placed in the hands of the Board of Trustees and become a part of the Orphans' Fund.

This committee shall report annually to the Grand , and turn over to the Board of Trustees such moneys and property as may have been collected during the interim.

FESTIVALS.

5th. It is recommended that each subordinate within this jurisdiction hold an Annual Festival or Fair, the proceeds of which shall be appropriated to increasing the Orphans' Educational Fund. That said Festivals or Fairs be held on or as near the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, as may be convenient.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE FOREGOING PROVISIONS.

6th. That the Worshipful Master and Wardens of each subordinate be and they are hereby specially required to see that the foregoing regulations, so far as applicable to subordinate , are faithfully executed.—*G. L. Proceedings, 1867.*

QUESTIONS DECIDED

BY THE GRAND MASTER AND GRAND LODGE.

1. *Question.* If, by suicide or other unnatural manner, a Master Mason comes to his death, is the decedent entitled to masonic burial?

Answer. Masters of [] have a perfect right to act discretionary.—*Robert C. Jordan, Grand Master, 1858.*

2. *Question, 1st.* Does a sentence of expulsion, made by a subordinate [], operate fully and effectively, before such expulsion is reported to the Grand [], and a ratification of such sentence by that body?

2d. If yea, what action is necessary to be taken by a [] expelling one of its members, in reference to notifying other [], in and out of the jurisdiction of this Grand [], of such expulsion?

Answer, 1st. Expulsion from a subordinate [] does operate fully and effectively, until the member shall be reinstated, as is provided for in the By-Laws of this Grand [], Section 25.

2d. Refer to Sections 23 and 24 of the By-Laws of the Grand [].—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1864.*

3. *Question.* Is it lawful for a [] of masons to convene for "work" on the Sabbath day?

Answer. It is not.—*R. W. Furnas, Grand Master, and approved by Grand [], 1866.*

4. *Question.* Is it lawful to confer the degrees of the order upon an applicant who can neither read nor write?

Answer. No.—*R. W. Furnas, Grand Master, and approved by Grand [], 1866.*

5. *Question.* Can a [] under dispensation admit Master Masons to membership upon dimits?

Answer. It cannot legitimately exercise such power.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1866.*

6. *Question.* Is a person who has lost the index finger of the right hand, and whose middle finger of the same hand is stiff so that he cannot straighten it, eligible to be initiated into the mysteries of the craft?

Answer. Yes.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1866.*

7. *Question.* Has a Grand [] the power to dimit members from subordinate []?

Answer. The Grand [] has not the legal or constitutional right to dimit any brother from his []. The compact of membership is between each subordinate []

and its members, and the severance of that compact by dimitting must be the joint act of the □ and its members.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1866.*

8. *Question.* Is a member of a subordinate □, who has been made an *honorary member* thereof by action of the □, required to pay Grand □ dues?

Answer. The □ should pay said dues.—*Com. on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1867.*

9. *Question.* Is it absolutely necessary that the constitutional questions should be propounded to the candidate for initiation before he is prepared?

Answer. It is.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1867.*

10. *Question.* Has a brother the right to see the charter of a subordinate □, previous to his being examined?

Answer. He has.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1867.*

11. *Question.* Has a non-affiliated mason the right to represent a subordinate □ in this Grand □?

Answer. No.—*Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, 1867.*

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA

The installing Grand Officer takes the chair, and after calling the Grand □ to order, says:

"Brethren of the Grand □, we are now in the East to install your Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Have they been duly elected?"

Grand Secretary—"They have, Most Worshipful."

Presiding Officer—"Brother Grand Secretary, you will report the names of the elected."

Grand Secretary reports.

Presiding Officer—"Brethren, you have heard the names of your elected officers, reported by the Grand Secretary. If any member of this Grand □ is apprised of any just or masonic reason why either of these officers should not be installed, let him speak now, or forever after be silent."

No objection being made he proceeds: "We are happy to observe that you will approve the choice made, and we now declare them duly elected and ready for installation. Brother Grand Marshal, you will present the Grand Master elect."

Grand Marshal—"Most Worshipful Sir, I have the honor to present Brother A. B. for installation, who has been duly elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand □ of Nebraska for the ensuing year."

Presiding Officer—"Most Worshipful Brother, we most cordially congratulate you upon your election to this, the most distinguished and important office within the gift of masons. The confidence displayed by this Grand □ in elevating you to supreme command, is an ample guarantee to the masonic world, of your wisdom and of your worth. You cannot, Sir, be otherwise than aware of the deep and solemn consequence of the duties you are now about to assume, nor of the many cares and perplexities which embitter its unequalled honors. These perplexities, however, will be greatly alleviated by the affectionate sympathy and active assistance of your brethren. You will have to encounter stern opposition from without, and, too frequently, vexatious misunderstandings from within, but, Sir, the most dangerous and insidious enemy to the perpetuity and harmony

of our beloved institution, which will disturb and harrass your administration, is an alarming tendency in the order to innovation. The feverish and impulsive age we live in, has so imbued the whole world with a love of change, that we have to watch with sleepless care, or robust *progression* will dare even to penetrate our venerable and mysterious portals. Let me entreat, Sir, that you will resolutely exert the strong arm of your power to guard well our gray old sanctuaries. *Keep our altars as our fathers builded them*, and let our harps breathe forth the most sweet and simple music, as when first touched by the fingers of the *Eld*.

"I will now, Sir, administer to you the obligation of your office."

Here call up the □.

"You do solemnly promise, in the presence of Almighty God and of this Grand □ of masons, that you will, to the best of your abilities, faithfully and impartially perform all the duties incumbent on your office—that you will conform to the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand □ of Nebraska, and that you will enforce a strict obedience to the same, from all subordinate to your control."

Grand Master elect—"All this do I promise—God being my help."

Presiding Officer—"We now, Most Worshipful, have the honor to invest you with the jewel of your office, and with the emblem of your control (hand the gavel) and welcome you to the East of the Most Worshipful Grand □ of Nebraska, and ask the privilege of being the first to assure you of my fealty and obedience.

"Brethren—Behold your Grand Master.

"Grand Master—Behold your Brethren."

If the installation is in the □, the brethren standing in their places, will now masonically salute the chair in the three Symbolic Degrees, and give the Grand Honors three times. Then the Grand Master, or a proxy for him, can, if he desires, address the Grand □, after which he or a proxy for him will proceed with the installation.

Presiding Officer—"Brother Grand Marshal, you will present the Deputy Grand Master elect."

The Grand Marshal presents the Deputy and the remaining Grand Officers in regular turn, in like manner as he presented the Grand Master elect. The Presiding officer will deliver the several charges as follows:

CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

"Right Worshipful Brother: The office to which you have been elected, is one of high dignity and may become one of great importance, for in the absence of the Grand Master from the communications of the Grand □ or from the limits of its jurisdiction, you are by law invested with his powers and exercise his comprehensive prerogatives. In view of such emergencies, allow us to remind you, Sir, of the duty devolving on you, to be thoroughly prepared amply to fill his distinguished position with honor to yourself and profit to the craft.

"We now, with much pleasure, invest you with your jewel, and congratulate you upon your assuming your seat on the right hand of the Grand Master in the East."

INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.

"Right Worshipful Brother: By the suffrages of the members of this Grand \square you have been elected their Grand Senior Warden. Be assiduous in the performance of your duties so that you will truly be a *strength* and *support* to the Grand Master. We now invest you with the jewel of your office. In the absence of your superior officers you will have supreme command. Be ready, so that the designs drawn by you on the trestle-board for the guidance of the craft will produce good work—square work. During your present position *look well to the West.*"

CHARGE TO THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.

"Right Worshipful Brother: Your brethren having shown their confidence in your fidelity by electing you their Grand Junior Warden, it affords us much pleasure to invest you with the Jewel of your office. Your previous devotion to the duties of Freemasonry is a sufficient guarantee that you will be a vigilant Warden, and that you will *look well to the South.*"

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

"Right Worshipful Brother: We are happy to have the privilege of investing you with the Jewel of your office, as Grand Treasurer of this Grand \square , and to place in your keeping the books and treasure belonging to your office. Your unimpeached integrity satisfies us that the trust is wisely reposed, and your familiarity with the duties of your office makes it unnecessary that we should name them. We know that you will in this, as in all other things, act upon the square."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY.

"Right Worshipful Brother: With extreme pleasure we invest you with your Jewel as Grand Secretary of this Grand \square , and place in your charge its paraphernalia. The duties of the Grand Secretary in this jurisdiction have generally been performed with distinguished ability and untiring industry, and we have a firm belief that the same devotion to duty will continue unchanged during your administration."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

"Reverend and Right Worshipful Brother: We have the honor to invest you with the Jewel of your sacred office, and to place in your care our great light in masonry—THE HOLY BIBLE. The principles and precepts of Freemasonry are in strict accordance with the best teachings and maxims of the Patriarchs and Prophets; and though masonry does not pretend to be a religious institution, yet from her laws and from her teachings she *should be* a mighty auxiliary to whatever is good and great—a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night, pointing the right way. Your station in the Grand \square is in the East, and on the left of the Grand Master."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND DEACONS.

"Worshipful Brethren: We invest you as Grand Senior and Junior Deacons of this Grand \square , with the Jewels of your office and with these black rods as the ensigns of your authority. It was originally the duty of the Deacons to take

charge of the several entrances to the Grand □. A later arrangement makes you the proxies of the Grand Master and Wardens in the more active duties in the □. Your devotion to masonry will prompt you to vigilance and industry in the performance of your duties."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND PURSUIVANT.

"Worshipful Brother: Your office as Grand Pursuivant, which is one of labor and responsibility, constitutes you the messenger of the Grand □. Through you, all communications to and from the Grand Tyler are made. Your place being immediately at the inside of the door of entrance, it becomes your duty to receive all visitors, and see that they are in proper masonic clothing upon entering. You will now receive the badge of your office, and repair to your station and be there in the discharge of your duties."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MARSHAL.

"Worshipful Brother: We now invest you with your Jewel as Grand Marshal of this Grand □, and present you with this baton as the symbol of your authority. You will make all proclamations directed by the Grand Master, and will arrange and conduct the processions of the Grand □. Your regard for good order will prompt you in the faithful discharge of your duties."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND STANDARD BEARER.

"Worshipful Brother: We now, with great confidence, invest you with the badge of your office, and place in your charge the sacred standard of our order; a glorious standard, not of warlike emprises, but of peace and good will to man. Bear it aloft, my brother, and let its bright blazonry illuminate the world."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SWORD BEARER.

"Worshipful Brother: You have been appointed Grand Sword Bearer of this Grand □, an office of great respectability and position. In public processions you bear the sword of state, and close the procession by marching immediately behind the Grand Master. The sword, in state pageants, is the symbol both of *Power* and of *Justice*, and is borne in the immediate official retinue of the supreme in command. We now invest you with the Jewel and symbol of your office."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND STEWARDS.

"Worshipful Brethren: With pleasure we invest you with your badges as Grand Stewards of this Grand □, and present you with these white rods as emblems of your station. In providing for the refreshment, comfort and convenience of the Grand □, let temperance and prudence guide you in the discharge of your duties. Bear in mind that, to prosper well, we must do all things well."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TYLER.

"Worshipful Brother: Your office is a most important one, and requires unremitting watchfulness and care. The Grand □, appreciating your fidelity and activity, has reposed in you the great trust to guard this sanctuary from the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers. Be vigilant, and suffer none to pass or repass without proper qualifications and due permission. We now invest you with your Jewel as Grand Tyler, and place in your possession the implement of

your office. You will now repair to your station, and be there in the constant discharge of your duties as Tyler of this Grand □."

"Worshipful Grand Marshal: You will proclaim that the officers of this Grand □ are duly installed."

The Grand Marshal then makes proclamation, as follows: "By authority of the Most Worshipful Grand □ of Nebraska, of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, I proclaim that its Grand Officers are now amply installed and in their respective stations."

The brethren respond—"SO MOTE IT BE—AMEN."

PROGRAMME OF CEREMONIES

TO BE OBSERVED AT THE

Laying of the Corner Stones of Public Buildings

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The Worshipful Grand \square will start from its place of meeting in the following order:

Tyler, with drawn Sword;
Stewards, with Rods;
—— Lodge, No. —, with its Banner.

Master Masons of all Lodges (not turning out as distinctive bodies, and not as members of the Grand Lodge,) will march under the banner of the oldest

Lodge, by fours:
Two Deacons, with Rods;
Secretaries and Treasurers;
Mark Masters;
Royal Arch Masons, by threes;
Royal and Select Masters;
Music;

Knights Templar, as escort to the Grand Lodge, who form in the following order;

Grand Tyler, with drawn Sword;
Grand Stewards, with white Rods;
Principal Architect, with Square, Level and Plumb;
Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer;
Bible, Square and Compass, carried by a Master of a Lodge,
supported by two Stewards;
Grand Chaplains;
The Five Orders of Architecture;
Masters, Wardens or their proxies, with the Past Masters of Lodges;
Past Grand Wardens;
Grand Orators;
Past Deputy Grand Masters;
Past Grand Masters;
Chief Magistrate and civil officers of the State and city;
Representatives of the Press;
Grand Junior Warden, carrying the silver vessel, with oil;
Grand Senior Warden, carrying the silver vessel, with wine;
Deputy Grand Master, carrying the golden vessel, with corn;
A Past Master, carrying the Book of Constitutions;

Grand Marshal, with Aids.

PROGRAMME OF CEREMONIES

Grand Pursuivant;
 GRAND MASTER,
 supported by two Grand Deacons, with Rods;
 Grand Standard Bearer;
 Grand Sword Bearer, with drawn Sword.

ROUTE OF MARCH.

The procession will open to the right and left, and, uncovering, the Grand Master and his officers pass through the lines, together with the escort, to the platform, while the rest of the brethren surround the platform, forming a hollow square, within which the escort acts as a guard of honor.

The Grand Master commands silence and announces the purposes of the occasion, when there will be music by the band.

The necessary preparation having been made for laying the stone, on which is engraved the year of masonry, the name of the Grand Master and such other particulars as may be deemed necessary.

The stone is raised up by the means of an engine erected for that purpose.

The Grand Chaplain offers a prayer.

The Grand Treasurer, by the Grand Master's command, places under the stone various sorts of coin and medals, masonic documents, and such other matters as may be of interest.

Solemn music is introduced, and the stone let down into its place.

The principal Architect then presents the working tools to the Grand Master, who hands

The Square to the Deputy Grand Master,

The Level to the Grand Senior Warden, and

The Plumb to the Grand Junior Warden.

The Grand Master addresses the Grand Officers as follows:

"Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, what is the proper jewel of your office?"

Deputy Grand Master—"The Square."

Grand Master—"What are its moral and masonic uses?"

Deputy Grand Master—"To square our actions by the square of *Virtue*, and prove our work."

Grand Master—"Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the foundation stone that needs to be proved, and make good."

The Deputy Grand Master applies the Square to the stone, and says:

Deputy Grand Master—"Most Worshipful, I find the stone to be square. The craftsmen have performed their duty."

Grand Master—"Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, what is the jewel of your office?"

Grand Senior Warden—"The Level."

Grand Master—"What is its masonic use?"

Grand Senior Warden—"Morally, it reminds us of '*Equality*,' and its use is to lay horizontals."

Grand Master—"Apply the implement of your office to the foundation stone, and make report."

[This is done.]

Grand Senior Warden—"Most Worshipful, I find the stone to be level. The craftsmen have performed their duty."

Grand Master—"Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office?"

Grand Junior Warden—"The Plumb."

Grand Master—"What is its masonic use?"

Grand Junior Warden—"Morally, it teaches *rectitude* of conduct, and we use it to try perpendiculars."

Grand Master—"Apply the implement of your office to the several edges of the foundation stone, and make report."

[This is done.]

Grand Junior Warden—"Most Worshipful, I find the stone is plumb. The craftsmen have performed their duty."

Grand Master—"This corner stone has been tested by the proper implements of masonry. I find that the craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully performed their duty, and I declare the stone to be *well formed, true and trusty*, and correctly laid according to the rules of our Ancient Craft. Let the elements of consecration now be presented."

[The Deputy Grand Master comes forward with the vessel of corn and scatters it on the stone, saying:]

Deputy Grand Master—"I scatter this corn as an emblem of *plenty*. May the blessings of bounteous Heaven be showered upon us, and upon all like patriotic and benevolent undertakings, and inspire the hearts of the people with virtue, wisdom and gratitude."

Response—"So mote it be."

[The Grand Senior Warden then comes forward with the vessel of wine, and pours it upon the stone, saying:]

Grand Senior Warden—"I pour this wine as an emblem of *joy* and gladness. May the Great Ruler of the Universe bless and prosper our National, State and City Governments; preserve the Union of the States, and may it be a bond of friendship and brotherly love that shall endure through all time."

Response—"So mote it be."

[The Grand Junior Warden then comes forward with a vessel of oil, which he pours upon the stone, saying:]

Grand Junior Warden—"I pour this oil as an emblem of *peace*. May its blessing abide upon us continually, and may the Grand Master of Heaven and Earth shelter and protect the widow and orphan, shield and protect them from the

trials and vicissitudes of the world, and so bestow his mercy upon the bereaved, the afflicted and the sorrowing, that they may know sorrowing and trouble no more."

Response—"So mote it be."

[The Grand Master, standing in front of all, and extending his hands, makes the following:]

INVOCATION.

Grand Master—"May the all-bounteous Author of Nature bless the people of this place, with an abundance of the necessaries, conveniences and comforts of life; assist in the erection and completion of this building; protect the workmen against every accident; long preserve the structure from decay, and grant to us all a supply of the CORN of *nourishment*, the WINE of *refreshment*, and the OIL of *joy*. Amen."

Response—"So mote it be."

[The Grand Master strikes the stone three times with the gavel, and the public Grand Honors are given.]

[The Grand Master then delivers over to the Architect the implements of architecture, saying:]

Grand Master—"Worthy Brother (or Sir): Having thus, as Grand Master of Masons, laid the foundation stone of this structure, I now deliver these implements of your profession into your hands, entrusting you with the superintendence and direction of the work, having full confidence in your skill and capacity to conduct the same."

[The Grand Master ascends the platform, while the band performs, or an anthem is sung.]

Grand Master—"Men and brethren here assembled, be it known unto you, that we be lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of our country, and engaged by solemn obligations to erect magnificent buildings, to be serviceable to the brethren, and to fear God, the Great Architect of the Universe.

"We have among us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which cannot be divulged, and which have never been found out; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and not repugnant to the laws of God or man.

"They were entrusted, in peace and honor, to the Freemasons of ancient times; and, having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them, unimpaired, to the latest posterity.

"Unless our craft were good and our calling honorable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have been honored with the patronage of so many illustrious men in all ages, who have ever shown themselves ready to promote our interests and defend us from all adversaries.

"We are assembled here to-day, in the face of you all, to build a house, which we pray God may deserve to prosper, by becoming a place of concourse for good

men, and promoting harmony and brotherly love throughout the world, till time shall be no more. Amen.''

[The brethren all exclaim :]

"So mote it be !"

ORATION.

(Benediction by the Grand Chaplain.)

The procession re-forms, and returns in the same order to the Hall whence it started, where the Grand \square will be closed with the usual formalities.

The subordinate bodies will return to their respective halls.

FUNERAL SERVICE

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

I. No brother can be interred with the formalities of the order unless he has received the third degree in masonry.

II. The Master of a \square being notified of the death of a brother, and of his request to be buried with masonic ceremonies, shall convene his \square , and make all suitable arrangements to that effect.

III. If two or more \square s attend, the ceremonies will be conducted by the \square of which the deceased was a member. In the case of a stranger or sojourner, the Master of the senior \square present will preside.

IV. All the brethren who walk in procession should observe as much as possible an uniformity of dress. A proper badge of mourning around the left arm, with white gloves and aprons, are most suitable. It is recommended to avoid all ostentatious display of masonic costume.

V. Musicians, if belonging to the fraternity, will walk in procession immediately after the Tyler; if they are not masons, they will precede him. Solemn and appropriate pieces of music only should be performed, all others are especially interdicted.

VI. The cushion on which the Holy Bible is placed should be covered with black; a piece of black crape should be tied around all the furniture carried in procession, around each Steward's rod, and on the musical instruments. The procession will immediately precede the corpse, and the brethren walk two and two, except such officers as from their station are to walk otherwise.

VII. It would be proper for each \square , when convenient, to have a pall of black cloth, velvet, or other suitable material, to be used on funeral occasions. On the coffin will be placed or tied a white apron.

VIII. If the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Wardens attend any funeral procession, they will take precedence, and preside over and conduct the ceremonies, unless they desire otherwise. Their place in the procession will be after the Master of the \square . Two Deacons, on the right and left, will attend a Grand Warden. When the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, is present, the Book of Constitutions is borne before him, a Grand Sword Bearer follows him, and the Deacons, with black rods, are placed on his right and left, on a line, seven feet apart. If a Past Grand Officer appears in procession, he will be recognized with the customary respect.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The following order of procession will be proper to be observed when a single □ conducts the ceremonies :

Marshal.

Tyler, with drawn sword.

Stewards, with white rods.

Musicians, if they are masons; otherwise, in advance of the Tyler.

Master Masons.

Mark Masters.

Royal Arch Masons.

Select Masters.

Knights Templars.

Past Masters of the □.

Senior and Junior Deacons.

Secretary and Treasurer.

Senior and Junior Wardens.

The Holy Writings on a cushion, carried by the oldest, or some suitable member of the □.

The Master.

Clergy.

Pall bearers.



Pall bearers.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE.

The brethren being assembled at the □ room, or some other convenient place, the presiding officer will open the □ in the third degree. After having stated the object of the meeting, the service will commence—all the brethren standing :

Master. Man that is born of woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay. In the midst of life we are in death. Of whom, then, may we seek for succor, but of THEE, O LORD, who for our sins are justly displeas'd.

My brethren, where is the man that liveth, that shall not see death?

Response by the Brethren. Man walketh in a vain shadow; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.

Master. Where is now our departed brother?

Response. He dwelleth in night; he sojourneth in darkness.

Master. Can we offer any precious thing to redeem our brother?

Response. We have not the ransom. The place that once knew him shall know him no more forever.

Master. Shall his name be lost upon earth?

Response. We will treasure it in our memories, we will record it in our hearts.

Master. How then will it be known?

Response. It shall live in the exercise of his virtues.

Master. When our brother died, did he carry nothing away with him?

Response. He fulfilled his destiny: Naked came he into this world, and naked he has departed out of it.

Master. Hear then the conclusion of the whole matter: *It is the LORD only that can give, and it is the LORD that hath taken away.*

Response. Blessed forever be the name of the LORD.

Master. Let us endeavor to live the life of the righteous, that our last end may be like his.

Response. God is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide and our support, even through the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Master. I heard a voice from Heaven, saying unto me: "Write, from henceforth, blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors."

The Master here takes the *roll*, on which is inscribed the name and age of the deceased, and says:

Almighty Father! in Thy hands we leave, with humble submission, the soul of our departed brother.

The brethren will answer three times, giving the Grand Honors each time:

The will of God is accomplished. So be it.

The Master here deposits the *roll*, and repeats the following, or some other suitable prayer:

Most glorious and merciful Lord God, author of all good, and giver of every good and perfect gift, pour down, we implore Thee, Thy blessing upon us; and under the deep solemnities of this occasion, bind us yet closer together in the ties of brotherly love and affection. May the present instance of mortality sensibly remind us of our approaching fate; and may it have an influence to wean our affections from the things of this transitory world, and to fix them more devotedly upon Thee, the only sure refuge in time of need. And at last, great Parent of the Universe, when our journey shall be near its end; when the silver cord shall be loosed, and the golden bowl be broken; oh! in that moment of mortal extremity, may the "lamp of Thy love" dispel the gloom of the dark valley; and may we be enabled to "work an entrance" into the celestial above, and in Thy glorious presence, amidst its ineffable mysteries, enjoy a union with the souls of our departed friends, perfect as is the happiness of heaven, and durable as the eternity of God. Amen. So mote it be.

The above ceremonies may be performed either at the , the house of the deceased, or in the church edifice, if the corpse be taken there, and religious services be performed. If at the house of the deceased, the Master will take his station at the head of

the coffin, which will be uncovered, the Wardens at the foot, and the brethren around it, and commence as above prescribed; at the conclusion the coffin will be closed. If in the church, immediately after the benediction the Master, Wardens and brethren will place themselves as above directed, when the ceremonies will be commenced.

A procession will then again be formed, and march to the place of interment in the order prescribed. The members of the □ will form a circle round the grave. The clergy and officers will take their station at the head, and the mourners at the foot, when the services will be resumed by the Master, as follows:

“The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.

“And caused me to pass by them round about: And behold, there were very many in the open valley; and lo, they were very dry.

“And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, Thou knowest.

“Again He said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

“Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and ye shall live:

“And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and *ye shall live*; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

“So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

“And when I beheld, lo! the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them above, but there was no breath in them.

“Then said He unto me, prophecy unto the wind; prophecy, Son of Man, and say to the wind, thus saith the Lord God, come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain that they may live.

“So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and *they lived*, and stood upon their feet.”

My Brethren: We are again called upon by a most solemn admonition to regard the uncertainty of human life, the immutable certainty of death, and the vanity of all earthly pursuits. Decrepitude and decay are written in every living thing. The cradle and the coffin stand in juxtaposition to each other; and it is a melancholy truth, that so soon as we begin to live, that moment also we begin to die. Weakness and imperfection are the incidents of our fallen condition; the damp, dark grave is our destiny and our doom. What an eloquent commentary is here exhibited upon the instability of every human pursuit; and how touchingly does it echo the sad sentiment of the great preacher who wrote for our perpetual warning, the immortal text, “*vanity of vanities, all is vanity.*”

The last offices that we pay to the dead are useless things except as they con-

stitute lessons to the living. The cold, marble form enclosed in the "narrow house" before you, is alike insensible to our sorrows and our ceremonies. It matters not now to him, whether two or three gather around the grave to perform his funeral ritual; or that hundreds have assembled, with the banners and insignia of our order, to deposite him in his final resting place. It is of little moment how or in what manner his obsequies are performed; whether the wild winds chant his requiem, or it be accompanied with rare and costly music and the minstrelsy of many voices. He has gone to accomplish the fearful destiny of all our race, and his body, in the profound slumber of the grave, to be dissolved into its original elements.

What then, are all the externals of human dignity, the power of wealth, the dreams of ambition, the pride of intellect, or the charms of beauty, when nature has paid her just debt? Fix your eyes on the last sad scene, and view humanity stript of its dazzling, meretricious ornaments, and you must needs be persuaded of the utter emptiness of these delusions. The monarch of an hundred provinces, at whose bidding nations pay obeisance, and the poor beggar that shivers at his gate, are *equals* in the house of death. The one is obliged to part with his sceptre and his crown—the other has no further use for his wallet and his rags—and both are indebted to their Mother Earth for a common sepulchre. In the grave all fallacies are detected, all ranks are leveled, and all distinctions are done away.

While we drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our departed brother, let us cast around his foibles, whatever they may have been, the *broad mantle of a mason's charity*, nor withhold from his memory the commendation that his virtues claim at our hands. It is of record in the volume of Eternal Truth, that perfection on earth can never be attained. The best of created men did most grievously err, and the wisest of our race went sadly astray. Suffer, then, the apologies of human nature to plead in behalf of him who cannot any longer extenuate for himself.

The following invocations are then made :

Master. May we be true and faithful to each other, and may we live and die in love.

Response. So mote it be.

Master. May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession.

Response. So mote it be.

Master. May the Lord bless us and keep us; may the Lord be gracious unto us, and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.

Response. So mote it be.

Master. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Response. So mote it be; now, henceforth and forever. Amen.

The service is then resumed by the Master, as follows :

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me *shall never die*.

Here the apron is taken from the coffin and handed to the Master, and the corpse is made ready to be laid in the earth, when the service is resumed :

Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God, in his wise Providence, to take out of the world the soul of our deceased brother, we therefore commit his body to the ground. [*Here deposit the coffin.*] Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for a general resurrection in the last day, when the earth and the sea shall give up their dead.

The Secretary will then advance and deposit the *roll* in the grave with the usual form.

Master. Friend and brother! we bid thee a *last, a long* FAREWELL! Thou art at rest from thy labors; may it be in peace!

Response. Amen. So mote it be.

If circumstances will permit, it will be proper at this stage of the proceedings to sing the following, or some other appropriate hymn; or it may be repeated by the Master, or omitted entirely, as shall be considered best :

FUNERAL DIRGE.

Solemn strikes the funeral chime,
Notes of our departing time;
As we journey here below,
Through a pilgrimage of wo!

Mortals, now indulge a tear,
For mortality is near!
See how wide her trophies wave
O'er the slumbers of the grave!

Here another guest we bring,
Seraphs of celestial wing,
To your fun'ral altar come,
Waft this Friend and Brother home.

Lord of all! below—above—
Fill our hearts with Truth and Love;
When dissolves our earthly tie,
Take us to thy Lodge on high.

The service is then resumed by the Master, who, presenting the apron, says :

This lambskin, or white apron, is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or the Roman Eagle; more honorable than the Star or Garter.

The Master then deposits it in the grave.

This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother. By this we are reminded of the universal domination of Death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase

our release; nor will the innocence of youth, or the charms of beauty propitiate his purpose. The mattock, the coffin, and the melancholy grave, admonish us of our mortality, and that, sooner or later, these frail, weak bodies must moulder in their parent dust.

The Master, holding the *evergreen* in his hand, continues :

This Evergreen is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By this we are reminded of our high and glorious destiny beyond the "world of shadows," and that there dwells within our tabernacle of clay, an imperishable, immortal spirit, over which the grave has no dominion, and death no power.

The brethren will now move in procession round the place of interment, and severally drop the sprig of evergreen in the grave; after which the *public grand honors* are given. The Master then continues the ceremony in the following words :

From time immemorial, it has been the custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment, there to deposit it with the usual formalities.

In conformity to this ancient usage and at the request of our deceased brother, we have assembled at this time, in the character of masons, to offer up before the world the last tribute of our affection; and thereby to demonstrate in the strongest possible manner the sincerity of our past esteem for him, and our steady attachment to the principles of the order.

To those of his immediate relatives and friends, who are most heart-stricken at the loss we have all sustained, we have nothing of this world's consolation to offer. We can only sincerely, deeply and most affectionately sympathize with them in their afflictive bereavement. But, in the beautiful spirit of the christian's theology, we dare to say, that He who "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" looks down with infinite compassion upon the widow and fatherless in the hour of their desolation; and that the same benevolent Saviour whose tears of sympathy watered the grave in Bethany, will fold the arms of His love and protection around those who put their trust and confidence in Him.

Then let us each, in our respective spheres, so improve this solemn warning of our God, that at last, when the "sheeted dead" are stirring, when the "great white throne" is set, and the volume of the record of our lives is opened, we may receive from the omniscient Eternal Judge the thrilling invitation, "come ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

The service is concluded with the following, or some other suitable prayer :

Almighty and most merciful God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, and before whom all men must appear to render an account for the deeds done in the body, we do most earnestly beseech Thee, as we now surround the grave of our fallen brother, to impress deeply upon our minds the solemnities of this day. May we ever remember that "in the midst of life we are in death,"

and so live and act our several parts as we will desire to have done, when the hour of our departure is at hand.

And oh! Gracious Father, vouchsafe us, we pray Thee, thy Divine assistance, to redeem our mis-spent time; and in the discharge of the duties thou hast assigned us, in the erection of our moral edifice, may we have *wisdom* from on high to direct us; *strength* commensurate with our task to support us; and the *beauty* of holiness to adorn and render all our performances acceptable in Thy sight. And at last, when our work on earth is done, when the *mallet* of death shall call us from *our labors*, may we obtain a blessed and everlasting rest in that Spiritual House, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

Amen. So mote it be.

The procession will then return to the place whence it set out, where the necessary duties are complied with, and the \square is closed in the third degree.

MISCELLANEOUS FORMS.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE FOR A DIPLOMA.

..... LODGE, No., A. F. and A. M., }
..... A. L. 58. }

To the Right Worshipful,
Grand Secretary of the Grand of Nebraska :

I hereby certify that Brother is a Master Mason and a member of this , in good standing; and as such he is hereby recommended for a Grand diploma, upon payment of the usual fees.

Given under my hand and the seal of the aforesaid, at the date

[SEAL]

above written.

..... Secretary.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE FOR A DIPLOMA FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FAMILY OF A DECEASED BROTHER.

..... LODGE, No., A. F. and A. M., }
..... A. L. 58. }

To the Right Worshipful,
Grand Secretary of the Grand of Nebraska :

I hereby certify that Brother, who died at, on the day of A. L. 58., was, at the date of his decease, a Master Mason, and a member of this , in good standing; and that he left (*here insert "a widow," "a child," or "children," or any of them, as the case may be*), for whose benefit a Grand diploma is desired.

Given by order of the aforesaid, at the date first above written,

[SEAL]

as witness my hand and the seal thereof.

..... Secretary.

FORM OF PETITION FOR A DISPENSATION TO FORM A NEW LODGE.

To the Most Worshipful,
Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska :

The petition of the undersigned respectfully represents that they are Master Masons in good standing; that they are (or were last) members of the respective named opposite their several signatures hereunto; that they reside in or near the of, in the county of, in the State of Nebraska; that among them are a sufficient number of brethren well qualified to open and hold a of Free and Accepted Masons, and to discharge all its various duties in the three degrees of Ancient Masonry, in accordance with established usage;

and that, having the prosperity of the craft at heart, and being desirous to use their best endeavors for the diffusion of its beneficent principles, they pray for a dispensation empowering them to form, open, and hold a regular , at the of, aforesaid, to be called

They have nominated and respectfully recommend Brother as the first Master, Brother as the first Senior Warden, and Brother as the first Junior Warden of the said , they being in all respects competent to perform all the duties of the several stations for which they are proposed; and, if the prayer of the petitioners be granted, they promise in all things strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and undeviating conformity to the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand .

Dated at, on the day of, A. L. 58....

SIGNATURES.	NAME AND NO. OF <input type="checkbox"/> .	STATE AND COUNTY.
-------------	--	-------------------

FORM OF RECOMMENDATION OF A PETITION FOR THE INSTITUTION OF A NEW LODGE.

..... LODGE, NO., A. F. and A. M.,)
 A. L. 58.... }

To the Most Worshipful,
 Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska :

At a stated meeting of this , held at the date above written, the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

“Whereas, A petition for the issue of a dispensation to form and open a new at, in the county of, has been presented to this , for its recommendation; and

“Whereas, It is known to this that the signers to said petition, in number, are all Master Masons in good standing, and that a safe and suitable room has been provided by them for their meetings ; it is

“Resolved, That the establishment of said new is of manifest propriety, and will conduce to the good of the order; and that this recommends to the Grand Master the granting of the dispensation prayed for in said petition.”

A true copy from the minutes.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the
 [SEAL] seal of the aforesaid, at the date above written.

....., Secretary.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE MASTER PROPOSED IN A PETITION FOR A NEW LODGE.

To the Most Worshipful,
 Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska :

The petition of brethren, residing at the of, in the county of, praying the Grand Master for a dispensation to open and

hold a new □ at said, to be called □, having been presented to me; and Brother being recommended therein for nomination as the first Master of said proposed new □; now I,, Master of □, No., do hereby certify that, to my positive knowledge, said Brother is fully competent properly to confer the three degrees of masonry, and to deliver entire the several lectures thereunto appertaining.

Given at, in the county of, this day of, A. L. 58....

..... Worshipful Master.

FORM OF PETITION FOR A CHARTER.

To the Most Worshipful Grand □ of Nebraska :

The undersigned respectfully represent, that on the day of, A. L. 58...., a dispensation was issued by the Grand Master for the formation of a new □ at, in the county of, by the name of □; that on the ... day of, next ensuing, said □ was opened and organized, and has since continued successfully to work during the period named in said dispensation, as will appear from its records, By-Laws and returns, herewith presented; and that it is the anxious desire of the members of said □ that its existence be perpetuated.

They therefore pray that a charter be granted said □, by the name of □, with such number as the usage of the Grand □ may assign it; and recommend that Brother be named therein as Master, Brother as Senior Warden, and Brother as Junior Warden; promising, as heretofore, strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and undeviating conformity to the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand □.

Given by instruction from and on behalf of said □, at, this day of, A. L. 58....

..... } Delegates.
..... }
..... }

FORM OF NOTICE OF REJECTIONS, SUSPENSIONS, EXPULSIONS, AND RESTORATIONS.

..... LODGE, A. F. and A. M., }
..... A. L. 58.... }

To the Right Worshipful

Grand Secretary of the Grand □ of Nebraska :

I hereby certify that, at a stated meeting of this □ held at the date above written, the petition of, an applicant for the degrees of masonry, was rejected.

(Or, Brother, after due notice, as prescribed in the Constitution, was suspended from all the rights and privileges of masonry, for non-payment of his dues.)

(Or, Brother, after due trial in the manner prescribed in the Constitution, was declared to be suspended from all the rights and privileges of masonry, for unmasonic conduct.)

(Or, Brother, after due trial, in the manner prescribed in the Constitution, was declared to be expelled from all the rights and privileges of masonry, for unmasonic conduct.)

(Or, Brother, heretofore suspended by this □ for non-payment of his dues, having paid up all arrearages, (or, having had his dues remitted by the □), as provided in the Constitution, resumed his rights and privileges as a mason, and as a member of this □.)

(Or, Brother, heretofore suspended by this □ for unmasonic conduct, was, by a two-thirds vote, in the manner prescribed in the Constitution, restored to all his rights and privileges as a mason, and as a member of this □.)

Given under my hand, and the seal of the □ aforesaid, at the date

[SEAL] above written.

..... Secretary.

FORM OF CREDENTIAL FOR A REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED BY A LODGE.

..... LODGE, NO., Ar F. and A. M.,)
..... A. L. 58.... }

To the Most Worshipful the Grand □ of Nebraska :

This is to certify that, at a meeting of this □, held at the date above written, it having been made known that neither the Master nor either of the Wardens thereof would be enabled to attend the Grand □ at its next Annual Communication, Brother, a member of the □, was, by ballot, duly elected to serve as its representative during said Communication.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and have caused the Secretary to affix the seal of the □, with his attestation at the date above written.

[SEAL]

....., Worshipful Master.

....., Secretary.

FORM OF PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF MASONRY.

To the Worshipful Master, the Wardens and Members of

.....Lodge, No. , A. F. and A. M.:

The undersigned respectfully represents, that, unbiased by friends and uninfuenced by mercenary motives, he freely and voluntarily offers himself as a candidate for the mysteries of masonry; that he is prompted to solicit this privilege by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish to be serviceable to his fellow creatures; that he never has made application to, and been rejected by any □ of Free and Accepted Masons; and that he promises, if found worthy, to conform to all the ancient usages and regulations of the fraternity.

His place of residence is....., his age.....years,
and his occupation.....

(Date)... .., 18....

(Signature)

Recommended by Bros. { (To be members of the).
.....

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the *Worshipful Master, the Wardens and Brethren* of

.....Lodge, No., A. F. and A. M.:

The undersigned respectfully represents, that he is a Master Mason, in good standing; that he was last a member of.....Lodge, No, in the..... of, from which he has honorably withdrawn, as by the accompanying certificate will appear; and that he now desires, if found worthy, to become a member of your .

His place of residence is....., his age.....years
and his occupation.....

(Date)....., A. L. 58....

(Signature).....

Recommended by Bros. { (To be members of the).
.....

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION, APPOINTMENT AND INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS OF A LODGE.

..... LODGE, NO.....A. F. AND A. M. }
.....A. L. 58.... }

To the *Right Worshipful*.....,

Grand Secretary of the Grand of Nebraska:

I hereby certify that at the stated meeting of this held on the day above written, it being that next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing masonic year, viz:

- Brother, Master,
- Brother, Senior Warden,
- Brother, Junior Warden,
- Brother, Treasurer,
- Brother, Secretary,

That on the...day of....., A. L. 58... , the following officers were duly appointed to serve for the ensuing masonic year, viz:

- Brother, Chaplain,
- Brother, Senior Deacon,
- Brother, Junior Deacon,
- Brother, Marshal,
- Brother, Steward,
- Brother, do
- Brother, Tyler.

And that on the...day of....., A. L. 58...., the said officers were duly installed by (here give the name and masonic title of the installing officer).

Given under my hand and the seal of the □, on the day last above written.

[SEAL.]

....., Secretary.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR DIMIT.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of

.....Lodge, No., A. F. and A. M.:

The undersigned, a Master Mason, and member of your □, being desirous of leaving the jurisdiction thereof, and of becoming a member of a □ nearer his proposed place of residence, and having paid all dues against him, prays that he may be granted a certificate of withdrawal.

Dated at.....the...day of... ..18....

(Signed).....

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF WITHDRAWAL. (Dimit.)

To all Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons,

Wheresoever dispersed around the Globe, GREETING:

This is to certify that Brother....., whose signature appears in the margin hereof, is a Master Mason in good standing, and was, until this date, a member of our Lodge, No. .., A. F. and A. M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand □ of the State of Nebraska. Having paid all dues, and being in good fellowship with the brethren, he has voluntarily withdrawn from our said □, and now by its order receives this certificate, recommending him to the friendship and good will of the fraternity wherever he may be.

Given at the hall of our □ aforesaid, at....., in the county of....., in the State of Nebraska, this...day of.....

A. L. 58...., as witness my hand, the seal of our □, and the at- [SEAL] testation of our Secretary.

.....

Worshipful Master.

Attest,

Secretary.

Signature.....

INDEX

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z

I N D E X .

- A** RMSTRONG, GEORGE—Secretary Convention to form Grand □, 5; Secretary of Grand □, his report, 19; Grand Master of Grand □, his address, 157, 191, 211, 216.
- ANDERSON, WM.—Grand Treasurer, his report, 19.
- ACCOUNTS—Report of Committee on, 20, 114, 166, 214, 220, 244, 266, 294, 299, 309, 377.
- ACCOUNTS—Committee on, 51, 63, 107, 157, 195, 196, 211, 255, 285, 352.
- ACCOUNTS—Reference of, 194, 237, 238, 290, 310, 374, 376.
- ALABAMA—Grand □ report, remarks on, 31, 73, 124, 323, 394.
- ARKANSAS—Grand □ report, remarks on, 126, 324, 395.
- APPEALS—259, 261, 263, 367.
- AUDALUSIA □, NO. 239, ALABAMA—Relief to, 302.
- ADAMS, WM. H.—*In Memoriam*, 441.
- AT REST—List of, 446.
- APPENDIX—448.
- ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF GRAND □—11, 49, 105, 155, 209, 227.
- B** ETTS, GEO. C.—3, 269, 275, 337.
- BOWAN, L. L.—5, 6.
- BIBLE—21.
- BLANKS—Grand □, 24.
- BY-LAWS—Action on, 42, 43, 113, 198, 216, 241, 259, 302, 377, 378; of subordinates, com. on, 197, 201; of Grand □ (appendix), 6.
- BAXTER, REV. B. R.—118.
- BEDFORD, T. W.—Bond of, as (Treasurer), 305.
- BRANNOCK CITY □, U. D.—211, 212, 213, 264.
- C** OLLATION AND REVISION—3, 301.
- COMMITTEE—Standing, of Grand □, 4, 51; on Grand □ organization, 5; select, on Grand □, 18, 56.
- CONVENTION to form Grand □, 5.
- CORNELL, H. N.—5.
- CAPITAL □, NO. 101—5; Capital □, No. 2, returns, 46, 100, 106, 141, 151, 184, 205, 240, 306, 366.
- CHIVINGTON, J. M.—6.
- CLARK, A. G.—25, 30, 66, 71.
- CONNECTICUT—Grand □ reports, 32, 75, 127, 397.
- CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS—Reports on, 43, 60, 65, 196, 241, 257, 264, 295, 300, 304, 353, 369, 375; committees on, 51, 107, 115, 157, 170, 211, 213, 255, 285, 352.

- CREDENTIALS—Committee on, 50, 106, 156, 189, 210, 228, 254, 284, 350 ;
report of, 50, 106, 156, 190, 210, 228, 254, 260, 284, 292, 295, 297, 299.
- CHARITY—Committee on, 51, 62, 107, 113, 157, 171, 202, 211, 255, 285, 294,
352.
- COMMUNICATIONS, ANNUAL—11, 49, 105, 155, 189, 209, 253, 283, 349.
- CALIFORNIA—Grand □ report, 126, 325, 396.
- CANADA—Grand □ report, 325, 399.
- COLORADO—Grand □ reports, 326, 398.
- COLUMBIA, DISTRICT OF—Grand □ report, 128, 327, 400.
- COUNTRY—Report on condition of, 168.
- CODE OF PROCEEDINGS—To be printed, 292, 297.
- CONSTITUTION OF GRAND □—Resolution about, 172, 198, 243; appendix, 3.
- CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF SUBORDINATE □—Reports, 195,
216, 243.
- CEDAR □—Relating to, 292, 300, 301, 353, 366.
- COVERT □—Relating to, 296, 297, 299, 366, 373, 388.
- CEREMONIES OF INSTALLATION—See appendix, 24.
- CORNER STONES—Laying of, (see appendix) 29.
- CEREMONIES AT FUNERALS—(See appendix) 34.
- D**ELAWARE—Grand □ reports, 32, 75, 399.
- DISTRICT COLUMBIA—Grand □ reports, 128, 327, 400.
- DIMITTING—Question as to, 43.
- DRUMMOND, M. J.—167.
- DECATUR □—Relating to, 195, 196, 197, 207, 240, 291, 304, 306, 366.
- DAKOTA □—240.
- DUES, NON-PAYMENT—245, 246, 260, 368.
- DIGEST OF LAWS AND PROCEEDINGS—Relating to, 292, 297.
- DEAD—List of, 446.
- E**XPULSION—And list of, 110, 259, 348, 446.
- ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS—Of Grand □, 22, 61, 112, 171, 198,
214, 299, 375.
- F**OREIGN CORRESPONDENCE—Committee on, 51, 107, 301 ; reports of,
21, 24, 30, 72, 110, 123, 137, 157, 163, 199, 211, 217, 238, 255, 276, 304,
323, 352, 391, 394.
- FURNAS, R. W.—57, 63, 111, 162, 163, 261, 286, 299, 354, 388.
- FLORIDA—Grand □ reports, 75, 131, 327.
- FALLS CITY □—257, 306, 366.
- FREMONT □—366, 369.
- FRANCE—Grand Orient of, 437.
- FUNERAL CEREMONIES—(See appendix) 34.
- G**IDDINGS □—5, 8.
- GRAND □ CONVENTION—5.
- GRAND □ OF UNITED STATES—Officers of, 103, 155, 156, 348, 447.
- GRAND □—Secretary's report, 57, 111.
- GARRISON, WILLIAM—Action on, 219.

- GRAND □—Annual Communication, 11, 49, 105, 155, 209, 227; forming of, 56, 63, 166; incorporation of, 22; place of meeting, 215, 219, 233, 261, 292, 367; rules of order, (appendix), 13; officers, list of, 49, 105, 171, 189, 210, 227, 253, 283, 284, 299, 349, 350, 375; election of officers, 22, 61, 112, 171, 198, 214, 233, 261; location of, 116, 118, 159, 161, 162, 165, 215; address of Grand Master of, 51, 157, 211, 229; address of Grand Master of, report on, 56, 110, 157, 161, 212.
- GRIEVANCES—Committee on, 51, 66, 107, 115, 157, 255, 285; report of, 171, 211, 242, 352, 367.
- GOSS, J. Q.—380, 388.
- GODDARD, J. L.—*In memoriam*, 443.
- GEORGIA—Grand □ reports, 32, 131, 400.
- H**YNEMAN, LEON—165.
- HARVEY, WM. E.—245, 267, 309.
- I**NCORPORATION OF GRAND □—22.
- INDIANA REGULATIONS—Committee on, 56, 64; Grand □ reports, 76, 132, 328, 402.
- IOWA—Grand □ reports, 33, 80, 132, 328, 404.
- ILLINOIS—Grand □ reports, 79, 132, 401.
- IRELAND—Grand □ reports, 438.
- IDAHO □—264.
- IRISH, O. H.—310, 321.
- INSTALLATION—182, 215, 246, 247, 265, 291, 294, 367, 372; ceremonies, (see appendix), 24.
- IN MEMORIAM—189, 221, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443.
- J**ORDAN, ROBERT C.—5, 6, 51, 56, 113.
- JONES, SAMUEL H.—172.
- JURISPRUDENCE—20, 259, 303, 365, 367, 368, 372, 373, 397.
- JEWELS, GRAND □—23, 110, 111, 202, 220, 237, 275, 289.
- K**ANSAS—Grand □ reports, 83, 132, 329, 406.
- KENTUCKY—Grand □ reports, 83, 132, 329, 406.
- KINNEY, J. F.—172.
- L**INDLEY, DAVID—5, 6.
- LOUISIANA—Grand □ reports, 84, 133, 334, 408.
- LEAMING, SILAS T.—352.
- LECTURER—Grand □, duty of, 372.
- LOUP FORK—Subordinate □, 241.
- LODGES, GRAND—List of, 103, 155, 156, 348, 447; relating to formation of, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24; Constitution, (see appendix,) 3; By-Laws, (see appendix,) 6; Rules of Order, (see appendix,) 13.
- LODGES, SUBORDINATE—List of, 445.
- M**ASTER, M. W. GRAND—Address of, 13, 51, 107, 157, 191, 211, 229, 255, 286, 354; reference of, 18, 42, 56, 108, 161, 194, 212, 232, 257, 289, 360; report on, 18, 42, 56, 113, 161, 195, 197, 200, 212, 233, 258, 290, 364, 367, 376, 378; official accounts, 194, 232, 290, 299, 376.

- MEMBERS—Grand □, Pay-Roll, 23, 65, 246, 255, 262, 285, 307, 308, 352, 389; committee on, 51, 107, 116, 157, 169, 201, 211, 218, 219.
- MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE—Committee on, 51, 58, 60, 64, 71, 107, 157, 166, 167, 238, 240, 241, 245, 246, 255, 285, 303, 352; report on, 168, 259, 367, 368, 372, 373, 391.
- MASONIC WORK—71, 216, 234, 237, 240, 268, 289, 292, 322, 361, 365, 372.
- MASONS, NON-AFFILIATED—20, 161, 167.
- MAXON, JOHN H.—58, 111, 114, 165.
- MARSHALL, J. W.—202.
- MACKEY, A. G.—265, 268.
- MONITOR □—289, 290, 298, 306, 391.
- MOUNT VERNON—56, 59.
- MINNESOTA—Grand □ report, 34, 134, 410.
- MARYLAND—Grand □ report, 33, 88, 134, 330, 410.
- MASSACHUSETTS—Grand □ report, 87, 134, 410.
- MAINE—Grand □ report, 86, 133, 330, 409.
- MICHIGAN—Grand □ report, 88, 134, 415.
- MISSOURI—Grand □ report, 89, 135, 412.
- MISSISSIPPI—Grand □ report, 135, 415.
- MONTANA—Grand □ report, 414.
- NEBRASKA □—5, 45, 62, 106, 139, 150, 162, 183, 204, 240, 306.
- NEMAHA VALLEY □—46, 62, 101, 106, 147, 152, 185, 205, 240, 259, 261, 263, 268, 306, 366.
- NEBRASKA CITY □—296, 297, 298, 306, 321, 366, 373.
- NON-AFFILIATED MASONS—161, 167.
- NON-PAYMENT OF DUES—245, 246, 259, 263, 368.
- NORTH CAROLINA—Grand □ reports, 34, 91, 135, 332, 423.
- NEW JERSEY—Grand □ reports, 36, 135, 331, 417.
- NEW YORK—Grand □ reports, 90, 135, 331, 417.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE—Grand □ reports, 90, 135, 331, 417.
- NOVA SCOTIA—Grand □ reports, 332.
- ORDER OF BUSINESS—4, 6, 293, 363.
- ORATOR, GRAND—Address of, 25, 66, 172, 269, 310, 380.
- ORPHANS—Relating to, 290, 300, 369, 392.
- O'SULLIVAN, A.—*In memoriam*, 439.
- ORPHANS' FUND—(See appendix), 20.
- OFFICERS OF GRAND □—Election of, 22, 61, 112, 171, 198, 214, 299, 375; list of elected, 22, 61, 106, 112, 171, 189, 190, 198, 254, 284, 299, 349; appointed, 23, 61, 156, 171, 191, 198, 215, 229, 233, 253, 267, 283, 302, 349, 350, 379; list of, 103, 348; Past Grand, list of, 350, 351; Grand, pay-roll of, 23, 65, 246, 255, 262, 285, 307, 308, 352, 389.
- OHIO—Grand □ report, 36, 425.
- OREGON—Grand □ report, 92, 136, 333.
- OMADI □—46, 62, 101, 147, 152, 185, 202, 206, 306, 366.
- ORIENT □—353.

- PAY ROLL**—Grand Officers, &c., 23, 65, 246, 255, 262, 285, 307, 308, 352.
389: committee on, 51, 107, 116, 157, 169, 201, 211, 218, 219.
- PLATTSMOUTH** □—47, 102, 106, 148, 153, 186, 206, 219, 304, 306, 366, 368.
- PERU** □—207, 213, 214, 238, 263, 265, 354, 366, 376.
- PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND** □—To be printed, 63, 292.
- PRINTING**—Action of Grand □ on, 169, 170, 200, 202, 217, 234, 237, 247, 261, 275, 292, 393.
- PROXY**—Question as to, 354.
- PEARMAN, FOUNTAIN**—167.
- PENNSYLVANIA**—Grand □ reports, 136, 333, 427.
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**—(See appendix), 22.
- REVISION**—Committee on, 3, 171, 297.
- RESOLUTIONS**—As to Grand □, 5, 6, 18.
- RULES AND REGULATIONS**—For subordinates, 65.
- RETURNS**—Of subordinates, 51, 99, 215, 300.
- REINSTATED MEMBERS**—List of, 446.
- RHODE ISLAND**—Grand □ report, 136, 333, 428.
- RULES OF ORDER**—For Grand □, (see appendix), 13; for subordinates, (see appendix), 14.
- RESOLUTIONS**—Standing, (see appendix), 18.
- SECRETARY OF GRAND** □—His pay and account, 18, 60, 294, 309, 374, 375; reports, 19, 57, 111, 162, 166, 200, 213, 266.
- SUICIDES**—Right of burial, 30.
- STANDING COMMITTEES**—Of Grand □, 51, 107, 157, 211.
- SCHOOL FUND**—Committee on, 51, 63, 107, 110, 157, 163.
- SELECT COMMITTEES**—Of Grand □, 56, 392.
- SMITH, S. E.**—218, 221, 233, 242.
- SUSPENSIONS**—List of, 446.
- SERMON**—And action thereon, 291, 322, 337.
- SOUTH CAROLINA**—Grand □ returns, 35, 93, 136, 428.
- STANDING RESOLUTIONS OF GRAND** □—(Appendix), 18.
- SUBORDINATE** □—Returns of, 45, 62, 139, 150, 162, 183, 204, 222, 240, 248, 278, 342, 366; list of, 445; rules and regulations of, (appendix), 15.
- Nebraska □, No. 1—45, 62, 99, 139, 150, 183, 204, 222, 240, 248, 258, 278, 306, 342, 366.
- Western Star □, No. 2—45, 99, 140, 150, 183, 204, 222, 240, 248, 258, 278, 306, 342, 366.
- Capital □, No. 3—46, 100, 141, 151, 184, 205, 223, 240, 249, 258, 279, 306, 343, 366.
- Nemaha Valley □, No. 4—46, 62, 101, 147, 152, 185, 205, 223, 240, 249, 258, 279, 306, 344, 366.
- Dakota □, No. 5—46, 62, 101, 147, 152, 185, 206, 224, 240, 250, 258, 280, 306, 344, 366.

- Plattsmouth □, No. 6—47, 102, 148, 153, 186, 206, 224, 240, 250, 258, 280, 306, 345, 366.
- Decatur □, No. 7—207, 225, 240, 251, 258, 281, 306, 345, 366.
- Columbus □, No. 8—240, 258, 281, 306, 346, 366.
- Falls City □, No. 9—258, 282, 306, 346, 366.
- Solomon □, No. 10—295, 297, 298, 306, 346, 366.
- Covert □, No. 11—306, 347, 366.
- Nebraska City □, No. 12—306, 347, 366.
- Orient □, No. 13—353.
- Peru □, No. 14—207, 225, 366.
- Fremont □, No. 15—366.
- Loup Fork □—Action on, 251.
- Monitor □, U. D.—306, 347.
- Cedar □, U. D.—366.
- T**REASURER, GRAND—His report, 19, 111, 165, 166, 220, 266, 275; his bond, 42, 62, 114, 172, 218, 245, 267, 305; his official account, 294, 309, 374, 375.
- TENNESSEE—Grand □ report, 37, 58, 93, 137, 202, 334, 430.
- TEXAS—Grand □ report, 137, 333, 430.
- U**NIFORMITY OF WORK—Report on, 43.
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS—Committee on, 51, 107, 112, 157, 197, 211, 255, 285, 352, 364; report of committee on, 57, 163, 212, 237, 261, 305.
- V**OUCHING FOR VISITORS—How done, 24.
- VISITORS—Appointment of committee on, 50, 107, 157, 189, 210, 228, 254, 284, 350.
- VERMONT—Grand □ report, 38, 94, 137, 335, 432.
- VIRGINIA—Grand □ report, 40, 96, 137, 334, 432.
- W**ESTERN STAR □, NO. 2—8, 45, 63, 99, 106, 109, 140, 150, 183, 204, 301, 306, 321, 366.
- WISE, J. N.—3, 261, 268; official account, 294, 309.
- WHEELER, D. H.—3, 214, 215, 229, 275.
- WEBB—Work, 216, 234, 255, 362.
- WORK—Masonic, how enforced, 71, 169, 219, 238.
- WISCONSIN—Grand □ report, 97, 137, 434.
- WASHINGTON TERRITORY—Grand □ report, 96, 137, 335, 437.
- WEST VIRGINIA—Grand □ report, 334, 435.
- WAYS AND MEANS—Committee on, 51, 107, 117, 157, 168, 211, 255, 285, 352; report by, 297, 298, 363, 372, 377; to print laws, 292.

