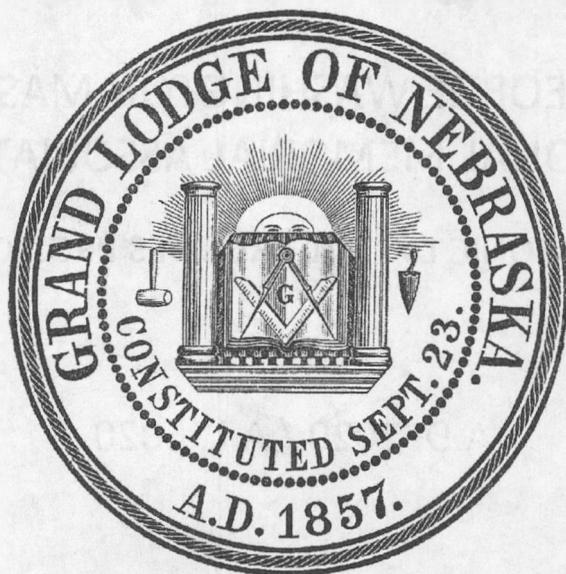


1900
PROCEEDINGS
of the
GRAND LODGE
of
Ancient Free & Accepted
MASONS
of the
STATE OF
NEBRASKA



A.D. 1900 / A.L. 5900

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A.D. 2020 / A.L. 6020

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE,
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,
OF THE
STATE OF NEBRASKA,
IN EMERGENT COMMUNICATION HELD AT FREEMASONS HALL,
OMAHA, NEBRASKA, OCTOBER 1ST, 1899,
AND AT THE
FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,
HELD AT OMAHA, JUNE 6 AND 7, 1900.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,

OF NEBRASKA,

IN EMERGENT COMMUNICATION HELD AT FREEMASONS HALL,
OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

The Grand Lodge, A. · F. · & A. · M. · of Nebraska, met in emergent communication Sunday, October 1st, 1899, at 1 P. M.

There were present—

M. · W. ·	WILLIAM W. KEYSOR	Grand Master.
W. ·	JOSEPH DEEGAN, *3	as Deputy Grand Master.
W. ·	CHARLES A. DUNHAM, *3	as Grand Senior Warden.
W. ·	JAMES W. MAYNARD, *11	as Grand Junior Warden.
	_____	Grand Treasurer.
R. · W. ·	FRANCIS E. WHITE	Grand Secretary.
M. · W. ·	CHARLES K. COUTANT, *11	as Grand Chaplain.
M. · W. ·	GEORGE W. LININGER, *3	as Grand Marshal.
W. ·	JOHN D. HOWE, *1	as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. ·	RUFUS S. PARKER, *11	as Grand Junior Deacon.
BRO. ·	FRED W. KOETTER, *25	as Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters Charles K. Coutant, 11; Martin Dunham, 3; Bradner D. Slaughter, 89; Harry P. Deuel, 11; John J. Mercer, 4; Robert E. French, 46; John A. Ehrhardt, 41; Daniel H. Wheeler, 1; George W. Lininger, 3; Henry H. Wilson, 19; Charles J. Phelps, 34; representatives from the following lodges: M. · W. · Robert E. French, P. G. M., Rob Morris Lodge No. 46; Francis E. White, Plattsmouth Lodge No. 6; Newell R. Wilcox, Papillion Lodge No. 35, and a large number of brethren from Nebraska Lodge No. 1, Capitol Lodge No. 3, Covert Lodge No. 11, and St. Johns Lodge No. 25, all of Omaha.

A lodge of Freemasons was opened in ample form as required by the Law of Freemasonry in Nebraska. By order of

*The numerals indicate the lodge to which the brother named belongs.

the M.:W.: Grand Master, the Grand Marshal declared the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, opened in ample form. The Grand Master announced that this emergent communication was held for the purpose of paying the last tribute of respect to R.:W.: Brother Christian Hartman, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, A.:F.: & A.:M.:, of Nebraska.

A procession was then formed and, with Mount Calvary Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, of Omaha, acting as an escort, proceeded to the residence of Brother Hartman. After services there, the remains were conveyed to Forest Lawn Cemetery where the Masonic burial service was rendered by Grand Master William W. Keysor, assisted by Rev. Thomas J. Mackay of Capitol Lodge No. 3.

As the last view was taken of our departed brother and we saw him sink into our Mother Earth, each felt that he had indeed lost a friend and brother and we said farewell "until the day dawns."

At the conclusion of the service, the Grand Lodge returned to Freemasons Hall and was closed in ample form, and due proclamation was made thereof by the Grand Marshal.

WM. W. KEYSOR,
Grand Master.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Ell White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the title "Grand Secretary".

Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons,

OF NEBRASKA,

AT THE

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

HELD IN OMAHA, JUNE 6 AND 7, 1900.

THE Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska convened and assembled in Freemasons Hall, Omaha, on Wednesday, June 6, A. L. 5900, A. D. 1900, at three o'clock and thirty minutes in the afternoon, there being present—

M. W. WILLIAM W. KEYSOR	Grand Master.
R. W. ALBERT W. CRITES	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT E. EVANS	Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. NATHANIEL M. AYERS	Grand Junior Warden.
	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. FRANCIS E. WHITE	Grand Secretary.
V. W. JOHN F. POUCHER	Grand Chaplain.
W. WALTER W. WELLS	Grand Orator.
M. W. JAMES A. TULLEYS, P. G. M.	Grand Custodian.
M. W. DANIEL H. WHEELER, P. G. M.	as Grand Marshal.
W. DAVID M. McELHINNEY	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES DINSMORE	Grand Junior Deacon.
BRO. JACOB KING	Grand Tyler.

and representatives from two hundred and six of the two hundred and thirty-one chartered lodges of the jurisdiction.

A lodge of Master Masons was opened in ample form as required by the Law of Freemasonry in Nebraska.

It was ascertained by roll-call that a constitutional number of lodges was represented. The Grand Master declared the Grand Lodge open for the transaction of business, and due proclamation thereof was made by the Grand Marshal.

The Grand Master then ordered that all Freemasons, duly clothed and vouched for, be admitted to seats in the gallery during the sessions of this communication, unless objected to by members of the Grand Lodge.

Past Grand Master Lininger delivered the following address of welcome, and it was fittingly responded to by M. : W. : Grand Master, William W. Keysor.

In behalf of the Blue Lodges of this city, I have been asked to extend to the Grand Lodge a hearty welcome. This masonic building in which you hold your meetings is your home; make use of it while you are here. For, should the lodges, whose property it is, ever cease to exist it would revert to the Grand Lodge. This Grand Lodge is changing very rapidly. There seems to be not more than fifty faces, familiar to me, in this hall, and yet I have attended every Grand Lodge meeting for the last twenty-five years.

I feel that the social feature of masonry has been too much neglected. We come here for a couple of days, transact the business of the Grand Lodge, and then return to our homes, feeling that we have not made the occasion what it should be. Masonry is a fraternal institution, and we hope that you will remain with us long enough to participate in that friendly and social intercourse that we masons desire of each other. We hope that you will visit our parks, especially Hanscom and Riverside Parks, which nature has made beautiful for our comfort and enjoyment. I hope, too, that you will have time to visit my home and art gallery. The door is open and both you and your families are cordially invited to visit there. In welcoming you to Omaha, I ask you to feel perfectly free to call upon any of the brethren of Omaha and South Omaha, should you be in need of any information.

The Grand Master ordered the roll-call of the committees on Visitors and Credentials, and the vacancies being filled, they entered upon the discharge of their duties.

Past Grand Masters Dinsmore, Reese, and French presented and introduced to the Grand Master, Brother Herbert S. Piper, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, whereupon he was welcomed and introduced to the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

The Grand Master then delivered his annual address.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The rapid wings of time, my brothers, have again brought us to the most delightful and eventful period of the Masonic year. Amid the countless blessings which the Grand Architect of the Universe, our Father in Heaven, has strewn upon us with prodigal and kindly hand, we have assembled to review the work of the past year, consider the needs of the present, and provide for the future. While thus engaged let us utilize this precious opportunity for exchanging fraternal greetings, extending our acquaintance with the craft, renewing our pledges of devotion to the fraternity, and warming into undying glow our brotherly love for each other. I proffer to you all a most cordial greeting and welcome you to the Forty-Third annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, with the hope that it will inspire you with enthusiastic and unquenchable zeal in supporting and advancing our sublime institution.

The past Masonic year has been an auspicious one for us as citizens and Freemasons. The trying times of drought, financial stringency and business stagnation have passed away, and cheerfulness and courage again animate the hearts, invigorate the brains and steady the hands of all who plan and toil. National honor has been maintained at home and preserved abroad; free government and Christian civilization have received a prodigious impulse at our hands, and commendable progress has been made in the solution of the momentous problems submitted to us, as we believe, by Him who holds the nations in the hollow of His hand. Surely the goodness and mercy of the Lord have followed us in our public and private affairs since our last annual communication.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

It affords me exceeding pleasure to report that Freemasonry has prospered remarkably in this jurisdiction during the past year. Work has been abundant and our lodges have grown stronger in numbers and finances; the needy have been supplied; the sick nursed; the dead buried; the widow assisted and the orphan educated; harmony has been restored in several quarters, and with one or two unfortunate exceptions, peace and brotherly love prevail throughout our jurisdiction; the practice of lodges visiting, assisting and entertaining each other at the banquet board has extended; and happily there has been a perceptible uplift in the character of the candidates admitted, and a truer apprehension of the higher ends of our institution.

OUR FRATERNAL DEAD.

But my brothers, into the warp and woof of our year of prosperity and sunshine, death has woven the baleful figures of separation and sorrow. The returns of the subordinate lodges disclose that a goodly number of our members have gone to be tried by the unerring square of Him whose

judgments are righteous altogether. Many of them served the fraternity long and well, and their counsel and work will be greatly missed. To mention them here by name would be impracticable, and I therefore pay them my tribute of respect and affection, and extend the sympathy of this grand body to their sorrowing families. I cannot forbear alluding, however, particularly to those who died in the military service of their country. Whatever views we as citizens may entertain concerning the Cuban and Philippine wars, as Freemasons we cannot feel otherwise than proud of the record made on battlefield and ocean wave by the brave men who wore the square and compass on their breasts, particularly of such as Colonel Stotsenberg and General Henry who were Nebraska Masons. Some of these gallant brothers, alas! met the soldier's fate, and are now sleeping the sleep that knows no mortal waking; but who will profess to know enough of God's purposes or to be able to scan the future sufficiently to justify the declaration that they died in vain? Let us honor them, and ever remember them as brother Masons who perished in a conscientious exemplification of a virtue which we deeply cherish.

When at our last annual communication we saw the vacant chair at the left of the Grand Master in the East, we bowed in submission to the inexplicable manifestation of God's will, and earnestly hoped that many a year would elapse before the shadow of death would fall again upon this grand body. Vain hope! The summer had scarcely passed away when our Grand Treasurer joined our departed Grand Secretary in the celestial lodge above, and we now behold another vacant chair draped with the emblems of sorrow, and are again called upon to pay the tribute of love and respect which is always due to the faithful brother who has gone before us.

Right Worshipful Brother Christian Hartman was honored and trusted in all his walks of life. He was an exemplary and successful business man, a good citizen, a beloved father and husband, and a faithful Mason. He filled many public positions of importance acceptably to the people, and never betrayed any trust reposed in him. For more than twenty years he served as Grand Treasurer, and always enjoyed the confidence and esteem, not only of the Grand Lodge, but of all the brethren who knew him. On Sunday, October 1, 1899, after appropriate funeral services at his residence, this Grand Lodge, escorted by Mount Calvary Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar, of Omaha, and a large concourse of relatives, friends and brothers, conveyed his remains to Forest Lawn Cemetery, and there conferred the highest honors of our institution upon them by interring them with the full ceremonial of our burial service. And there, with words of profound sympathy for his family and thanks to God for giving us such a brother, let us leave him to rest in unbroken peace till the corruptible shall put on incorruptibility, and we shall meet him in the presence of our Divine Grand Master.

FRATERNAL DEAD IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

I have received official communication of deaths of distinguished brethren in foreign jurisdictions, as follows:

M.:W.:Byron L. Carr, Past Grand Master of Colorado, died at Mineral Wells, Texas, April 21, 1899.

M.:W.:John J. Sumpter, Past Grand Master of Arkansas, died at Hot Springs, June 22, 1899.

M.:W.:Edmund C. Mahon, Past Deputy Grand Master of Nova Scotia, died at Halifax, March 8, 1899.

M.:W.:Alexander M. Evans, Past Grand Master of West Virginia, died October 16, 1899.

M.:W.:Dwight Phelps, Past Grand Master of Connecticut, died in Winsted, Connecticut, September 6, 1899.

M.:W.:John S. Cross, Past Grand Master of Michigan, died in Bangor, Michigan, ————1899.

M.:W.:Alphonso Barto, Past Grand Master of Minnesota, died November 4, 1899, at St. Cloud, Minnesota.

M.:W.:James Henry Welsh, Past Grand Master of Connecticut, died in Danbury, December 16, 1899.

M.:W.:Harrison Dills, Past Grand Master of Illinois, died in Warrensburg, Missouri, November 1, 1899.

M.:W.:Robert Clow, Past Grand Master of Oregon, died in Junction City, Oregon, January 5, 1900.

R.:W.:Henry Chapple, Deputy Grand Master of Montana, died in Flag staff, Arizona, January 10, 1900.

Bro.:Tom Linton, Grand Tyler of Colorado, died in Denver, January 11, 1900.

M.:W.:Thomas Givings Reames, Past Grand Master of Oregon, died at Jacksonville, Oregon, February 21, 1900.

M.:W.:Clark Buckingham, Past Grand Master of Connecticut, died in Wallingsford, Connecticut, March 17, 1900.

M.:W.:Samuel Wright Williams, Past Grand Master of Arkansas, died at Little Rock, March 14, 1900.

R.:W.:Cyrus K. Holliday, Past Deputy Grand Master of Kansas, died at Topeka, March 29, 1900.

M.:W.:Silas Clam Sheldon, Past Grand Master of Kansas, died at Topeka, April 19, 1900.

CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL SERVICES.

It was my privilege by virtue of my office, and pursuant to a resolution passed by this grand body two years ago, to represent this state at the Centennial Memorial exercises held at the tomb of Washington. And now I will tell you far more briefly, however, than my desire dictates, about this event which was so honorable, creditable and beneficial to our fraternity.

On my arrival at the National Capitol I was given a hearty welcome by the reception committee, and was at all times and places most cordially greeted by our brethren of Virginia. On the evening of December 3, 1899, I visited the Grand Lodge of that state, which then entered upon the labors of its annual communication in the opera house of quaint old Alexandria. There I personally met and saw many eminent Masons from the states and abroad. The kindly face of America's most learned Masonic

jurist, Most Worshipful Brother Drummond of Maine, beamed upon me like a benediction, as he inquired about Brothers Phelps, Wheeler and others, and sent you all his brotherly regard. Most Worshipful Brother R. T. W. Duke, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, invited all representatives to seats in the Grand East, and asked each one to respond briefly for his jurisdiction, and received him with grand honors when he arose to do so. Grand Master Duke then delivered an eloquent and masterly address to his Grand Lodge, after which at midnight, we partook of a sumptuous banquet provided by the Masons and ladies of Alexandria, and listened to toasts and music till the night waned.

The next morning I fell into the column of Grand Officers, and marched by the side of Most Worshipful Brother Hull, Past Grand Master of Nebraska, to the wharf, where we boarded a large steamer. After an invigorating ride of fourteen miles down the Potomac, having been joined at Alexandria by another steamer carrying the Grand Lodge of Virginia and hundreds of visiting brethren, we arrived at Mount Vernon about 11 A. M. A funeral procession composed of about three thousand Masons of every rank in the order, and every respectable vocation in life, was duly formed, marched up the hill and halted with its head at the old tomb, and its foot, the Grand Lodge of Virginia, at the residence of Washington. From here Brother William McKinley was escorted between the lines by Grand Master Duke to the old tomb where the ceremonies began with music, and an address by Most Worshipful Brother A. A. Burnand, Grand Master of Colorado, who was thus distinguished because the craft in his state first suggested the observance of the day. The procession then moved on to the new tomb where the ritualistic services were performed, and our wreaths, garlands and sprigs of acacia were deposited; and then to the residence where the President of the United States delivered a most appropriate and excellent address. The remainder of the day I spent in viewing the estate, visiting the rooms in the mansion and examining the numerous relics collected there.

If Washington was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen, Freemasons were surely first in paying homage to his memory on the fourteenth day of last December, the centennial of his death. They alone outnumbered any other convocation of people that ever assembled at Mount Vernon to pay their respects to him or their tribute to his memory. I was proud of Masonry and its representatives, and thanked God for the great soul which had exemplified our principles and illumined our skies forever with the glory of his noble deeds. As I stood that gray December day on that beautiful eminence which overlooks the broad Potomac and many historic spots hallowed with patriotic and fraternal blood, and listened to the last President of the United States, a Freemason, voice the affection and veneration of a mighty nation for the first President of the United States, also a Freemason, and one of the sublimest characters in all history, my bosom swelled with love and pride for ancient craft Masonry, and I left that sacred place with a clearer and profounder conception than I ever had before of the power, grandeur, beauty and beneficence of our beloved institution.

REPRESENTATIVES.

An examination of the list of representatives of fellow Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, disclosed that in several instances one brother was representing more than one foreign grand jurisdiction, and in others, that the representatives had either died or removed from our state. Believing that one brother should represent only one grand jurisdiction near our Grand Lodge, I requested each one who held two or more commissions to resign them all but one, and this request was promptly and fraternally complied with. I thereupon informed the Grand Masters of said jurisdictions of what I had done in the matter, and asked them to make other appointments if it suited their pleasure to do so; and upon receiving favorable replies I recommended the following brothers as representatives of foreign grand lodges near our own:

September 2, 1899, R.:W.:Robert E. Evans, of Omadi Lodge, 5, to represent the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

September 2, 1899, M.:W.:John B. Dinsmore, of Evening Star Lodge, 49, to represent the Grand Lodge of Nevada.

September 2, 1899, W.:Job J. King, of Garfield Lodge, 95, to represent the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

September 2, 1899, M.:W.:Frank H. Young, of Parian Lodge, 207, to represent the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

September 2, 1899, W.:Addison S. Tibbets, of Lancaster Lodge, 54, to represent the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

September 23, 1899, W.:Melville R. Hopewell, of Tekamah Lodge, 31, to represent the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

September 23, 1899, W.:Julius Beckman, of Fremont Lodge, 15, to represent the Grand Lodge of Florida.

September 23, 1899, W.:Henry Gibbons, of Robert Morris Lodge, 46, to represent the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

October 7, 1899, M.:W.:John J. Mercer, of Nemaha Valley Lodge, 4, to represent the Grand Lodge of Montana.

September 2, 1899, W.:John S. Davisson, of Long Pine Lodge, 136, to represent the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

September 2, 1899, W.:Frank M. Knight, of Alliance Lodge, 183, to represent the Grand Lodge of West Virginia.

September 4, 1899, on the unsolicited recommendation of our Grand Secretary, your Grand Master was appointed representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the state where he was reared and took his degrees in Masonry.

I appointed representatives of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska near other Grand Lodges, as follows:

June 28, 1899, Bro.:John Gordon, Q.:C.:P.:M.:, of Lodge, 620, Dublin, for Ireland.

July 12, 1899, Bro.:William Roaf, of Toronto, for Canada.

November 13, 1899, Bro.:Henry H. Matthews, of Montgomery, for Alabama.

April 3, 1900, Bro.:Archibald W. Frater, of Seattle, for Washington.

GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON.

At its annual communication in 1898, the Grand Lodge of Washington adopted resolutions which recognized what is commonly called Negro Masonry, and also its right to establish in that state a second grand lodge. These resolutions, together with a clear and succinct history of the origin of said masonry, and a statement of the rules of masonic law violated by them, may be found in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence in our proceedings of 1899, page 5796. A number of grand lodges promptly severed their fraternal relations with that of Washington; and doubtless some action toward that end would have been taken by this grand body last year, had we not been advised that the Grand Lodge of Washington, whose annual communication closely follows our own, would in all probability rescind the obnoxious resolutions.

About July first, of last year, I received under the seal of that grand lodge a copy of resolutions which were adopted June 19, 1899, by that body, and which apparently rescinded those of the year before, but which in my opinion re-affirmed them in a more insidious form, and re-asserted a principle of masonic law that is a menace to the harmony and fraternal relations of all grand lodges, viz: "Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her lodges do not possess the plenary right to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the status of all persons claiming to be Masons who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation."

That is to say, a member of a lodge in this state which this grand body declares to be clandestine may go to Washington and there visit or affiliate with any subordinate lodge which consents to receive him, and then return to us under the claim that he is a Mason in good standing in a jurisdiction holding fraternal communication with us. This does not seem to me to be good law. Our own Grand Lodge ought to be the judge of the regularity of the subordinate lodges in this state, and our decision upon that question ought to be binding upon all other foreign jurisdictions. Believing that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not yet rescinded as fully as it ought to do, the original resolutions above referred to, and also believing that our fraternal communications with that body ought not to be severed without good cause, I have deemed it best to take no action in the matter, and to submit it at this time for your investigation and decision.

MEXICO.

During the year a number of communications and circulars have been received from the Grand Dieta Simbolica of Mexico, which had been referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and also a silver jewel intended for the representative of that jurisdiction near the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Our Grand Secretary was unable to find any record of a formal recognition by us of that grand body; and I therefore recommended no one to the Grand Master thereof for appointment as such representative.

The Grand Dieta Simbolica of Mexico has already been fraternally recognized by a number of the leading grand lodges of this country, and I

therefore recommend that its character and standing be investigated with a view to entering into fraternal relations and an exchange of representatives with it.

INSTALLATIONS.

June 22, 1899, in the hall of Tekamah Lodge, 31, with the assistance of a number of the brethren thereof, I opened a special communication of the Grand Lodge and installed Brother John F. Poucher of Landmark Lodge, 222, as Grand Chaplain in due and ample form.

June 25, 1899, I opened Landmark Lodge, 222, at Herman, Nebraska, in the third degree, installed its officers, and subsequently granted them a dispensation to work without a charter until the present communication of the Grand Lodge. Tekamah Lodge loaned its jewels for the occasion, and several of its members assisted me. We met in a little church which had escaped the destructive storm, but which was filled with dirt and debris; and there amid the gloom, with an old box for an altar, the officers of that lodge were inducted into their several places and stations which they assumed with courageous zeal and determination to really make it yet what its name signifies.

Having been cordially invited so to do I installed in a joint session on June 21, 1899, in the large Masonic hall in Omaha, the officers of Capitol Lodge No. 3, Covert Lodge No. 11, and St. Johns Lodge No. 25.

RECEPTIONS.

It has long been the custom of St. Johns Lodge, 25, to celebrate Thanksgiving evening with a banquet, toasts and music. Last Thanksgiving day this celebration was made the occasion of a reception to your Grand Master in honor of the Grand Lodge, and because he had long been a member of St. Johns Lodge. The Grand Master was received with a very appropriate address of welcome by Bro. Lobingier, and by the large number of brethren present with great cordiality and that regard and dignity which is due to his office. The event was a delightful one in every respect.

Pilot Lodge, 240, March 16, 1900, worked in the third degree, and tendered to the officers of the Grand Lodge a reception and banquet. The Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior Warden and Grand Chaplain, and many visiting brethren from neighboring lodges were present, and also the wives and daughters of many brethren who joined us at the refreshment table. The event was well calculated to strengthen the ties between the subordinate and the Grand Lodge, and the brethren of Pilot Lodge received our earnest thanks for their happy effort in our behalf.

GRAND TREASURER.

The death of our Grand Treasurer disclosed a balance in his hands of \$5,990.95, which was on deposit in a bank in his private account. The bank refused to pay the money to anyone without an order of the Probate Court, or a check from the executrix of his estate; but it agreed to take up a few small outstanding warrants. October 27, 1899, Mrs. Hartman gave me her personal check for said amount in settlement in full of Bro. Hartman's account as Grand Treasurer, and his surety bond was subsequently deliv-

ered to the indemnity company. The check was deposited in the Merchants National Bank of Omaha in the name of the Grand Lodge, under an agreement that the bank would receive and pay our warrants as if they were checks. No bank which I cared to trust would pay any interest on our deposit, as it was subject daily to the payment of warrants.

While not doubting the authority of your Grand Master to appoint and install a Grand Treasurer to fill a vacancy, still for what seemed good and sufficient reasons I did not do so. The plan adopted appeared feasible, safe and convenient, and it has so proved. It saved the cost of another indemnity bond and it now leaves you without a candidate having the prestige of an appointment in his favor over others.

TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHANS EDUCATIONAL FUND.

At the first available moment after the close of our last communication I made an investigation as to the beginning and expiration of the terms of office of the trustees of the Orphans Educational Fund, and found that on the 23rd day of October, 1897, M.:W.:Bro.:Dinsmore appointed M.:W.:Bro.:Robert W. Furnas for the period of three years, M.:W.:Bro.:Edwin F. Warren for the period of two years, and Bro.:Albert U. Wyman for the period of one year; that Bro.:Wyman's term had expired and he was holding over without re-appointment. November 18, 1899, I re-appointed him for the period of three years, beginning at the close of our last annual communication, and also appointed M.:W.:Bro.:Frank H. Young for the period of three years beginning from the same time to take the place of M.:W.:Bro.:Edwin F. Warren whose term had expired. I sent these brothers their commissions, and urged all of the trustees to hold a meeting for the election of officers, specially a treasurer, in order that the books and securities might be checked up, and a statement of the condition of the fund made to a surety company for the purpose of procuring a treasurer's bond. Having never been advised that an election was held I have not appointed a committee to audit the accounts and securities of the fund, and therefore no surety company has been willing to furnish a bond. While possessing the utmost confidence in the ability and integrity of the brother who has so kindly served as treasurer during many years past, I am convinced that this board should immediately meet and appoint its officers, and that the Grand Master should appoint an auditing committee to prepare a statement of the condition of the fund, and a treasurer's bond be procured as provided by resolution passed by this grand body in 1899.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the past Masonic year I issued dispensations, as follows, collecting a fee of \$10 in each case, except from those lodges which failed to elect and install their officers at the proper times on account of the change of the time of the meeting of the Grand Lodge, and those lodges which lost their charters by fire or cyclone.

June 10, 1899, Table Rock, 108, to elect and install officers out of time.

June 10, 1899, Amethyst, 190, to elect and install officers out of time.

June 10, 1899, Hope, 29, to elect and install officers out of time.

June 10, 1899, Cement, 211, to elect and confer Master Masons degree upon Bro. Ernest Albert Osborn out of time

June 10, Delta, 230, to elect and install officers out of time.

June 10, 1899, Alexandria, 74, to elect and install officers out of time.

June 14, 1899, Omadi, 5, to elect and install Senior Warden out of time.

June 16, 1899, Occidental, 215, to elect and install officers out of time.

July 3, 1899, to Secretary of Lebanon Lodge, 58, to pay hall rent until further orders from the Grand Master.

July 29, 1899, Aurora, 68, to install Secretary out of time.

September, 18, 1899, Oliver, 38, to confer Master Masons degree upon Bro. Edwin H. Polly, out of time.

September 23, to Lincoln Lodge, 19, to meet and work without a charter, its charter having been destroyed by fire.

September 23, 1899, to Landmark, 222, to meet and work, its charter having been destroyed by cyclone.

September 25, to Lancaster Lodge, 54, to meet and work without a charter, its charter having been destroyed by fire.

October 20, 1899, Hesperia, 178, to elect and install officers out of time.

January 16, 1900, to St. Johns Lodge, 25, to confer Fellow Craft and Master Masons degrees out of time on Bro. Martin M. Sachs.

April 14, 1900, Laurel Lodge U. D., to confer Fellow Craft and Master Masons degrees out of time on Bro. Guy L. Furley.

May 24, Golden Fleece, 205, to elect officers out of time.

May 26, Parian, 207, to elect officers out of time.

June 4, Star, 88, to elect officers June 5, 1900.

NEW LODGES.

At our last annual communication charters were granted to Tyrian Lodge, 243, located at Oak, and Sincerity Lodge, 244, located at Battle Creek.

With the assistance of our Grand Custodian, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Deacon, and a number of brethren from Nelson Lodge, 77, Hardy Lodge, 117, and Tyrian Lodge, 243, I constituted the last named lodge on the 26th day of July, 1899, and duly installed its officers.

July 27, 1899, I constituted Sincerity Lodge No. 244, and installed its officers, being assisted on said occasion by M. W. Bro. Hayes, P. G. M., and by our Grand Custodian, Grand Senior Warden, and a number of brethren from Mosaic Lodge, 55.

CHARTERS SURRENDERED.

I regret to report that on the 5th day of February, 1900, Summit Lodge, 141, voted to surrender its charter, and so informed me, because they could seldom get a quorum to transact business. I instructed the Worshipful Master to transmit to the Grand Secretary's office the charter, books and records of the lodge, and to place the jewels and furniture in the custody of Bro. David D. Adams, all of which was done.

November 8, 1898, Jasper Lodge, 122, voted to surrender its charter, but Grand Master Young, after visiting the lodge declined to receive it, as I am

informed. About May 15, of this year, the Worshipful Master of that lodge personally urged an acceptance of the charter for what seemed good and abundant reasons; but I asked him to state the facts in a letter, which he did, and which is submitted herewith for your consideration.

LODGES U.:D.:

July 13, 1899, I issued a dispensation to Brothers Eugene E. Carr, William J. Williamson, Robert E. Moore, Robert H. Wagner, John F. Hauseman, John Doran, Henry A. Murphy, Edward Lindsey, Thomas Gray, Jr., John B. Dey, Charles W. Richardson, James A. Wilson, Samuel Hogg, and John Haawe, to organize a lodge at Hampton, Nebraska, under the name of Hampton Lodge U.:D.:, and appointed Brother Eugene E. Carr as Worshipful Master, Brother John F. Hauseman as Senior Warden, and Brother William J. Williamson as Junior Warden.

November 1, 1899, I refused a dispensation for a lodge U.:D.: at Hildreth, Nebraska. The petition therefor was signed by eight brethren and was recommended by Grace Lodge, 226; but was refused for the reason that it appeared that the establishment of a new lodge at Hildreth would materially weaken the one at Wilcox, and that the prospects for a strong lodge at Hildreth were not at all promising. The petition and correspondence concerning the same are submitted herewith.

November 1, 1899, I received a petition for a lodge U.:D.: at Savidge. This was forwarded to our Grand Custodian for his examination and certificate, and has not been returned by him.

January 2, 1900, I refused a dispensation for a lodge U.:D.: at Bladen, Nebraska, which was signed by seventeen brethren, because it was not recommended by the nearest lodge.

January 2, 1900, I issued a dispensation to open a lodge U.:D.: at Nehawka, Nebraska, to Brothers David C. West, Julian A. Pollard, George M. Mark, Maurice D. Pollard, Henry F. Kropp, Edwin A. Kirkpatrick, Andrew F. Sturm, James M. Stone, Robert A. Case, George L. Sheldon, William F. Case, Henry M. Pollard, and Vilas P. Sheldon, to be known as Nehawka Lodge, U.:D.: Brother Julian A. Pollard was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother Henry M. Pollard, Senior Warden, and Brother Maurice D. Pollard Junior Warden.

January 3, 1900, I issued a dispensation for a lodge U.:D.: at Osmond, Nebraska, to be called Corner Stone Lodge, to Brothers John W. Stewart, Andrew G. Weander, Nis Nissen, James H. Stewart, Harry Fullen, Robert J. Crystal, Henry G. Hamer, Julius C. Saunders, Blair Severns, Edwin B. Rogers, and William R. York, and appointed Brother John M. Stewart as Worshipful Master, Brother Robert J. Crystal as Senior Warden, and Brother Nis Nissen as Junior Warden.

February 12, 1900, dispensation was granted to open and conduct a lodge at Laurel, Nebraska, under the name of Laurel Lodge U.:D.:, to Brothers Edmund R. Gurney, Ame T. Fortney, John H. Burns, Daniel McBain, Charles F. Furley, Joseph F. Guss, Daniel D. Coburn, James L. Pool, Allen M. McIntosh, J. C. Guinn, L. H. Bruner, and M. Fritzson, of whom Brother Joseph F. Guss was appointed Worshipful Master, Brother

Charles F. Furley as Senior Warden, and Brother Daniel McBain as Junior Warden.

In no instance was a dispensation granted without the recommendation of the nearest lodge and the certificate of our Grand Custodian that the hall provided was safe and suitable and the officers proposed qualified to do correct and impressive work.

April 13, I received a petition from thirteen brethren for a dispensation for a lodge at Havelock, Nebraska. Said petition was immediately forwarded to our Grand Custodian who returned it on May 7th, with a favorable report. It being then too late, however, for the granting of a dispensation, I deferred action thereon, and now submit the petition herewith.

May 2, I received a petition from a considerable number of brethren for a lodge U.:D.: at Gothenburg. It was sent to our Grand Custodian, who has not as yet returned it with his certificate.

GRIEVANCES.

By reference to our Grand Lodge proceedings of 1897, page 732, and of 1898, pages 5033 and 5634 it will be seen that a controversy which arose between Compass and Square Lodge, 212, and Square and Compass Lodge, 213, was decided by this body. Early in the year I received a complaint from Square and Compass Lodge that Compass and Square Lodge had not reimbursed them according to said decision or given them any assurance as to when it would be done. I immediately wrote to Compass and Square Lodge concerning the matter, and August 18, 1899, received a reply stating that they had already paid \$20 on the account, and that the balance would soon be settled. Having heard nothing further concerning the matter I presume the order of the Grand Lodge has been fully obeyed.

April 17th I received a communication from the Worshipful Master of Zion Lodge, 234, complaining of an invasion of its jurisdiction by Eminence Lodge, 223, which had initiated, passed and raised Brother James Wright, whom Zion Lodge alleged to be a resident of its jurisdiction. I immediately wrote to the Worshipful Masters of both lodges for full particulars. This matter having arisen so near the annual communication of this Grand Lodge, I deferred action upon it, and now present it for submission to the Committee on Grievances.

LEBANON LODGE NO. 58.

At our last annual communication a committee consisting of the Grand Master and M.:W.:Brothers, Charles K. Coutant, John A. Ehrhardt, Robert W. Furnas, and James R. Cain, was instructed to investigate the causes which led to the arrest of the charter of Lebanon Lodge, 58, examine into present conditions, and advise the Grand Master as to what ought to be done respecting a restoration thereof. Accordingly on January 24, 1900, the first three members of the committee as above named, went to Columbus and attended a meeting, to which all of the members of the lodge had been summoned. Nearly every brother present asked for a return of the charter, regretted the unfortunate conditions which had arisen, and promised to do all in his power for the promotion of peace

and harmony, and the restoration of the lodge to a high place of usefulness. After a thorough consideration of all that they heard and observed, the committee concurred in the opinion that the greatest good of the craft and the brothers concerned would be best served by a return of the charter. One week later I went to Columbus, opened the lodge, and returned the charter to the Worshipful Master, with such remarks as seemed advisable and appropriate to the occasion. Speeches followed, brotherly greetings were exchanged, and after partaking of refreshments, all went home with a firmer belief in Masonry and the efficacy of its principles. I have been informed that the lodge immediately went to work, and I confidently believe that in time it will stand second to none in harmony, zeal and usefulness.

LANDMARK LODGE NO. 222.

The cyclone which demolished the town of Herman on the thirteenth day of last June, destroyed the hall of Landmark Lodge, 222, located there, irrevocably swept away its furniture, jewels, paraphernalia, charter and records, severely injured a sojourning brother and his wife, and inflicted heavy losses upon several members of the lodge by the destruction of their dwellings, business houses and stocks of goods. Masons residing in the country and surrounding towns went to Herman immediately to search out and assist needy brothers; and at the first available moment I carried there \$200, all that could be spared from our relief fund, and gave it to Bro. J. H. Chambers, W. M., elect of the lodge, with instructions to distribute it at once among the afflicted brethren in proportion to their needs. I called upon them all, and was pleased with the cheerfulness and courage evinced by them amidst the awful desolation which surrounded them, and by the manly refusal of some who could bear their loss without suffering, to accept any aid whatever. A circular was prepared and sent out under my hand and seal asking the subordinate lodges and brethren in the state to contribute to the relief of the lodge and its unfortunate members. Brother Chambers reports to me that he received from all sources, to-wit, \$200 from the Relief Fund, \$971.55 as shown by the Grand Secretary's books, and \$14.88 not reported to the Grand Secretary, making a total of \$1186.43. The lodge appointed a committee composed of Brothers Wilcox, Patrick, and Jackson, who, after a careful consideration of the needs of the lodge, and of the eleven brethren who suffered losses by the cyclone, distributed said money, as follows: \$77.03 for the purpose of furnishing a new hall and providing the lodge with new jewels, furniture, etc., and the balance was delivered to said eleven brethren in equal proportions. The Grand Secretary by my order sent to the lodge gratis a new set of records and blanks. I have been informed that the lodge is now located in a comfortable, commodious hall, that it is well furnished with paraphernalia and is in excellent condition for work.

TRIALS.

On receipt of a letter from the Senior Warden of Zeredatha Lodge, 160, informing me that the Worshipful Master of that lodge was in the habit of being intoxicated, I instructed him to prepare and file specific charges with

me, which he did on the 18th day of January, 1900; and on said day I put the lodge in charge of the Senior Warden, arrested the jewel of the Worshipful Master and set his trial for February 2nd, at 8 P. M., before me as Grand Master in the Masonic Hall in Reynolds. At the appointed time the accused appeared, together with all the witnesses who had been duly summoned, and a trial was held. After a careful consideration of all the testimony in the case I decided that the charges had not been sustained to an extent which would warrant me in withholding the Worshipful Master's jewel from him until this meeting of the Grand Lodge; and I therefore ordered it returned to him, and the lodge restored to his control, sending at the same time a letter of reprimand and advice, which I ordered to be read in open lodge, and which was accordingly done. I have been informed that the unfortunate brother again resumed his duties as Worshipful Master, and that harmony and peace prevails. The record of the trial, together with my findings and letter of reprimand are herewith submitted as a part of this report.

DECISIONS.

1. That indefinite suspension of a brother must be imposed at a regular meeting of the lodge.

2. That a candidate may petition again as soon as objections have been withdrawn.

3. That when an accused has had personal notice of the time set for trial and does not take an appeal before the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, his lodge may not after that time grant him a new trial, unless he shall show good reasons for not having appealed from the decision of his lodge to the Grand Lodge, or shall make it appear that he is in possession of newly discovered and material evidence.

4. That the time which a brother holding a demit serves in a lodge under dispensation cannot be computed in the 30 years of actual membership required by our law for exemption from Grand Lodge dues.

5. That an elective officer duly installed cannot demit to assist in forming a lodge under dispensation.

6. That no written petition for re-instatement is necessary when a Mason suspended for non-payment of his dues pays the same.

7. That a lodge can remit the dues of a suspended Mason.

8. That a lodge still retains jurisdiction over a person whom it rejected 22 years ago, even though he has since resided in another jurisdiction.

9. That a petitioner for the degrees who was elected two years ago but did not attend for initiation, is the material of the lodge to which he applied for admission, and another lodge cannot receive him upon petition without a waiver of jurisdiction from the former lodge.

10. That honorary membership in subordinate lodges is not recognized in this state.

11. That the use of the word "Masonic" in the corporate name of an accident insurance company ought not to be approved by the Grand Master, even though said company be controlled by Masons and issue policies to none but brother Masons.

12. That the manager of a brewery cannot receive the degrees even though he be highly recommended for intelligence, industry and good moral character.

13. That a suspended Mason can be tried without being re-instated.

14. That a man with his left foot amputated two inches above the ankle cannot be made a Mason even though he wear a perfect artificial limb and walk so naturally that the loss of his foot escapes observation.

15. That when objections are filed with the Worshipful Master against conferring the E. A. degree, the objector is not bound to disclose reasons for his objections; but when the objections are against the advancement of a brother, the grounds of the objections must be stated in open lodge, if called for, and the lodge allowed to pass on their sufficiency.

16. A brother was suspended for non-payment of dues, and did not subsequently pay them because of his straitened circumstances. Shortly before he died he gave his son the money to pay his dues, but the son neglected to do so. The family requested a Masonic funeral. Held, that under the circumstances it was not error for the Worshipful Master to grant the request.

BY-LAWS.

Amendments to by-laws were approved by me during the year, as follows:

August 23, 1899, Nebraska, 1; December 1, 1899, Minnekadusa, 192; December 2, 1899, Springfield, 112; March 2, 1900, Capitol, 3; March 13, Springfield, 112; March 27, Crescent, 143; March 27, Nemaha Valley, 4; April 7, Beatrice, 26; May 15, Naphali, 206; and on February 12, 1900, I approved a full set of by-laws for Lincoln Lodge, 19. Fairbury Lodge, 35, requests the approval of an amendment to its by-laws, which is submitted herewith.

SEALS.

Seals have been approved by me during the year, as follows:

September 30, 1899, that of Sincerity Lodge, 244; January 31, 1900, that of Tyrian Lodge, 243, and March 27, 1900, that of Cubit Lodge, 237.

CORNER-STONES.

Upon proper requests therefor, and in accordance with the ancient usages and customs of the craft, I laid corner-stones during the year, as follows:

August 3, 1899, that of the court house of Wayne County, with the assistance of P. G. M. Ehrhardt and R. W. Robert E. Evans, G. S. W. and the brethren of Wayne Lodge, 120, and of neighboring lodges.

August 10, 1899, that of the public high school building of Loup City, being assisted by the brethren of Porter Lodge, 106.

September 8, 1899, that of the public high school building of Tekamah. Here I was assisted by the brethren of Tekamah Lodge, 31, and surrounding lodges, by our Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Tyler, the Grand Lodge being escorted by Blair Commandery.

September 22, 1899, that of the public high school building of Blair.

The Grand Lodge was escorted by Jordan Commandery No. 15, and I was assisted in the ceremonies by the brethren of Washington Lodge, 21, and visiting brethren, by our Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain, and also by the presence of P.:G.:M.:Lininger, Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Nebraska, who kindly furnished for the consecration of the corner-stone, wine and oil which he had brought from Jerusalem.

On all of these occasions the ceremonies were witnessed by large concourses of people, some of whom came many miles for the purpose, and I doubt not that the cause of Freemasonry was materially advanced by the appropriateness of the ceremonies, the interest of our Order in public institutions, and the promulgation of Masonic principles in the addresses which were delivered.

CONSECRATING VESSELS.

For many years your Grand Masters have been embarrassed in their work of constituting lodges and laying corner-stones by the want of suitable vessels for the corn, wine and oil. Happily this want was noticed by one who never misses an opportunity to manifest his love for our institution. Our esteemed Brother, Past Grand Master Lininger procured and presented to the Grand Lodge three beautiful and appropriate Benares brass consecrating-vessels, for which I returned him the sincere thanks of this Grand Body and myself. These vessels were first used at the laying of the corner-stone of the high school building in Blair.

BONDS.

It was provided at the last annual communication of this body that the Grand Treasurer and the treasurer of the Orphans' Educational Fund should furnish bonds in some responsible surety company, the cost of which was to be paid by the Grand Lodge. Right Worshipful Brother Hartman in due time complied with said provision; but the bond was not satisfactory to me because it protected us only in the event of fraud or dishonesty on his part. I insisted upon a bond conditioned for the repayment to us of whatever money might be due from the Grand Treasurer on the expiration of his term of office, irrespective of his reasons for not making such repayment in the event of his failure to do so. While negotiating concerning the conditions of said bond our Grand Treasurer died, and inasmuch as I had not returned the bond to the company or to Brother Hartman with an absolute refusal to approve the same, I felt under obligations to pay the pro rata proportion of the premium which had been charged therefor. The surety company refused to furnish a bond for the treasurer of the Orphans' Educational Fund until the Board of Trustees had been regularly appointed, had elected its officers, and an auditing committee appointed by the Grand Master had gone over the books, securities and accounts and rendered a statement of them at the date of the bond required.

VAULTS AND OFFICES.

The Temple Craft of Omaha have not only furnished us an additional vault for the storage of our stereotype plates, proceedings and supplies, rent free, but they have also connected the two vaults by circular iron

stairs, and put iron stairs and balconies in the upper one. The offices and vaults have been thoroughly cleaned and painted; the accumulation of years of unnecessary duplicates, papers and rubbish, has been removed; useless and worthless furniture sold or given away; proceedings bound so far as the appropriation therefor would permit; and every file examined, dusted and replaced on the shelves. Thanks to our Grand Secretary for many an extra and weary hour of toil and planning, our offices and vaults are clean and presentable, and I invite the members of this body to inspect them, in order that they may know what we have, observe its condition, and see how it is kept and protected.

JORDAN MEDAL.

In conformity with the resolutions adopted to that end, the committee appointed to report a plan for perpetuating the memory of our first Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Robert C. Jordan, purchased one thousand and medals, in payment for which a warrant was drawn on our general fund for \$435. As soon as the medals were delivered a circular announcing the same was issued and sent to all of the subordinate lodges; and the officers thereof were urged personally to endeavor to bring the matter before all of the brethren in open lodge and elsewhere. Thus far the sale of the medals has been disappointing, and unless the craft responds more liberally the Grand Lodge will not even be reimbursed for the purchase price.

I feel it my duty to mention this matter and to exhort every member of this Grand Body not only to purchase of our Grand Secretary one or more of these medals, but also to call the attention of the members of his lodge to this important duty. It would certainly be discreditable to us after having adopted this method of perpetuating the memory of our first Grand Master and assisting his widow, to fail in carrying out our plan to the full measure of our power and reputation as a fraternity.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES.

Contrary to my own inclinations in many instances, and much to the disappointment of some brethren who desired to serve on committees in order that they might attend this session and receive mileage and per diem therefor to defray their expenses, I have felt it to be my duty to appoint said committees entirely from the membership of the Grand Lodge. I sincerely trust that this departure from a practice which has well nigh become a custom, will not be viewed as a reflection upon anyone. The following are my reasons for not appointing on Grand Lodge committees brethren who are not members of this body, and on these reasons alone I rely for your approval: First, There is no provision in our law for paying mileage and per diem to members of said committees who are not otherwise members of the Grand Lodge; Second, To avoid swelling the pay-roll which at best consumes fully twenty-five per cent. of our annual receipts; Third, To bestow these places of honor and means of learning and experience upon those who are entitled to them by virtue of their offices in the subordinate lodges; and, Fourth, To induce the lodges

to select their most competent brethren for Worshipful Masters in order that they may receive recognition on these important committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. I respectfully recommend that Paragraph 2, Section 1, of our By-Laws be amended so as to include among the standing committees of the Grand Lodge a Committee on Fraternal Dead, which shall be appointed at the close of the annual communication, the same as committees on Foreign Correspondence and Codification of the Law; that the Grand Master be permitted to omit from his address all matters relating to deceased brethren, and that they be embodied in a report by said committee to be published at the same time with the Grand Master's address and reports of officers.

2. I respectfully recommend that our law relating to the Orphans Educational Fund be amended so as to provide that no trustee thereof shall have a personal interest in any loan made; and also that one trustee shall be appointed each year within ten days after the close of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

3. I also respectfully recommend that our laws relating to mileage and per diem of its members be so amended as to provide, that the representative of no lodge shall draw from our treasury a greater amount in per diem and mileage than said lodge has paid in during the year; and also that the mileage be reduced to actual railway fares.

4. I unhesitatingly recommend that the Grand Secretary be provided with another competent clerk for half of the year at least, if not for the whole of the time. A year of daily observation has disclosed to me that the duties of our Grand Secretary are exacting, and that it is only by unremitting diligence that he is able with the help now provided to do the absolutely necessary and routine work of his office. But there are other things which the good of the craft requires to be done, such for example as the making of a card catalogue, and the opening of a ledger account with each brother of defunct lodges and the annual collection of his dues. Your Grand Master, who receives no salary, and who cannot always leave his business for that of the fraternity without serious loss to himself, should feel free to call upon the Grand Secretary for counsel and assistance, and that officer should have the time and be under obligation to render it. Then too our Grand Secretary should be something more than a mere book-keeper and office drudge. He should have leisure to courteously receive and converse with the numerous brethren who call at the Grand Lodge offices during the year for advice, information and news of the craft. And he should have at least a month's vacation from the innumerable details and office air, and not be compelled to carry his work with him, as did our late-lamented Brother Bowen, whose death, it is feared, is attributable in some measure at least to long and continued over-work.

5. I also respectfully recommend that our law be so amended as to require the Grand Treasurer to keep the funds of the Grand Lodge, if kept in a bank, in a separate account and not mingled with his own funds in his private account. This recommendation is made in view of the fact that our late Grand Treasurer kept the Grand Lodge funds in his own private ac-

count, and that if it had not been for the ability and willingness of his wife to pay over to the Grand Lodge what was due, before the settlement of his estate, we would have been seriously embarrassed for a long time for the want of money.

CONCLUSION.

And now, solaced by the belief that you will correct my mistakes and transform them into some good for the craft and my successors in office, I observe with delight the approaching conclusion of my labors as Grand Master. The year has been a very happy one indeed, made so by the uniform courtesy of the craft and the kindly help and advice of many brethren, especially of our Grand Secretary, on whose patience and learning prodigious draughts have been made in my busy hours. More profoundly than ever before do I thank you for the confidence and esteem manifested by raising me to this exalted office, and deplore my inability to have responded with a full measure of perfect service. May the blessing of our Divine Grand Master rest on Ancient Craft Masonry and this Grand Lodge forever, will be my constant and dying prayer.

Most fraternally and respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM W. KEYSOR,

Grand Master.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

MR. C. HARTMAN, Grand Treasurer,

In account with The Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Nebraska:

GENERAL FUND.

June 9th, 1899, Amount on hand as per report.....	\$8370.58
Received from Francis E. White, Grand Secretary.....	328.90
	<hr/>
	\$8699.48
Paid orders 1652 to 1707, except 1671-3-6, 1681-2-3-4, 1694-5-6.....	\$6167.13
Oct. 28th, To check No. 1407, Mrs. Sarah E. Hartman...	2532.35
	<hr/>
	\$8699.48

MASONIC HOME FUND.

June 9th, 1899, Amount on hand as per last report.....	\$3000.00
Oct. 28th, To check No. 1407, Mrs. Sarah E. Hartman...	\$3000.00

RELIEF FUND.

June 9th, 1899, Amount on hand as per last report.....	\$ 773.12
Received from Francis E. White, Grand Secretary.....	362.74
	<hr/>
	\$1135.86
Paid orders 1671-3-6, 1681-2-3-4, 1694-6.....	\$ 677.26
Oct. 28th, To check No. 1407, Mrs. Sarah E. Hartman...	458.60
	<hr/>
	\$1135.86

All vouchers returned.

To the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Nebraska,

GENTLEMEN:—My husband, Mr. C. Hartman, having died on the 28th day of September, 1899, while he was holding the office of Grand Treasurer, it became my duty to settle his accounts with the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, which I did, and I herewith submit the foregoing report showing the condition of the Grand Treasury since June 9th, 1899, and payment by me of all balances due the Grand Lodge on Oct. 28th, 1899, as shown by the records of the late Grand Treasurer and of the Grand Secretary, all accounts having been compared, balanced, and fully settled as shown by the above, and I ask that the Grand Lodge ratify the settlement so made by me.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. SARAH E. HARTMAN

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. :

I present herewith the following statements of my accounts for the year; also the books and papers belonging to the office.

The annual returns from all the lodges except Palmyra Lodge No. 45, have been received. All the accounts between subordinate lodges and the Grand Lodge, excepting Palmyra, No. 45, which has made no returns, and Gauge, No. 203, which owes fifty cents, have been settled and the accounts closed. All efforts on my part to secure a settlement with the above mentioned lodges have been of no avail. Summit Lodge No. 141, surrendered its charter on the 5th day of February, and I made up the return for the year and placed it in the hands of the Committee on Returns. The balance due from this lodge of \$9.50 was charged to Profit and Loss, and the account closed.

The following is a list of appropriations made, and amounts expended:

	<i>Appropriated</i>	<i>Expended</i>
Postage, telegrams, telephones, express.....	\$300 00	\$150 39
Stationery.....	50 00	45 35
Blanks.....	250 00	62 10
Incidentals.....	150 00	126 52
Pay-roll.....	3,645 00	3,645 00
Expenses of Session of 1899.....	125 00	*125 00
Chairman Committee on Returns.....	100 00	100 00
Grand Master's expenses.....	300 00	150 00
" " clerk hire.....	500 00	150 75
Grand Treasurer's salary.....	50 00	16 65
Grand Secretary's.....	1,800 00	1,760 00
" " clerk hire.....	600 00	600 00
Grand Custodian's salary.....	1,200 00	1,200 00
" " expense.....	500 00	500 00
Treasurer Orphans' Educational Fund, salary.....	5 00	5 00
" " clerk.....	60 00	60 00
Committee on Foreign Correspondence, 1900.....	100 00	.....
Printing and electrotyping proceedings of 1899.....	650 00	573 80
Purchasing supplies for sale and issue to lodges.....	500 00	592 74
Library: printing and binding, etc.....	100 00	103 50
Filing cases.....	50 00	30 00
Sets of working envelopes.....	30 00	.....
Printing charters for three lodges.....	30 00	27 00
Masonic Collectors Association.....	5 00	.....
Grand Lodge office, rent.....	200 00	200 00
" " heat and light.....	50 00	50 00
" " janitor.....	60 00	60 00
" " telephone.....	30 00	30 00
Relief: Kent insurance.....	750 00	742 52
Printing and binding Vols. V and VI.....	1000 00	.....
Assistant Tyler's services.....	4 00	4 00
Salary of Wm. R. Bowen, Grand Secretary.....	150 00	150 00
Purchasing the necessary supplies for putting into use the register card system.....	350 00	.....

* Included in bills recommended by the Finance Committee.

RELIEF FUND.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS.

June 8, 1899,	Balance on hand.....	\$774 12
" 16, "	Palisade Lodge, 216, payment on note.....	71 89
" 27, "	C. S. Robinson, dues to Ark and Anchor Lodge, 131 (extinct).....	21 00
July 6, "	Melrose Lodge, 60, payment on note.....	200 00
Aug. 31, "	Crystal Lodge, 191, payment on note.....	31 10
" 31, "	Transferred from General Fund.....	7 75
" 31, "	Dues members extinct lodges, by order of the Grand Lodge.....	11 10
Sept. 11, "	Indianola Lodge, 123, payment on note.....	32 00
Oct. 28, "	Robert Burns Lodge, 173, payment on note.....	100 00
Dec. 21, "	David E. Gray, dues Plumb Lodge, 186 (extinct)...	9 00
" 27, "	Beaver City Lodge, 93, payment on note.....	40 85
Jan. 16, 1900,	St. Paul Lodge, 82, payment on note.....	50 00
" 23, "	James M. Cole, dues Rock Bluff Lodge, 20 (extinct)...	2 00
Apr. 2, "	Beaver City Lodge, 93, payment on note.....	66 85
May 29, "	5 per cent. of net fees and dues.....	651 55
		<u>\$2,068 21</u>
June 16, 1899,	Landmark Lodge, 222.....	\$200 00
	Bills receivable, L. A. Kent and wife.....	742 52
	Emmet Crawford Lodge No. 148, relief of Mary Russell.....	60 00
	Bloomfield Lodge No. 218, relief of A. N. Doane...	120 00
	Rob Morris Lodge No. 46, relief of Ellen Conger...	55 00
	Scribner Lodge No. 132, relief of J. A. Nason.....	90 00
	Parian Lodge No. 207, relief of James A. Pike....	60 00
	Balance on hand.....	740 69
		<u>\$2,068 21</u>

Statement of the notes owned by the Grand Lodge, with amounts now due:

Dec. 26, 1894,	Melrose	Lodge No. 60,	balance due on principal	\$300 00
Mar. 2, 1895,	St. Paul	" " 82,	" " "	28 00
Mar. 2, "	Beaver City	" " 93,	" " "	198 32
July 26, "	Garfield	" " 95,	" " "	145 24
Jan. 11, "	Indianola	" " 123,	" " "	168 00
Dec. 14, 1894,	Bancroft	" " 145,	" " "	82 00
Feb. 16, 1895,	Zeredatha	" " 160,	" " "	340 25
Dec. 26, 1894,	Mason City	" " 170,	" " "	1 00
Feb. 9, 1895,	Mason City	" " 170,	" " "	191 90
Feb. 9, "	Robert Burns	" " 173,	" " "	400 00
Mar. 7, "	Crystal	" " 191,	" " "	248 20
Dec. 5, 1894,	Gauge	" " 208,	" " "	100 00
Dec. 27, "	Palisade	" " 216,	" " "	105 32

July 30, 1895, L. A. Kent and wife,	balance due on principal,	\$386 16
Jan. 31, " " " "	" " "	386 16
July 31, 1896, " " "	" " "	382 46
Jan. 30, 1897, " " "	" " "	382 46
May 1, " " " "	" " "	676 66
July 31, " " " "	" " "	378 86
Jan. 31, 1898, L. A. Kent and wife,	" " "	378 86
July 31, " " " "	" " "	375 06
Jan. 31, 1899, " " "	" " "	375 06
July 31, " " " "	" " "	371 26
Jan. 31, 1900, " " "	" " "	371 26
Total.....		<u>\$6771 59</u>

No interest is included in the above statement.

The following payments have been made during the year:

Melrose	Lodge No. 60.....	\$200 00
St. Paul	" " 82.....	50 00
Beaver City	" " 93.....	107 70
Garfield	" " 95, credit by order of the Grand Lodge...	10 00
Indianola	" " 123.....	32 00
Robert Burns	" " 173.....	100 00
Crystal	" " 191.....	31 10
Palisade	" " 216.....	71 89
Total.....		<u>\$602 69</u>

The following bills, approved and recommended for payment by the Finance Committee, have all been paid:

J. P. Cooke & Co., rubber stamps, etc.....	\$4 13
Omaha Printing Co., pencils, pads, etc.....	12 15
H. W. Leighton, legal pads and penholders.....	87
William R. Bowen, stamps since April 20.....	2 62
Wm. S. Heller, reporting and transcribing speeches at funeral of late William R. Bowen.....	8 00
Rees Printing Co., death notices.....	6 75
" " " circulars.....	6 50
" " " reports of Grand Officers.....	79 00
Julius Beckman, postage, telephones, copy book, etc.....	2 25
Christian Hartman, Grand Treasurer, expense; stationery, telegrams, check book, revenue stamps, receipt books.....	46 50
Adams Express Co., chest from Omaha to Lincoln.....	2 00
Frank H. Young, Grand Master, to cash paid out on expense account.....	225 00
" " " " " to clerk hire.....	265 00
" " " " " to cash paid for postage.....	30 00
" " " " " to additional postage.....	1 73
" " " " " to Megeath Stationery Co., ink....	65
Total.....	<u>\$693 15</u>

JORDAN MEDAL.

Nov. 24, 1899, S. D. Childs & Co., 1000 bronze medals.....	\$435 00
Mar. 12, 1900, Rees Printing Co., circulars.....	9 00
	<hr/>
	\$444 00
	<hr/>
Number of medals sold to date and paid for.....	220
Number charged to lodges.....	137
	<hr/>
Total sold and delivered to date.....	357
\$1.00 contributed to the fund.....	
Medals on hand.....	643
	<hr/>
	1000
	<hr/>

STATEMENT OF FUNDS SENT TO LANDMARK LODGE NO. 222.

I have received and remitted to J. H. Chambers for Landmark Lodge No 222, \$821.55. This amount, together with \$200.00 sent by the Grand Master, and \$150.00 sent by lodges direct, makes a total of \$1171.55.

ADDITIONAL NOTES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.

July 31st, 1899, L. A. Kent and wife.....	\$371 26
Jan. 31st, 1900, L. A. Kent and wife.....	371 26
Articles sold during the year.....	9 00

Continuation of the list of Nebraska Freemasons who have been placed on the retired list:

Crt. No.	NAME AND LODGE	BORN	1°	2°	3°
87	Joshua C. Willis, 83.....	Feb. 5, 1833	Aug. 18, 1859	Sep. 15, 1859	Nov. 24, 1859
88	Jeremiah Marlatt, 124.....	June 1, 1833	Aug. 6, 1855	Aug. 18, 1855	Nov. 5, 1855
89	George W. Wilson, 21.....	Apr. 2, 1834	Oct. 11, 1865	Nov. 14, 1865	Dec. 9, 1865
90	Jasper Farmer, 54.....	Jan. 31, 1833	Apr. 20, 1858	June 15, 1858	Aug. 17, 1858
91	Alexander N. Jay, 65.....	Jan. 3, 1818	Nov. 30, 1854	Dec. 27, 1864	Feb. 1, 1855
92	Wm. V. Lagorgue, 122.....	Oct. 15, 1822	About June 11, 1862	Nov. 1, 1862	Jan. 31, 1863
93	Chatfield H. Butler, 122.....	June 28, 1833	Aug. 11, 1865	Sept. 2, 1865	Oct. 6, 1865
94	Wm. D. Shelmadine, 65.....	Apr. 26, 1834	Feb. 1, 1860	Mar. 7, 1860	Mar. 8, 1860
95	Henry B. Wilson, 81.....	Sept. 2, 1829	Dec. 16, 1867	Jan. 6, 1868	Jan. 23, 1868
96	Francis M. Thompson, 169.....	Mar. 21, 1833	.....	Records Burned.....	—, 1859
97	Moses Owens, 183.....	Jan. 21, 1821	July 6, 1854	Jan. 11, 1855	Feb. 1, 1855
98	Archie R. Munns, 188.....	Aug. 24, 1828	Mar. 29, 1869	Apr. 22, 1869	May 5, 1869
99	John T. Buckley, 188.....	Nov. 27, 1834	Feb. 26, 1866	Mar. 5, 1866	Mar. 19, 1866
100	Daniel H. Wheeler, 1.....	Nov. 26, 1834	Feb. 19, 1856	Mar. 4, 1856	Apr. 1, 1856
101	J. Newton Wise, 3.....	Nov. 27, 1832	Mar. 3, 1862	Oct. 20, 1862	Nov. 24, 1862
102	John M. Wilson, 3.....	June 13, 1827	July 10, 1856	Aug. 1, 1856	Sep. 13, 1856
103	Wm. G. Chambers, 3.....	Feb. —, 1825	Mar. 16, 1861	June 10, 1861	June 11, 1861
104	Daniel Kudwell, 40.....	Aug. 29, 1831	.....	No record.....	Nov. —, 1867
105	Isaac Black, 76.....	Mar. 30, 1823	July 17, 1862	Dec. 8, 1862	Dec. 8, 1862
106	Isaac N. Drake, 2.....	Dec. 14, 1829	Mar. 14, 1862	Apr. 25, 1862	May 9, 1862
107	Jacob J. Hochstetler, 2.....	Sept. 3, 1827	July 15, 1865	Dec. 8, 1865	Jan. 5, 1866
108	Nehemiah S. Harding, 2.....	Feb. 12, 1831	Feb. 2, 1856	Mar. 9, 1866	Apr. 13, 1866
109	David J. Goff, 2.....	Feb. 11, 1834	Jan. 22, 1861	Mar. 3, 1862	June 24, 1862
110	Granville H. Hall, 2.....	Nov. 7, 1833	—, 1856	—, 1856	—, 1856
111	Thomas E. Thompson, 2.....	Apr. 1, 1832	—, 1856	—, 1856	—, 1856
112	Wm. Wallace Hull, 6.....	Mar. 27, 1828	Nov. 8, 1867	Nov. 15, 1867	Dec. 6, 1867
113	Robert D. Brown, 200.....	June 13, 1820	Mar. 11, 1851	Apr. 16, 1851	May 14, 1851
114	Edward F. Thorp, 2.....	Aug. 31, 1834	Aug. 29, 1866	Nov. 17, 1866	Feb. 16, 1867
115	William E. Hill, 2.....	Dec. 5, 1826	Feb. 11, 1859	Apr. 22, 1859	May 6, 1859
116	William Phifer, 2.....	July 4, 1833	Mar. 14, 1859	Apr. 7, 1859	Apr. 16, 1859
117	William A. Cotton, 2.....	Mar. 7, 1833	Feb. 13, 1861	Feb. 27, 1861	Mar. 20, 1861
118	Edwin M. Allen, 42.....	Dec. 17, 1834	Jan. 1, 1863	Jan. 21, 1863	Feb. 5, 1863
119	Henry Tefft Clarke, 1.....	Apr. 26, 1834	—, 1857	—, 1857	Sep. —, 1857
120	Shas B. Bachelder, 1.....	Jan. 8, 1835	July 28, 1866	Nov. 20, 1866	Dec. 24, 1867
121	Enos L. Martin, 1.....	May 18, 1835	Mar. 27, 1866	Oct. 27, 1866	Jan. 14, 1867
122	Abraham M. Smith, 2.....	Aug. 14, 1828	Mar. 13, 1865	Apr. 17, 1865	May 15, 1865
123	Edward A. Brown, 2.....	Jan. 24, 1834	May 28, 1856	July 9, 1856	July 23, 1856
*124	John F. Kinney, 2.....	Apr. 2, 1816	.....	.....	.....
*125	John S. Place, 2.....	Mar. 27, 1824	.....	.....	.....
*126	Augustus Gerhard, 2.....	Mar. 19, 1833	.....	.....	.....
127	Robert Hopps, 2.....	July 17, 1822	Feb. 23, 1850	June 22, 1850	July 20, 1850
128	Samuel Bacon, 2.....	Mar. 10, 1823	Oct. 19, 1853	Oct. 31, 1853	Nov. 30, 1853
129	James W. Moore, 2.....	Jan. 21, 1831	Aug. 2, 1855	Sept. 6, 1855	Oct. 4, 1855
130	Wm. C. Willman, 12.....	June 3, 1834	July 28, 1855	Oct. 11, 1855	Oct. 11, 1855
131	Logan Enyart, 2.....	June 20, 1831	Aug. 16, 1856	Feb. 27, 1858	Apr. 3, 1858
132	Fredrick New, 2.....	Oct. 19, 1832	Sept. 10, 1859	Oct. 8, 1859	Nov. 5, 1859
133	George Bradley, 154.....	Jan. 9, 1820	.....	.....	About 1850
134	Newell R. Wilcox, 39.....	May 15, 1833	Mar. 3, 1863	Mar. 31, 1863	Apr. 30, 1863
135	Robert W. Furnas, 4.....	May 5, 1824	Mar. 30, 1852	Apr. 6, 1852	Apr. 15, 1852
136	Joseph L. Roy, 4.....	June 8, 1834	Dec. 7, 1866	Jan. 19, 1867	Feb. 2, 1867
137	Jonas Drury, 4.....	July 22, 1827	Oct. 5, 1867	Nov. 23, 1867	Jan. 11, 1868
138	Benjamin F. McIninch, 4.....	May 2, 1834	Nov. 19, 1864	Feb. 4, 1865	July 1, 1865
139	John H. F. Scott, 14.....	Sept. 6, 1834	Aug. 17, 1867	Sept. 28, 1867	Nov. 2, 1867
140	James E. Neal, 14.....	Oct. 25, 1832	Oct. 26, 1867	Dec. 14, 1867	Dec. 28, 1867
141	George Burke, 3.....	Dec. 4, 1831	Feb. 28, 1870	Mar. 7, 1870	Mar. 21, 1870
142	Warren E. Greene, 3.....	Feb. 21, 1834	Aug. 23, 1862	Aug. 23, 1862	Aug. 23, 1862
143	Jeremiah C. Wilcox, 3.....	Oct. 13, 1833	Jan. 27, 1866	Feb. 16, 1866	Mar. 17, 1866
144	George Crow, 4.....	May 11, 1821	Mar. 12, 1853	Apr. 16, 1853	May 28, 1853
145	James G. Warden, 12.....	Sep. 22, 1830	Oct. 12, 1864	Dec. 10, 1864	Mar. 1, 1865
146	Alvin T. Witter, 120.....	Apr. 2, 1835	Nov. 18, 1867	Jan. 16, 1868	Feb. 27, 1868
147	Charles S. Robinson, 224.....	Dec. 8, 1831	Feb. 8, 1862	Mar. 15, 1862	Apr. 19, 1862
148	David A. Pound, 57.....	Aug. 2, 1829	Oct. 16, 1868	Nov. 2, 1868	Dec. 11, 1868

*124. Affiliated Oct. 30, 1857: No record.

*125. " 1855 or 1856: " "

*126. " Oct. 15, 1869: " "

SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

Amount on hand March 31st, 1899.....		\$3126 25
Purchased during the year		592 74
Sold and issued free during the year.....	\$503 30	
On hand March 31st, 1900.....	3215 69	
		<hr/>
	\$3718 99	\$3718 99

GENERAL EXPENSE.

July 13, 1899, Wheeler & Wheeler, Grand Secretary's bond.....	\$15 00
Aug. 2, " Rees Printing Co., advance copies, proceedings 1899	30 00
Sept. 30, " S. B. Stewart, floral design for C. Hartman.....	8 00
Oct. 13, " Salary due the Grand Treasurer, paid to Mrs. C. Hartman.....	16 65
Oct. 2, " Harney St. Stables, 8 carriages, funeral C. Hartman	32 00
Nov. 8, " Rees Printing Co., printing 1899 proceedings.....	487 80
Dec. 1, " Rogers & Smith Co., charters Lodges Nos. 242, 243 and 244.....	27 00
Dec. 1, " Natl. Surety Co., Grand Treasurer's bond.....	18 00
Feb. 28, 1900, Omaha Printing Co., 100 filing boxes.....	30 00
May 18, " Rent of Grand Secretary's office.....	200 00
May 25, " Grand Master's clerk hire.....	150 75
May 29, " Joint Agent, Railroad Co.....	11 00
	<hr/>
	\$1026 20

TRIAL BALANCE, MAY 23, 1900.

Masonic Home Fund: cash on hand.....	\$3,000 00
Grand Lodge Jewels.....	202 50
Grand Lodge Office Furniture.....	743 15
Grand Lodge Library Furniture.....	1,614 38
Grand Lodge Library.....	737 88
Bills Receivable.....	6,771 59
Electrotype Plates	15,792 48
Supplies.....	3,215 69
Gauge Lodge No. 203.....	50
Palmyra Lodge No. 45.....	14 25
Hampton Lodge U. D.: Charter Fee.....	50 00
Nehawka Lodge U. D.: Charter Fee.....	50 00
Profit and Loss.....	30,081 00
Inventory.....	18,810 89
General Fund: cash on hand.....	2,590 37
Relief Fund: cash on hand.....	740 69
James A. Tulleys.....	1,200 00
Expense: Grand Custodian.....	500 00
Miss E. A. Bowen, clerk.....	600 00
Francis E. White, Grand Secretary.....	1,760 00

Jordan Medal Fund.....	\$222 85	
General Expense.....	1,026 20	
Emmet Crawford Lodge No. 148, for relief.....	60 00	
Bloomfield Lodge No. 218, for relief.....	120 00	
Rob Morris Lodge No. 46, for relief.....	55 00	
Scribner Lodge No. 132, for relief.....	90 00	
Parian Lodge No. 207, for relief.....	60 00	
Landmark Lodge No. 222, for relief.....	200 00	
Expended during the year for janitor.....	60 00	
" " " " " stationery.....	45 35	
" " " " " blanks.....	62 10	
" " " " " telephone.....	30 00	
" " " " " postage, express and telegrams.....	150 39	
Expended during the year for incidental expenses...	126 52	
" " " " " heat and light.....	50 00	
Expenses of the Grand Master.....	150 00	
		\$48,991 89 \$48,991 89

At the last session appropriations were made for sets of working envelopes, \$30.00, printing and binding Volumes V and VI, \$1000.00, purchasing the supplies necessary for putting in use the card system, \$350.00. None of the above were used for the reason that the General Fund was all used before the first of January, 1900, and these items seemed to be the ones that could be left out with the least inconvenience. Again, \$350.00 for a card registry system would not be sufficient to begin the work, and until the Grand Lodge is prepared to take it up and complete it, it would better be left as it is. In relation to our finances, I will state that after paying the indebtedness of the last session, there was only \$3057.10 remaining in the General Fund; and while the figures look large to start with, it is a fact that for several years we have been anticipating our income and paying expenses out of what we expected to receive. The expenses of my office have been reduced to the minimum. All accounts to date have been paid, and as our receipts for the year have increased over the preceding one, we may now be able to live within our income, and perhaps do some things that have been delayed for the want of funds. I have submitted to the finance committee itemized accounts for all money expended under the appropriations made; I do not believe the Grand Lodge wants them published in the proceedings as they would fill several pages.

I ask the Grand Lodge to consider the advisability of purchasing for the Grand Secretary's office an addressograph. It takes nearly a day to address envelopes to all lodges and as several communications go to them each year, it would be a saving of time that could be used to greater advantage.

I call your attention to what looks like a large amount of assets, but which in reality has no value from a monetary point of view, viz: library, \$737.88; library furniture, \$1614.38; office furniture, \$743.15; Grand

Lodge jewels, \$202.50; electroplates, \$15,792.43. Shall these be charged to Profit and Loss? Of course, all the current expenses of the year will be charged to that account when approved by the Committee on Finance.

An appeal from a sentence of suspension for thirty days by action of Stromsburg Lodge No. 126, has been sent to the Committee on Grievances. Petitions for refund of money paid for special dispensations by Aurora Lodge No. 68, and Golden Fleece Lodge No. 205, have been placed with the Committee on Finance and Accounts.

Petitions for charters, with statements of work, etc., from Hampton, Corner Stone, Nehawka, and Laurel Lodges, have been placed with the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

I present herewith petition of Bro. _____ an expelled Master Mason of Salem Lodge No. 47, for reinstatement.

FRANCIS E. WHITE,
Grand Secretary.

GRAND CUSTODIAN'S REPORT.

To the Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

As required by law I submit herewith a report of work done during the past year.

I assisted the Grand Master in constituting the new lodges at Oak and Battle Creek. I visited and examined the brethren at Hampton, Nehawka, and Havelock, and in each case recommended the granting of a dispensation.

I also recommended the granting of dispensations to the brethren at Osmond, and Laurel, on the report of W.:Bro.: Z. M. Baird, Master of Hartington Lodge No. 155, who kindly examined the brethren at said places, as I was unable to reach them.

I have held forty-four lodges of instruction, and visited eleven lodges singly.

The lodges generally are in a prosperous condition, and doing a considerable amount of work.

The records as a rule are well kept, but I find the same neglect as last year in the keeping of the compendiums. However, the lodges, with one or two exceptions promised to have their compendiums written up without further delay.

Most of the lodges show increased interest in the work, and are anxious to get the exact work of the jurisdiction. I visited a good many of the larger towns this year, as the work for the past three or four years has been confined to the smaller lodges.

Faternally submitted,
JAMES A. TULLEYS,
Grand Custodian.

ANNUAL STATEMENT AND REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF
THE ORPHANS EDUCATIONAL FUND.

OMAHA, May 31st, 1900.

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

On behalf of the Trustees of the Orphans Educational Fund, the following report is submitted:

Amount of the fund at this date.....	\$32,765 47
Consisting of securities as per schedule.....	\$31,860 00
Cash on hand.....	905 47
<hr/>	
Amount of fund at last annual statement, May 29th, 1899.....	32,711 51
Gain during the year.....	<u>53 96</u>

It will be noted that the loans on hand and the cash are not appreciably greater than the amount of securities and cash on hand May 29th, 1899.

This small increase in the fund so far as the available fund is concerned, is owing to the fact that there has been transferred from Security Account to the Real Estate Account, the proceeds of one mortgage, No. 1 Hendrickson (E. Wakeley guarantor) \$2500.00. The interest on this mortgage as shown in a previous report, has been in arrears since Jan. 1st, 1897, and it was not found possible to collect from Judge Wakeley either the interest or the principal, for the payment of both of which he had given his guaranty at a time when it was considered that such guaranty would insure payment of the debt. The guarantor and beneficiary of the property mortgaged had allowed the improvements on the property to run down; had collected and retained for his own use such rents as he had been able to obtain and without accounting in any way to the holder of the mortgage lien; had allowed taxes to accumulate and the interest thereon to increase the burden upon the property.

The guarantor had from time to time submitted propositions for settlement which involved no payment of money on his obligation, but a transfer or exchange of property of more or less value. Which propositions were not acceptable to the Trustees. The conditions having been brought to the attention of the *M. W. Grand Master*, were considered by him in connection with a majority of the Trustees and it was agreed on their behalf with Judge Wakeley that the Fund would take in lieu of such defaulted obligation, property hereinafter described:

No. 1.—Lots 37 and 33 Block 12 Briggs Place, Omaha, being the mortgaged property. These lots are on the North side of Harney Street, West of Forty-fourth Street (100 feet front on Harney Street by 124 feet deep), improved by a two-story frame dwelling, No. 4420 Harney Street, which is insured for Fifteen Hundred Dollars. But it is necessary in order to pre-

serve the house from further dilapidation, and to put it in a tenable condition, that there be expended a considerable sum in repairs, painting inside and outside, papering, changing water arrangements, etc. The cost of the absolutely necessary repairs being estimated at \$250.00. No attempt seems to have been made by Judge Wakeley to keep the building in good condition or to prevent deterioration. The work neglected and now required is being done as rapidly as practicable and with the greatest possible economy and watchful care. The Trustees have been able with the promise of these improvements to obtain a tenant at a monthly rental of \$15.00. There yet remains unpaid a considerable amount of taxes, which under the agreement with Judge Wakeley, the Fund will be called upon to pay.

No. 2.—The West 26 feet of the South 148 feet of Lot 10, Block 1, Park Place, Omaha. Being a plot of ground fronting on Thirty-Second Street, 26 feet by 104 feet deep, lying 122 feet North of California Street, improved by a frame cottage insured for Five Hundred Dollars, which rents for \$8.00 per month. It is understood that within a short time the Street Railway line will be extended along Thirty-Third Street within a block of this property, which no doubt will add to its value and availability. Title is taken subject to a mortgage of \$400.00, which Judge Wakeley obligates himself to pay by July 1st, 1900.

If these properties may be considered to be worth the amount at which the mortgage has heretofore been carried in the assets, viz, \$2500.00, the fund would then show an increase during the year of upward of seven and one-half per cent., but it is not well to calculate upon this gain, as the amounts that will be realized from sale of the properties cannot now be stated. Of course the Fund does not wish to hold Real Estate, and it will no doubt be considered desirable to make sale of the properties, or any part of them, as soon as a fair value can be realized. It is hoped that there will be little if any ultimate loss from this apparently unfortunate investment.

For purpose of comparison with last report the account then stands:

Securities per schedule.....	\$31,860 00
Cash on hand as shown by Certificate of deposit Omaha Loan & Trust Company Savings Bank.....	905 47
Real Estate in Omaha acquired during the year in lieu of mortgage heretofore carried at.....	2,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$35,265 47

HASTINGS PROPERTY.

As shown by last report the cost to the fund at that date was....	\$899 36
Taxes paid in 1899.....	10 40
	<hr/>
Total cost to date.....	\$909 76

This has not heretofore appeared in the assets as shown but it has been reported that any amount hereafter realized from a sale would be an addition to the fund. This condition continues.

The Trustees are advised that the B. & M. R. R. Co. is building a new depot on the street directly opposite this lot, and are informed that during

the five years past it would have been impossible to get more than \$150.00 for the lot, but an offer has been lately made to them of \$350.00. This offer under the circumstances the Trustees did not consider favorably, preferring to await further developments and believing that a better price will shortly be obtained.

Appended are statements showing receipts of the fund, and the resources from which derived; the disbursements, and for what accounts; and list of securities, with amounts and rates of interest.

Fraternally submitted

For the Trustees,

A. U. WYMAN,

Treasurer.

A. U. WYMAN, Treasurer, *In Account with*

Dr.

ORPHANS EDUCATIONAL FUND.

RECEIPTS--ITEMIZED.

LOAN NO.	BORROWER.	PRINCIPAL.	INTEREST.
7,	Luellen.....	\$900 00	\$152 25
8,	Polsley.....		40 00
9,	Voss.....		80 00
10,	Grentman.....		21 00
11,	Lindner.....		37 30
15,	Peterson.....		80 00
17,	Rooney.. . . .	1,000 00	51 55
28,	Rooney.....	500 00	34 50
29,	Romano.....	1 04	75 00
30,	Hobbie, et al.....	300 00	55 00
31,	Hobbie.....		100 00
32,	Haman.....		64 50
34,	Grady.....		60 00
35,	Ord Village Bonds.....		224 00
37,	Stejskal.....		54 00
38,	Swanson.....		36 00
39,	No. Light, 41, Stanton, Neb.....		80 00
41,	Griffin.....		30 00
42,	Anchor Lodge, No. Loup, Neb.....		12 00
43,	Frear.....		30 00
44,	Cole.....		56 00
45,	Christensen.....		70 00
48,	Neisendorfer.....	100 00	12 50
49,	School Dist. 49, Valley Co.....	67 00	10 75
50,	Swobe.....	659 57	127 98
51,	School Dist. 246, Custer Co.....		21 00
55,	Tagger.....	165 00	10 67
57,	Buehler.....		45 00
58,	Moore.....		31 50
60,	Francis.....		150 71
61 and 62,	Warren.....		120 25

LOAN NO.	BORROWER.	PRINCIPAL.	INTEREST.
63,	Zahner.....	75 00	\$43 63
64,	Bates.....	800 00	56 00
65,	Rich.....		61 60
66,	Dehm.....	.	48 00
67,	Jester.....		42 00
68,	Long.....		36 00
69,	Link.....		71 45
70,	Goodrich.....		14 44
71,	Svenson.....		12 20
72,	Helman.....	\$500 00	51 98
73,	Skalka.....		36 00
74,	Bowman.....		39 00
75,	Martin.....		51 00
76,	Whitnack.....		24 00
77,	England.....		15 00
		<u>\$5,067 61</u>	<u>\$2,575 76</u>

RECAPITULATION.

To balance last report.....	\$ 373 90
To receipts on principal as above.....	5067 61
To receipts on interest as above.....	2575 76
To Interest Savings Bank on balances.....	37 60
	<u>\$8054 87</u>

CREDIT.

	PRINCIPAL.	INTEREST.
By purchase 75 Martin et al.....	\$1700 00	\$ 8 50
“ 76 Whitnack.....	800 00	3 74
“ 77 England.....	500 00	12 50
“ 78 Hellman.....	350 00	
“ 48 Neisendorfer.....	100 00	
“ 79 McKenty.....	1100 00	
“ 80 Franks.....	700 00	9 80
“ 81 Maier.....	250 00	
“ 82 Pendergast.....	250 00	1 90
“ 83 Hackett.....	440 00	2 56
“ 84 Kuehn.....	900 00	
	<u>\$7090 00</u>	<u>\$39 00</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Total principal.....	\$7090 00
Total interest.....	39 00
Attorney fee Acct. Hobbie & Davies Loan.....	10 00
Taxes on Hastings lots.....	10 40
By balance on hand.....	905 47
	<u>\$8054 87</u>

SCHEDULE OF LOANS ON HAND.

No. of Loan	BORROWER	AMOUNT	Rate of Interest	Interest Paid to
8	Polsley	\$500 00	8 per cent.	Mch. 19, 1900
9	Voss	1,000 00	8 "	June 1, 1900
10	Grentman	300 00	7 "	April 1, 1900
11	Lindner	350 00	7 "	April 1, 1900
15	Peterson	1,000 00	8 "	May 1, 1900
29	Romano, et al.	1,070 00	7 "	Mch. 1, 1900
31	Hobble	500 00	8 "	Sept. 1, 1899
32	Haman	800 00	8 "	Mch. 1, 1900
34	Grady	750 00	8 "	May 1, 1900
35	Ord Village Bonds	3,200 00	7 "	Jan. 1, 1900
37	Stejskal	600 00	6 "	June 1, 1900
38	Swanson	600 00	6 "	Jan. 1, 1900
39	Northern Light Lodge No. 41	1,000 00	8 "	Feb. 27, 1900
41	Griffen	500 00	6 "	June 1, 1900
42	Anchor Lodge No. 142	300 00	8 "	Dec. 27, 1899
43	Frear	300 00	10 "	April 1, 1900
44	Cole	800 00	7 "	Mch. 15, 1900
45	Christensen	1,000 00	7 "	April 15, 1900
48	Neisendorfer	100 00	10 "	Dec. 8, 1899
49	School District No. 49, Valley County	100 00	7 "	April 1, 1900
51	School District No. 246, Custer County	300 00	7 "	Sept. 1, 1899
57	Buehler	500 00	6 "	June 1, 1900
58	Moore	350 00	6 "	June 1, 1900
60	Francis	900 00	8 "	Feb. 1, 1900
61	Martha W. Warren	1,500 00	6 "	Jan. 6, 1900
62	Mary W. Warren	500 00	6 "	Jan. 20, 1900
63	Zahner	450 00	8 "	Mch. 1, 1900
65	Rich	500 00	8 "	Feb. 1, 1900
66	Dehm	800 00	6 "	Mch. 1, 1900
67	Jester	600 00	7 "	Jan. 1, 1900
68	Long	600 00	6 "	Jan. 1, 1900
69	Link	1,250 00	6 "	Jan. 1, 1900
70	Goodrich	150 00	8 "	Feb. 8, 1900
71	Svanson	150 00	8 "	Feb. 28, 1900
72	Helman	300 00	7 "	Mch. 1, 1900
73	Skalka	600 00	6 "	Mch. 1, 1900
74	Bowman	650 00	6 "	April 1, 1900
75	Martin, et al	1,700 00	6 "	Jan. 1, 1900
76	Whitnack	800 00	6 "	May 1, 1900
77	Ensland	500 00	6 "	Jan. 1, 1900
78	Hellman	350 00	10 "	No int. due
79	McKenty	1,100 00	10 "	" "
80	Franks	700 00	7 "	" "
81	Maler	250 00	10 "	" "
82	Pendergast	250 00	7 "	" "
83	Hackelt	440 00	7 "	" "
84	Kuehn	900 00	6 "	" "
		\$11,860 00		

Sec. 104, Par. 17: Nos. 32, 74, 81, 97, 125, 133, 145, 156, 183, 195, 196, 204, 228, 230, 232, 241, and 244.

One hundred and seventy-six lodges make reports of the widows and orphans within their jurisdictions, while fifty-five make no report whatever under this requirement.

Fraternally,

JOHN J. MERCER,

Chairman.

EXHIBIT "A."

No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Members	Amount	No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Members	Amount	No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Members	Amount
1	25	184	\$46 00	72	18	41	\$7 38	135	25	83	\$20 75
2	25	135	33 75	73	25	41	10 25	136	25	43	10 75
3	25	301	75 25	74	25	19	4 75	137	13	40	7 20
4	25	36	9 00	75	25	50	12 50	138	18	40	7 20
5	18	62	11 10	76	15	35	5 25	139	25	41	10 25
6	25	116	29 00	77	25	43	10 75	140	15	38	5 70
9	25	94	23 50	78	21	57	11 97				
10	4	37	1 48	79	22	74	16 28	142	25	21	5 25
11	25	302	75 50	81	14	27	3 78	143	25	35	8 75
12	25	21	5 25	82	25	98	24 50	144	21	35	7 35
13	25	22	5 50	83	14	35	4 90	145	1	45	45
14	25	45	11 25	84	6	61	3 66	146	25	49	12 25
15	25	190	47 50	85	25	47	11 75	147	25	29	7 25
17		69		86	21	26	5 46	148	25	80	20 00
19	25	291	72 75	87	25	89	9 75	149	25	20	5 00
21	20	81	17 01	88	25	30	7 50	150	25	31	7 75
23	19	98	18 62	89	25	57	14 25	151	25	23	5 75
25	25	343	85 75	90	22	25	5 50	152	25	45	11 25
26	21	159	33 39	91	25	35	8 75	153	10	21	2 10
27	25	43	10 75	92	25	34	8 50	154	25	31	7 75
29	25	30	7 50	93	25	64	16 00	155	25	42	10 50
30	25	26	6 50	94	25	22	5 50	156	11	20	2 20
31	25	80	20 00	95		43		157	25	24	6 00
32	25	126	31 50	96	18	31	5 58	158	25	69	17 25
33	25	152	38 00	97	25	37	9 25	159	22	51	11 22
34		63		98	25	26	6 50	160	13	28	3 64
35	25	99	24 75	99	25	39	9 75	161	25	29	7 25
36	25	61	15 25	100	25	38	9 50	162	25	44	11 00
37	25	79	19 75	101	25	53	13 25	163	25	47	11 75
38	25	67	16 75	102	25	47	11 75	164	21	29	6 09
39		32		103	17	60	10 20	165	18	47	8 46
40	25	34	8 50	104	19	64	12 16	166	15	31	4 65
41	25	44	11 00	105	25	46	11 50	167	25	41	10 25
42	22	47	10 34	106	19	45	8 55	168	1	34	34
43	25	73	18 25	107	17	19	8 23	169	17	50	8 50
44	25	57	14 25	108		28		170	6	38	2 28
45				109	25	43	10 75	171	25	45	11 25
46	25	141	35 25	110	18	42	7 56	172	25	31	7 75
48	19	46	8 74	111	12	37	4 44	173	17	28	4 76
49	10	48	4 80	112	22	47	10 34	174	19	39	7 41
50	25	150	37 50	113	25	37	9 25	175	14	30	4 20
51	25	77	19 25	114	25	50	12 50	176	18	43	7 74
52	25	53	13 25	115	25	16	4 00	177	13	27	4 86
53	25	61	15 25	116	25	35	8 75	178	25	17	4 25
54	25	154	38 50	117	15	38	5 70	179	19	37	7 03
55	25	93	23 25	118	10	22	4 18	180	25	33	8 25
56	25	192	48 00	119	25	49	12 25	181	23	43	10 75
57	25	49	12 25	120	21	66	13 86	182	18	31	5 58
58	25	71	17 75	121	22	56	12 32	183	25	69	17 25
59	17	67	11 39	122	3	14	4 42	184	17	113	19 21
60	18	35	6 30	123		39		185	25	46	11 50
61	13	66	8 58	124		51	10 20				
62	25	34	8 50	125	5	52	2 60	187	25	33	8 25
63	18	12	2 16	126	5	52	13 00	188	25	57	14 25
64	25	61	15 25	127	13	40	5 20	189	25	54	13 50
65	25	19	14 75	128	5	19	9 05	190	25	17	4 25
66	25	22	5 50	129	25	54	13 50	191	25	32	8 00
67	25	67	16 75	130	25	33	8 25	192	15	68	10 20
68	15	102	15 30	132	25	34	8 50	193	18	30	5 40
70	17	30	5 10	133	25	29	7 25	194		28	
71	8	66	5 28	134	22	47	10 34	195	5	43	2 15

EXHIBIT "A"—CONTINUED.

No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Mem- bers	Amount	No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Mem- bers	Amount	No. of Lodge	No. Days	No. of Mem- bers	Amount
196	.....	29	.....	213	25	24	\$6 00	230	25	21	\$1 25
197	18	33	\$5 94	214	20	27	5 40	231	25	23	7 00
198	25	44	11 00	215	1	38	38	232	25	33	8 25
199	25	18	4 50	216	4	26	1 04	233	25	30	7 50
200	25	48	12 00	217	25	34	8 50	234	14	21	2 94
201	25	41	10 25	218	25	47	11 75	235	15	22	3 30
202	14	49	6 86	219	25	28	7 00	236	17	17	2 89
203	25	37	9 25	220	19	50	9 50	237	15	14	2 10
204	12	35	4 20	221	25	21	5 25	238	3	22	66
205	25	22	5 50	222	.....	33	.....	239	25	23	5 75
206	22	36	7 92	223	25	32	8 00	240	25	28	7 00
207	25	32	8 00	224	25	24	6 00	241	25	25	6 25
208	20	37	7 40	225	25	26	6 50	242	25	19	4 75
209	25	28	7 00	226	25	26	6 50				
210	19	38	7 22	227	16	46	7 36				
211	25	51	12 75	228	25	20	5 00				\$2535 88
212	.....	27	.....	229	25	27	6 75				

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE OF

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	ENTERED APPRENTICES							FELLOW CRAFTS											
		Gain			Loss				Gain			Loss								
		By Initiation	Otherwise	Total	By Passing	Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	By Other Causes	Total Loss	No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 1900	By Passing	By Other Causes	Total	By Raising	Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	By Other Causes	Total Loss	No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 1900	
		No. Mar. 31, 1899									No. Mar. 31, 1899									
Nebraska	1	15	11	29	11			11	18	6	11	17	11					11	6	3
Western Star	2	10	10	20	8			8	12	1	8	9	6					6	3	6
Capitol	3	34	18	52	14			14	38	7	14	21	12		1			13	8	8
Nemaha Valley	4	10		10					7											
Omaha	5	6	5	11	3			3	8	8	3	11	2					2	9	9
Plattsmouth	6	20	7	27	4			4	23	4	4	8	4					4	4	4
Falls City	9	19	1	20					18	3	2	5	2					2	3	3
Solomon	10	5	1	6					6	1		1								1
Covert	11	47	11	58	12			12	46	15	12	27	13					13	14	2
Nebraska City	12	4		4					4	2		2								2
Orient	13	16		16	10			10	10	1		1								1
Peru	14	2	3	5	3			3	2	2	3	5	3					3	2	2
Fremont	15	7	5	12	3			3	9	3	3	6	4					4	2	2
Tecumseh	17	14	1	15	2			2	13	5	2	7	2					2	5	5
Lincoln	19	26	13	39	13			13	26	1	13	20	15					15	5	5
Washington	21	6	1	7	2			2	5	2	2	4	2					2	3	3
Pawnee	23	9	5	14	5			5	10	5	5	10	6		1			7	3	2
St. Johns	25	53	19	72	21			21	51	7	21	28	18					18	10	10
Beatrice	26	31	2	33	3	1		4	29	7	3	10	2					2	8	8
Jordan	27	6		6	3			3	3	5	3	8	4					4	4	4
Hope	29	5	1	6	1			1	5	2	1	3								3
Blue River	30	5	2	7	1			1	6	1	1	2	2					2	2	2
Tekamah	31	7	5	12	6			6	6	6	6	6	6					6	6	6
Platte Valley	32	9	3	12	2			2	10	5	2	6	7					7	5	5
Ashlar	33	22	10	32	6			6	26	6	6	12	4					4	8	8
Acacia	34	11		11					11	5		5								5
Fairbury	35	16	5	21	4	1		5	16	7	4	11	7					7	4	4
Lone Tree	36	6	3	9	4			4	5	1	4	5	4							1
Crete	37	10	1	11	3	1		4	7	8	3	11	5					5	6	6
Oliver	38	12	8	20	7			7	13	1	7	8	8					8		8
Papillon	39	7	1	8	1			1	7	1	3	4								4
Humboldt	40	7		7					7	4		4	1					1	3	3
Northern Light	41	6	2	8	3	1		4	4	2	3	5	2					2	3	3
Juniata	42	13	3	16	3			3	13	1	3	4	3					3	1	1
Hebron	43	8	4	12	1			1	11	1	1	2	1					1	1	1
Harvard	44	4	2	6	2			2	4	1	2	3	2					2	1	1
Palmyra	45	1		1					1											
Iob Morris	46	12		12					12	2		2	2					2		
Fairmont	48	11	2	13	2			2	11	2	2	4	1					1	3	3
Evening Star	49	6	1	7	2			2	5		2	2	2					2		
Hastings	50	13	3	16	1			1	15	7	1	8	2		1			3	5	5
Fidelity	51	19	3	22	9			9	13	5	9	14	11					11	3	3
Hiram	52	8	1	9					9	1		1								1
Charity	53	6	14	20	9			9	11	2	9	11	8					8	3	3
Lancaster	54	25	13	40	16			16	24	4	16	20	15					15	5	5
Mosaic	55	5	5	10	4			4	6	1	4	5	4					4	1	1
York	56	11	5	16	3			3	13	1	3	4	3					3	1	1
Mt. Moriah	57	9	3	12	1			1	11	3	1	4	3					3	1	1
Lebanon	58	10	2	12					12	1										1
Wahoo	59	8		8	1	1		2	6	1	1	2								2
Melrose	60	14		14					12	1		1								1
Thistle	61	5	2	7					7											
Keystone	62	6	2	8					8											
Riverton	63	5	2	7	2			2	5	2	2	4	1					1	3	3
Blue Valley	64	2		2					2	2		2								2
Oseola	65	10		10	1			1	9	1	1	3	1					1	2	2
Livingstone	66																			
Edgar	67	7	8	15	4			4	11	2	4	6	4					4	2	2
Aurora	68	11	4	15	2	1		3	12	3	2	5	2					2	3	3

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE OF

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	ENTERED APPRENTICES							FELLOW CRAFTS						
		Gain		Loss				No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	Gain		Loss				No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900
		No. Mar. 31, 5899	By Initiation	By Passing	By Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	By Other Causes		Total	No. Mar. 31, 5899	By Passing	By Raising	By Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	
								Otherwise							Total
Sterling	70	12	1	13	1	1	1	12	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Trowel	71	19	1	19	1	1	1	19	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
Hooper	72	9	2	11	1	1	1	11	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
Friend	73	5	1	6	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alexandria	74	1	2	4	4	1	1	5	1	1	4	5	4	4	1
Frank Welch	75	6	6	12	5	5	5	17	5	5	10	5	5	5	5
Joppa	76	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nelson	77	4	2	6	3	3	3	3	1	3	4	2	2	2	2
Albion	78	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	4	1	1	1	1
Geneva	79	6	13	19	9	9	10	19	9	9	11	6	6	6	6
Composite	81	4	2	6	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
St. Paul	82	3	2	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Corinthian	83	6	1	7	1	1	1	5	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Fairfield	84	5	2	7	2	2	2	5	1	2	3	3	3	3	3
Tyre	85	9	3	12	3	3	3	9	3	3	6	3	3	3	3
Doniphan	86	3	1	4	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Ionic	87	9	1	10	1	1	1	10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Star	88	2	4	6	4	4	4	2	4	4	4	1	1	1	1
Cedar River	89	2	3	10	2	2	2	8	1	2	3	2	2	2	1
Elk Creek	90	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oakland	91	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hubbell	92	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Beaver City	93	8	3	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	1
Bennett	94	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	1
Garfield	95	4	3	7	1	1	1	6	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Utica	96	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2
Euclid	97	8	3	11	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	3	3	3	3
Republican	98	3	3	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	1	1	1	1
Shelton	99	11	3	14	4	4	4	10	4	4	3	3	3	3	3
Creighton	100	4	2	6	2	2	2	5	2	2	4	2	2	2	2
Ponca	101	9	1	10	1	1	1	10	3	3	5	3	3	3	3
Waterloo	102	5	1	6	2	2	2	4	3	3	5	4	4	4	1
Ord	103	7	8	15	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	4	4	4	5
Wymore	104	6	6	12	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Stella	105	8	1	9	3	3	3	5	1	3	4	4	4	4	4
Porter	106	4	1	5	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	1	2
Steele City	107	3	2	5	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Table Rock	108	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
Arapahoe	109	6	4	10	4	4	4	6	3	4	7	6	6	6	1
Pomegranate	110	6	5	11	5	5	5	5	3	3	6	4	4	4	4
DeWitt	111	5	1	6	1	1	1	4	1	1	6	1	1	1	5
Springfield	112	4	1	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	4	4	4	1
Globe	113	7	7	14	4	4	4	10	1	4	5	4	4	4	1
Wisner	114	8	5	13	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	4	4	4	2
Brainerd	115	3	3	6	3	3	3	3	2	3	5	5	5	5	2
Harlan	116	9	3	12	7	7	7	5	3	7	10	3	3	3	2
Hardy	117	4	1	5	1	1	1	4	2	1	3	2	2	2	1
Doric	118	3	1	4	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
North Bend	119	4	9	13	8	8	8	5	8	8	6	6	6	6	1
Wayne	120	9	1	10	1	1	1	8	3	1	4	1	1	1	3
Superior	121	5	2	7	2	2	2	5	2	2	4	3	3	3	1
Jasper	122	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Indianaola	123	6	2	8	2	2	2	6	1	2	3	1	1	1	1
Auburn	124	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	3
Mt. Nebo	125	10	3	13	6	6	6	7	1	6	7	6	6	6	2
Stromsburg	126	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Minden	127	6	1	7	1	1	1	6	3	1	4	1	1	1	4
Guide Rock	128	4	1	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Blue Hill	129	4	4	8	4	4	4	1	1	8	4	2	2	2	2

NEBRASKA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 5900.

SUSP. MASTER MASONS						MASTER MASONS						GRAND LODGE DUES, FEES, ETC.						
No. Mar. 31, 5899	Gain		Loss		No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	No. Mar. 31, 5899	Gain		Loss		No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	Amts. due Lodges on Old Accounts	Amounts due Grand Lodge on Old Accounts	Dues on Master Masons	Fees on Initiations	Amounts due Grand Lodge, Mar. 31, 5900	No. of Lodge
	By Suspensions	By Other Causes	Reinstatement	Total Loss			By Raising	By Admission	Reinstatement	Total									By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	By Other Causes	Total Loss
10	1	11	14	14	66	30	1	31	1	1	1	30	88 75	830 00	85 00	826 25	70	
13	1	14	15	14	66	66	1	66	1	1	1	64	16 50	80 50	66 00	50 00	71	
12	1	12	1	1	41	41	2	44	1	1	1	43	10 25	41 00	10 00	40 75	72	
18	1	18	1	1	17	17	1	18	1	1	1	42	9 50	41 00	5 00	36 50	73	
3	3	3	3	3	19	19	4	23	2	2	2	23	4 75	19 00	15 00	22 25	74	
20	20	1	1	19	50	50	5	56	2	2	2	56	13 00	50 00	30 00	67 00	75	
15	15	35	35	15	35	35	3	38	4	2	2	38	8 75	35 00	30 00	26 25	76	
17	20	20	20	43	2	43	3	48	4	3	3	41	11 50	43 00	10 00	41 50	77	
10	20	1	1	20	57	57	1	58	1	2	2	55	14 25	57 00	5 00	47 75	78	
35	35	3	1	4	31	74	8	87	3	1	1	83	23 00	1 50	74 00	117 50	79	
5	5	27	27	5	27	27	1	28	2	1	1	27	1 35	27 00	10 00	35 65	81	
29	30	1	1	29	98	98	1	104	2	1	1	101	36 85	50 00	10 00	71 65	82	
8	8	8	8	8	35	35	1	35	1	1	1	33	8 50	35 00	5 00	31 50	83	
3	6	9	9	6	61	61	3	65	3	6	6	56	15 00	9 30	10 00	65 30	84	
18	18	1	1	16	47	47	3	55	4	1	1	50	11 75	40 00	15 00	50 65	85	
17	17	1	1	15	26	26	1	29	1	1	1	28	8 00	26 00	5 00	23 00	86	
2	10	12	12	39	39	39	1	39	1	10	10	38	7 77	25 39	0 00	36 48	87	
7	1	8	8	30	30	30	1	33	2	1	1	30	7 50	30 00	2 00	52 95	88	
19	1	20	2	2	57	57	2	62	4	1	1	56	13 75	10 45	15 00	58 25	89	
11	11	1	1	10	25	25	1	27	2	2	2	25	9 00	25 00	16 00	27 25	90	
3	1	4	4	35	1	35	1	36	2	1	1	33	8 25	50 35	35 00	27 25	91	
5	5	5	5	5	34	34	3	36	5	5	5	31	8 50	34 00	10 00	35 50	92	
10	10	10	10	64	3	64	3	70	1	1	1	69	17 00	1 00	64 00	63 00	93	
12	2	14	1	1	22	22	1	25	1	2	2	22	5 75	22 00	10 00	26 25	94	
24	24	1	1	24	43	43	1	46	2	1	1	45	8 40	50 43	15 00	50 10	95	
9	9	1	1	8	31	31	1	32	3	3	3	27	7 75	31 00	23 25	23 25	96	
17	1	18	18	37	3	37	1	41	3	1	1	37	8 50	4 15	37 00	47 65	97	
4	4	4	4	26	1	26	1	28	3	1	1	28	6 00	26 00	15 00	35 00	98	
11	8	14	14	39	3	39	3	43	3	3	3	40	9 00	50 39	15 00	45 50	99	
13	13	13	13	38	2	38	2	42	2	2	2	42	11 00	1 00	38 00	38 00	100	
15	15	15	15	53	3	53	3	56	3	3	3	53	12 00	4 80	53 00	50 80	101	
15	15	1	1	14	47	47	4	51	4	4	4	51	11 00	50 47	5 00	41 50	102	
19	19	1	1	18	60	60	4	66	4	1	1	62	13 75	60 00	40 00	86 25	103	
30	30	2	2	28	64	64	1	68	3	2	2	63	20 00	2 00	64 00	46 00	104	
6	1	7	7	11	45	45	1	46	2	1	1	49	11 00	55 46	5 00	40 55	105	
11	11	7	7	19	1	19	1	20	1	1	1	19	14 50	19 00	10 00	14 50	106	
7	2	10	10	28	2	28	4	28	4	2	2	28	8 4	28 00	5 00	32 16	108	
12	12	1	1	11	43	43	6	50	1	1	1	47	10 00	6 00	43 00	59 00	109	
23	2	25	1	24	42	42	4	49	3	2	2	44	8 75	2 35	42 00	60 60	110	
23	1	23	23	37	1	37	1	38	2	1	1	34	7 00	37 00	30 00	30 00	111	
9	1	10	10	47	1	47	2	48	2	1	1	44	10 50	1 00	47 00	42 50	112	
19	19	1	1	18	37	37	4	42	1	1	1	41	10 25	37 00	35 00	61 75	113	
12	12	12	12	50	4	50	4	55	3	3	3	52	12 48	50 00	25 00	62 52	114	
18	18	1	1	17	16	16	5	22	2	2	2	20	5 75	16 00	15 00	25 25	115	
12	1	13	2	11	35	35	8	47	1	1	1	46	8 00	35 00	15 00	42 00	116	
4	4	4	4	38	2	38	1	41	3	3	3	38	7 50	38 00	5 00	35 50	117	
15	15	1	1	14	22	22	1	24	2	2	2	22	6 50	22 00	5 00	20 50	118	
6	6	6	6	49	7	49	7	57	1	1	1	56	11 75	8 05	49 00	90 80	119	
9	9	9	9	66	1	66	1	69	2	2	2	67	17 00	1 00	66 00	50 00	120	
16	16	16	16	56	3	56	4	61	4	1	1	56	13 25	56 00	10 00	52 75	121	
15	15	2	2	13	14	14	1	16	1	1	1	15	4 00	14 00	10 00	10 00	122	
28	28	3	3	25	39	39	1	44	1	2	2	41	11 75	39 00	10 00	37 25	123	
11	11	1	1	10	51	51	3	56	2	1	1	53	13 50	51 00	10 00	47 50	124	
11	11	2	2	9	52	52	5	60	2	2	2	58	9 02	20 80	15 00	78 78	125	
3	1	4	1	3	52	52	3	57	1	1	1	55	13 00	2 00	52 00	46 00	126	
15	15	15	15	40	1	40	1	40	1	1	1	40	10 75	40 00	5 00	34 25	127	
4	1	5	5	19	1	19	1	20	1	2	2	16	19 00	19 00	19 00	19 00	128	
8	4	12	12	54	2	54	2	56	3	1	1	48	12 50	4 80	54 00	66 30	129	

NEBRASKA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 5900.

No. Mar. 31, 5899	SUSP. MASTER MASONS						MASTER MASONS						GRAND LODGE DUES, FEES, ETC.									
	Gain		Loss		No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	No. Mar. 31, 5899	Gain		Loss		No. on Rolls Mar. 31, 5900	No. Mar. 31, 5899	Amts. due Lodges on Old Accounts	Amounts due Grand Lodge on Old Accounts	Dues on Master Masons	Fees on Initiations	Amounts due Grand Lodge, Mar. 31, 5900	No. of Lodge				
	By Suspension	By Other Causes	Total	Reinstatement			By Death	By Expulsion	Total Loss	By Reising.									By Admission	Reinstatement	By Other Causes	Total	By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Other Causes	Total Loss
8					7	33	1	1			30	1	1				88 00	80 25	\$33 00	\$20 00	\$45 25	130
4	1				5	34					36	1	1	1			33	18 50	34 00	10 00	25 50	132
4					4	32					31						30	6 75	29 00	15 00	37 25	133
9					9	47					49						47	11 75	47 00		36 00	134
30	2				26	93	2				99	2					11	23 50	63 00	40 00	102 70	135
7	4				11	43	7				50	7					7	10 25	43 00	30 00	62 75	136
5					5	40					41						2	19 50	40 00	5 00	25 50	137
12					12	40					45						4	10 25	40 00	15 00	44 75	138
4					4	41					42						2	9 50	41 00		31 50	139
12					10	38					40	3					3	8 50	38 00		29 50	140
3	1				3	21					22	1					2	7 50	21 00		13 50	142
7					7	35					35	1					1	7 75	35 00		27 25	143
14					14	35					35	2					3	8 75	35 00		26 25	144
5					5	45					45	1					2	10 00	45 00	5 00	40 00	145
18	8				1	25	49	6			60	1					51	11 85	49 00	55 00	100 60	146
6	2				8	29					29						2	7 50	29 00	15 00	36 50	147
10	2				12	80	4				87	1					3	20 25	80 00	15 00	82 70	148
8	1				8	20					20	2					3	11 50	20 00		14 50	149
7	1				8	31					32						1	8 50	31 00		22 50	150
14					13	23	2				25	1					1	5 50	23 00		17 50	151
10	1				11	45					47	2					2	11 50	45 00	20 00	55 00	152
11	1				11	21					21	2					2	5 25	21 00		15 75	153
1	2				3	31	1				33	1					4	7 36	31 00	20 00	43 64	154
6					6	42	3				47						2	10 00	42 00	15 00	52 60	155
7					7	29	1				29						2	9 00	29 00	25 00	44 10	156
8	1				8	24	5				29						2	6 25	24 00	10 00	27 75	157
5	9				14	69					71	5					15	25 84	69 00		43 66	158
1					1	51	2				54	2					2	5 20	51 00		45 80	159
9					7	28	1				29	1					1	6 50	28 00	5 00	27 00	160
5					2	29					29	3					3	7 50	29 00	5 00	26 50	161
5	1				4	44	3				48						4	12 25	44 00	10 00	41 75	162
1	9				10	47	2				50	3					12	12 75	47 00	15 00	49 95	163
4					4	29	1				30						3	8 25	29 00		25 75	164
6					6	47	1				49	1					1	12 25	47 00	10 00	46 25	165
7					6	31	2				33						1	8 00	31 00	5 00	28 00	166
15					14	41	5				47						4	12 75	39 00	41 00	62 15	167
8	5				13	34	3				40	1					7	3 35	34 00	25 00	58 10	168
4					4	50	2				52	1					2	12 00	50 00	10 00	48 50	169
5					5	38	2				43	2					4	9 50	38 00		28 50	170
4	5				9	45	4				49						6	10 35	45 00	15 00	49 65	171
2					2	31	2				33	1					3	8 50	29 00	5 00	30 40	172
13					11	28	3				34	1					2	6 00	28 00	10 00	32 00	173
4					4	39	4				43	3					4	9 75	39 00	15 00	44 25	174
7	5				12	30	1				32						5	7 75	30 00		24 25	175
3	2				5	43	2				48	1					4	6 08	43 00	5 00	41 92	176
5					5	27	1				28						2	15 05	27 00	10 00	21 95	177
11					11	17	1				18	1					1	4 00	17 00		22 11	178
						37					37	2					2	9 25	37 00		27 75	179
2					2	33	4				38	1					1	7 25	33 00	20 00	45 75	180
13					11	43	6				55	1					2	12 00	43 00	35 00	66 80	181
11					11	31	3				34						3	5 75	31 00	20 00	45 25	182
7					7	69	7				81	1					1	16 25	69 00	40 00	93 00	183
7	2				10	113	7				124						3	27 50	113 00	40 00	128 40	184
8					8	46	3				49						4	11 25	46 00	15 00	51 45	185
					8	33	2				44						2	8 75	33 00	90 00	117 65	187
12	7				19	54	2				68						6	13 50	54 00	25 00	73 30	188
					3	1					57	2					9	13 00	3 00	10 00	53 80	189
3					3	17	1				18	1					1	3 60	17 00		13 40	190
10					9	32	1				35	2					4	6 30	32 00	20 00	45 70	191
11	7				16	68	4				75	3					11	17 75	68 00	35 00	85 75	192
3					3	30	2				32	1					1	7 50	30 00	5 00	27 50	193
8	1				17	28	1				31	1					2	8 50	28 00		19 50	194

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE OF

NAME OF LODGE	No. of Lodge	ENTERED APPRENTICES							FELLOW CRAFTS							
		No. Mar. 31, 1899		Gain	Loss			Total	No. Mar. 31, 1899		Gain	Loss			Total	No on Rolls Mar. 31, 1900
		By Initiation	Otherwise		By Passing Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	By Other Causes		By Passing	By Other Causes		By Raising Adv. Elsewhere	By Death	By Other Causes		
Arcana	195	4	1	4	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	
Level	196	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Morning Star	197	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Purity	198	11	2	13	1	1	4	12	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	
Gavel	199	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Blazing Star	200	1	8	4	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	
Scotts Bluff	201	5	5	8	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Golden Sheaf	202	2	2	5	2	1	2	3	2	2	4	1	1	1	3	
Roman Eagle	203	9	9	18	1	1	1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	
Plainview	204	2	7	9	1	1	7	2	1	1	8	7	7	7	1	
Golden Fleece	205	1	9	10	7	1	7	9	1	7	7	4	1	4	3	
Napthall	206	2	1	3	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	
Parlan	207	6	1	7	3	1	3	4	2	3	3	3	1	3	1	
Gauge	208	5	2	7	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Canopy	209	4	9	13	10	1	11	2	10	10	9	9	9	9	1	
East Lincoln	210	3	7	11	9	1	9	9	2	1	9	9	9	9	1	
Cement	211	2	7	9	5	1	5	4	1	5	6	3	3	3	3	
Compass and Square	212	4	1	4	1	1	1	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	
Square and Compass	213	3	1	5	3	1	3	2	1	3	4	4	4	4	1	
Plumbline	214	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	
Occidental	215	9	1	9	8	1	8	1	8	8	7	7	7	7	1	
Palisade	216	5	1	6	1	1	1	5	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	
Wanneta	217	1	7	8	7	1	7	1	1	7	8	8	8	8	1	
Bloomfield	218	2	14	17	16	1	16	1	2	16	18	11	1	12	6	
Relief	219	1	3	4	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Magnolia	220	1	7	8	3	1	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	
Wood Lake	221	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Landmark	222	1	3	4	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	
Eminence	223	3	6	9	4	1	4	5	1	4	5	4	4	4	1	
Silver Cord	224	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Cable	225	5	3	8	6	1	6	2	1	6	7	7	7	7	1	
Grace	226	1	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	4	6	5	5	5	1	
North Star	227	1	5	5	4	1	4	1	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	
Bartley	228	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	6	2	8	8	8	8	1	
Comet	229	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	
Delta	230	5	2	7	4	1	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	
Mt. Herman	231	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
John S. Bowen	232	1	2	3	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	
Gilead	233	7	2	9	1	1	1	8	3	1	4	3	3	3	1	
Zion	234	1	3	4	3	1	3	1	3	3	6	5	5	5	1	
Fraternity	235	3	3	6	3	1	3	3	3	3	6	5	5	5	1	
Golden Rule	236	3	1	4	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Cubit	237	1	5	6	5	1	5	1	5	6	6	4	4	4	2	
Ithmar	238	5	2	7	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Friendship	239	2	4	6	4	1	4	2	1	4	5	5	5	5	1	
Plot	240	4	1	4	3	1	3	1	1	3	4	3	3	3	1	
George Armstrong	241	2	1	3	3	1	3	1	3	4	4	4	4	4	1	
Orion	242	5	5	5	4	1	4	1	2	4	6	4	4	4	2	
Tyrian	243	1	3	4	4	1	4	1	4	5	5	5	5	5	1	
Sincerity	244	1	7	8	6	1	6	2	6	2	8	8	8	8	1	
Extinct lodges	34	6	40	2	2	2	88	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	
Nehawka	U D	7	7	7	7	1	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	1	
Corner Stone	U D	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	
Hampton	U D	18	18	18	18	1	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	1	
Laurel	U D	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Totals	1413	756	8217	6692	518	8713	1463	429	690	2112	1682	33	3	2690	431	

NEBRASKA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 5900.

SUSP. MASTER MASONS						MASTER MASONS						GRAND LODGE DUES, FEES, ETC.																			
No. Mar. 31, 5899	Gain		Total	Loss		No. Mar. 31, 5900	No. Mar. 31, 5899	Gain		Loss		Total	No. Mar. 31, 5900	Amts. due Lodges on Old Accounts	Amts. due Grand Lodge on Old Accounts	Dues on Master Masons	Fees on Initiations	Amounts due Grand Lodge, Mar. 31, 5900	No. of Lodge												
	By Suspension	By Other Causes		Reinstatement By Death	By Expulsion			Total Loss	By Raising	By Admission	Reinstatement By Other Causes									By Demission	By Death	By Suspension	By Expulsion	By Other Causes	Total Loss						
2			2			2	43	1				44	1	1	43	\$10 75		\$43 00		\$37 25	195										
3			3			3	29	3				32	1	2	29	7 50		29 00		26 50	196										
6			6	1		5	33		1			34	1	1	33	8 00		33 00		25 00	197										
1			1			1	41					41			46	10 50		44 00	10 00	43 50	198										
6			6	1		5	18		1			19	3		16	4 50		18 00		13 50	199										
2	1		3			3	48	1	3			52			50	12 25		48 00	15 00	50 75	200										
2			2			2	41					41			42	11 00	80 50	41 00	15 00	45 50	201										
6	2		8			8	49	1				50			47	12 75		49 00	15 00	51 25	202										
8			8			8	37		1			38	2		40	9 50		37 00	45 00	72 50	203										
2			2			2	35					35			43	8 00	1 00	35 00	35 00	63 00	204										
3			3			3	22	4	1			27	1		1	5 75		22 00	45 00	61 25	205										
5			5			5	36					36		1	1	9 50	3 20	36 00	5 00	34 70	206										
4			4	1		3	32	3	2	1		38	3		1	8 00		32 00	5 00	29 00	207										
2	2		4			4	37	1				38	1	2	3	5 40		37 00	10 00	41 00	208										
3			3	1		2	28	9	2	1		40	1		1	17 00	10 20	28 00	45 00	66 20	209										
6	1		7			7	38	9				47	1	1	1	8 00		38 00	35 00	65 50	210										
2			2			2	51	3	1			55	3		2	11 00	5 80	51 00	35 00	80 80	211										
2			2			2	37	1				38	2		3	6 25		27 00		20 75	212										
7	1		8	1		7	24	4	2			29	2		1	7 25		24 00	5 00	21 75	213										
1			1			1	27	2				29			1	8 00		27 00	5 00	24 00	214										
5	2		7			7	38	7				45		2	2	10 75		38 00	45 00	72 25	215										
3	3		6	1		5	26	1	1			28	1	2	3	6 25		26 00	5 00	24 75	216										
2			2			2	34	8				42	1	1	1	7 75	3 90	34 00	35 00	65 15	217										
1			1			1	47	11	3			61	1		1	9 75	5 80	47 00	70 00	113 05	218										
							28		1			29	1		1	7 00	1 20	28 00	15 00	37 20	219										
							50	3				53	1		1	21 75	1 00	50 00	35 00	64 25	220										
							21					21			1	5 25	50	21 00	5 00	21 25	221										
1			1			1	33					33			35	7 50	17 70	33 00	15 00	58 20	222										
8	1		9	1		8	32	4	1			37	1		1	7 75	2 90	32 00	30 00	57 15	223										
							24	1	2	1		28	1	1	1	6 00		24 00		18 00	224										
1			1			1	26	7				33			33	5 25		26 00	15 00	35 75	225										
1			1	1		1	26	5	2			33			33	7 25	50	26 00	10 00	29 25	226										
				4		4	46	3	1			50	2	1	4	11 77		46 00	25 00	59 25	227										
							20	8				28			28	5 25	2 40	20 00		17 15	228										
							27	1				28			28	5 25	50	27 00	15 00	37 25	229										
							21	3				24	1		1	5 77	2 40	21 00	10 00	27 65	230										
1			1			1	28					28			28	7 00		28 00		21 00	231										
							33	2				35			35	7 00		33 00	10 00	36 00	232										
							30	3	3			36			1	7 25	40	30 00	10 00	33 15	233										
							21	5				26	1		1	13 50	60	21 00	15 00	23 10	234										
							22	5				27			27	4 75		22 00	15 00	32 25	235										
							17	1				18	1		1	4 00		17 00	5 00	18 00	236										
							14	4				18	1	1	2	3 50	2 40	14 00	25 00	37 90	237										
							22					21			1	5 25	4 05	22 00	10 00	30 80	238										
							23	5				28	2		2	5 25	4 80	23 00	20 00	42 55	239										
							28	4				32	1		1	6 25		28 00	20 00	41 75	240										
							25	4	2			31			31	4 77	23 40	25 00	5 00	48 65	241										
							19	4	2			25	1		1	24		19 00	25 00	44 80	242										
							5	19				21			1	23			15 00	15 00	243										
							8	6	12			26	1		1	25		2 90	35 00	37 90	244										
43	5		48			48	117	11				128	6		5	123															
							6					6			6				35 00	35 00	U D										
							2					2			2				15 00	15 00	U D										
							18					18			18				90 00	90 00	U D										
							1					1			1				10 00	10 00	U D										
3023	243	83	259	144	34	1179	3090	11934	685	295	142	90	13086	827	167	221	4	67	25	12361	83046	22	456	21	11817	00	8750	00	12976	99

The by-laws of McCook Lodge No. 135 were presented and referred to the Committee on By-laws of Chartered Lodges.

A proposition to print twenty-five blank charters at a cost of forty-five dollars was presented by the Grand Secretary and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Grand Lodge was now called from labor to refreshment until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, June 7, 5900.

The Grand Lodge was opened with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, V. : W. : Brother John F. Poucher, and resumed labor under direction of M. : W. : William W. Keysor, with officers and members as on the preceding day.

Brother John H. Chambers, 222, submitted a partial report of the Committee on Credentials; the report as finally adopted is as follows:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Your Committee on Credentials reports that all Nebraska lodges are represented with the exception of Nos. 30, 45, 52, 57, 61, 62, 66, 92, 108, 120, 122, 127, 145, 149, 154, 163, 164, 175, 190, 191, 214, 232, and 238.

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. : W. : WILLIAM W. KEYSOR.....	Grand Master.
R. : W. : ALBERT W. CRITES.....	Deputy Grand Master.
R. : W. : ROBERT E. EVANS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
R. : W. : NATHANIEL M. AYERS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
.....	Grand Treasurer.
R. : W. : FRANCIS E. WHITE.....	Grand Secretary.
V. : W. : JOHN F. POUCHER.....	Grand Chaplain.
W. : WALTER W. WELLS.....	Grand Orator
M. : W. : JAMES A. TULLEYS, P. : G. : M. :	Grand Custodian.
W. : FRANK E. BULLARD.....	Grand Marshal.
W. : DAVID M. McELHINNEY.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. : JAMES DINSMORE.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
BRO. : JACOB KING.....	Grand Tiler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Past Grand Masters: M. : W. : Brothers Daniel H. Wheeler, Harry P. Deuel, Martin Dunham, George W. Lininger, Edward K. Valentine, Rolland H. Oakley, George H. Thummel, James A. Tulleys, Edwin F. Warren, Manoah B. Reese, Charles K. Coutant, George B. France, John J. Mercer, Robert E. French, Samuel P. Davidson, James P. A. Black, John A. Ehrhardt, Henry H. Wilson, Charles J. Phelps, John B. Dinsmore, Frank H. Young; Past Deputy Grand Masters R. : W. : Brothers Henry Brown and Elias H. Clark.

REPRESENTATIVES.

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Nebraska, No. 1	William S. Heller		Fred J. Sackett.
Western Star, " 2	*George M. Mordock		
Capitol, " 3	Charles A. Dunham	John H. Chapman	
Nemaha Valley " 4	Charles H. Gilmore		
Omadi, " 5	*Martin Lockwood		Franklin F. Haase.
Plattsmouth, " 6		Adam Kurtz	
Falls City, " 9	Frank C. Wisler		
Solomon, " 10	Elias H. Clark	Thomas A. Reed	Anton Michaelson.
Cobvert, " 11	James W. Maynard	J. Elmer Anderson	Luther B. Hoyt.
Nebraska City, " 12	John M. Willman		
Orient, " 13	*George N. Ocamb		
Peru, " 14	J. Albert Haas		
Fremont, " 15	Mathew A. Priestley		
Tecumseh, " 17	*Charles A. Pierce	*Jacob S. Dew	*Austin W. Buffum.
Lincoln, " 19		Alexander E. Porter	*Lorenzo D. Woodruff.
Washington, " 21	Will H. H. Davis	William K. Fowler	
Pawnee, " 23		James N. Stevens	
Saint Johns, " 25	John M. Neely	Charles S. Lobingier	Carl E. Herring.
Beatrice, " 26	Samuel A. Gililand		
Jordan, " 27	*Ludwig Rosenthal		
Hope, " 29	Right Hasterman		
Tekamah, " 31	Frank E. Ward	*James R. Sutherland	*Melville R. Hopewell.
Platte Valley, " 32	John Sorenson		
Ashlar, " 33	Samuel Hexter		
Acacia, " 34	Walter W. Wells	*Henry C. Wright	*James A. Grimison.
Fairbury, " 35	Lewis E. Shelley	Edward L. Cline	Charles A. Gregory.
Lone Tree, " 36	Newton R. Persinger		
Crete, " 37	Seward L. Mains	Melville F. Fleming	Nimrod W. Norris.
Oliver, " 38	John McLain		
Papillion, " 39	Fred D. Rhode		
Humboldt, " 40	*Charles E. Nims	Charles E. Nims	
Northern Light " 41	George A. Eberly		
Juniata, " 42	William G. Saddler	*Enos J. Hanchett	
Hebron, " 43	James Dinsmore		
Harvard, " 44	*Ezra Brown		
Rob Morris, " 46		Gilbert E. Haase	
Fairmont, " 48	Andrew F. Ashley		
Evening Star, " 49	*John H. Tower		
Hastings, " 50	*John J. Buchanan		
Fidelity, " 51	William F. Downing		
Charity, " 53	D. Madison Finch		
Lancaster, " 54	*John S. Bishop		Frank D. McClusky.
Mosaic, " 55	William H. Rish		*Silas G. Dean.
York, " 56	Almon J. Ryan		
Lebanon, " 58	Camden J. Garlow	Gustav A. Schroeder	Louis G. Zuenicker.
Wahoo, " 59	Charles Perky		
Melrose, " 60	Webster Josselyn		
Riverton, " 63	Eugene Hunter		
Blue Valley, " 64	Thomas J. Taylor		
Osceola, " 65		Lee K. McGaw	
Edgar, " 67	Joseph C. Gardner		
Aurora, " 68	Charles G. Skinner	Delevan Bates	*Henry B. Hart.
Sterling, " 70	Francis O. Dort	James W. Turner	
Trowel, " 71	*Nelson B. Jackson		
Hoop-er, " 72	Jerry Denslow	*Edward W. Renkin	
Friend, " 71		Alexander McFarlane	
Alexandria, " 74	George H. Danforth		
Frank Welch, " 75	Charles C. Callahan		
Joppa, " 76	Daniel H. Hallock		
Nelson, " 77	Henry E. Goodrich		
Albion, " 78	Paul A. Krause		
Geneva, " 79	Mark Butler		
Composite, " 81	Lucius A. Warren		
St. Paul, " 82	*George E. Bartholomew	James Wilhelmson	
Corinthian, " 83	*Cyrus E. Hunter		
Fairfield, " 84	*Melvin D. Gates		
Tyre, " 85	John M. Falwell		
Doniphan, " 86	*Albert B. Smith		
Ionic, " 87	*Solomon Draper		
Star, " 88	Henry G. Langley		

*Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES—CONTINUED.

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Cedar River, No. 89	Simon E. Huse.....		
Elk Creek, " 90	Thomas B. Rogers...		
Oakland, " 91	*Victor L. Fried.....		
Beaver City, " 93	John T. McClure.....	*Levi H. Corbin.....	
Bennett, " 94	*William Nelson.....		
Garfield, " 95	James C. Harnish.....		
Utica, " 96	Daniel J. Hartrum.....		
Euclid, " 97		James W. Brooks.....	Morris D. Pollard.....
Republican, " 98	Clarence A. Luce.....		
Shelton, " 99	Henry H. Stedman.....		
Crelighton, " 100			*Harry A. Cheney.....
Ponca, " 101	Robert H. Pomeroy.....	*Thomas J. Sheibley.....	
Waterloo, " 102	George Johnson.....	Charles Witte.....	
Ord, " 103	Labon F. Rector.....	W. James Milford.....	
Wymore, " 104	*Jacob B. Lininger.....		
Stella, " 105	*Ralph A. Clark.....		
Porter, " 106	*Joseph S. Pedler.....		
Steele City, " 107	*John R. Zweifel.....		
Arapahoe, " 109		Jerome G. Pace.....	
Pomegranate, " 110	Omer D. Harford.....		
DeWitt, " 111	*Charles H. Culdice.....		
Springfield, " 112	James B. Nicholson, Jr.	Frederick E. Beal.....	John E. Liming.....
Globe, " 113	Peter Rubendall.....		
Wisner, " 114			Milton R. Snodgrass.....
Brainard, " 115	John T. McKnight.....	*Arthur L. Land.....	
Harlan, " 116	James Pepperl.....		
Hardy, " 117	James H. Fair.....		
Doric, " 118	J. Frank Longanecker.....		
North Bend, " 119	Michael Dowling.....		Clarence H. Walroth.....
Superior, " 121	William H. Dean.....		
Indianola, " 123	*Samuel R. Smith.....		
Auburn, " 124	Wm. Watson, Jr.....		
Mount Nebo, " 125	*Henry Stevens.....		
Stromsburg, " 126	Owen W. Barnes.....		
Guide Rock, " 128	Ira A. Pace.....		
Blue Hill, " 129	*Robert A. Simpson.....		
Tuscan, " 130	*George H. Miller.....		
Scribner, " 132			James M. Beaver.....
Elm Creek, " 133	Charles A. Willis.....		
Solar, " 134	Mads M. Kokjer.....		
McCook, " 135	Hugh W. Cole.....		
Long Pine, " 136	John S. Davissou.....		
Upright, " 137		David J. Reynlsh.....	
Rawalt, " 138	Neal A. Pettygrove.....		
Clay Centre, " 139	Jacob H. Eller.....		
Western, " 140	Peter Waldorf.....		
Anchor, " 142	Nathaniel K. Redlon.....		
Crescent, " 143	Frank D. Burgess.....		Frank C. Compton.....
Kenesaw, " 144	*Will an E. Latta.....		William E. Latta.....
Jachin, " 146	*Elias W. Beyhtol.....		
Siloam, " 147	James A. Rice.....		
Em't Crawford, " 148	James R. Dean.....	Augustin R. Humphrey.....	
Cambridge, " 150	Geo. A. Remington.....		
Square, " 151		William T. Craven.....	
Parallel, " 152	Harley E. Bowhay.....	*John W. Allen.....	
Evergreen, " 153	*Charles Gates.....		
Hartington, " 155	Zwingle M. Baird.....		
Pythagoras, " 156		J. Newton Trommers.....	hausser.....
Valley, " 157	Wendell P. Pierce.....		
Samaritan, " 158	Benjamin F. Pitman.....		*Allen R. Julian.....
Ozallala, " 159	Malcolm MacLean.....		
Zeredatha, " 160	*Benjamin F. Walker.....		
Mount Zion, " 161		Henry Burritt.....	
Trestle Board, " 162	*Benjamin H. Bailey.....	Herman A. Hauptman.....	
Barneston, " 165	Seth S. Ratliff.....		
Mystic Tie, " 166	C. Edwin Burnham.....		
Elwood, " 167	Burton L. Chambers.....		
Curtis, " 168	Charles B. Compton.....		
Amity, " 169	Joseph Bell.....		
Mason City, " 170		*A. Eds on Robertson.....	*Judson C. Porter.....

* Proxy.

REPRESENTATIVES—CONCLUDED.

LODGE	MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN
Merna, No. 171	John J. Stanford	Franklin Jacquot	
Grafton, " 172	William B. Miller	Henry L. Jones	
Robert Burns, " 173	*Henry L. Jones		
Culber son, " 174	Francis M. Pfrimmer		
Gladstone, " 176	Charles R. Hare		
Hay Springs, " 177	Irwin S. Knight		
Hesperia, " 178		Joseph W. Ireland	
Prudence, " 179			Smith Rodman.
Justice, " 180		Andrew B. Starkey	
Faith, " 181	William H. Fanning		
Incense, " 182	*Samuel J. Speldo		
Alliance, " 183	*Leon H. Mosher	Leon H. Mosher	
Bee Hive, " 184	Burton E. Wilcox		John C. Buchanan.
Boaz, " 185	*Solomon W. Stulgebo		
Israel, " 187	Robert L. Downing		
Meridian, " 188	*Clark K. Brown		Clark K. Brown.
Granite, " 189	James H. Davis	Leroy J. Babcock	Christopher Putnam.
Minnekadusa, " 192	*Thomas C. Hornby		
Signet, " 193	Charles E. Beaty		
Highland, " 194	Omer L. Cox		
Arcana, " 195	*Samuel S. Joice		
Level, " 196		Luke H. Cheney	
Morning Star, " 197	Robert S. Hirsch		
Purity, " 198	Harry McClelland		
Gavel, " 199	*James H. Bryant		
Blazing Star, " 200			James R. Alderman.
Scotts Bluff, " 201	Oscar W. Gardner		
Golden Sheaf, " 202	*James L. Stewart		
Roman Eagle, " 203	*Merton N. Snyder		
Plainview, " 204	George H. Hecht		
GoldenFleece, " 205	Frederick Sudman		
Naphthali, " 206	Thomas Nelson		
Parian, " 207	Henry H. Andrews	*H. Elmer Doolittle	*Frank L. Haycock.
Gauge, " 208	*Charles L. Cooper		
Canopy, " 209	Henry W. Vick		William D. Dernier.
East Lincoln, " 210	*Frank C. Richards		
Cement, " 211	Joseph P. Ruddle		
Comp. & Square, " 212	Marcus E. Bush		
Square & Comp, " 213	*Erie W. Northrop		
Ocidental, " 215		Frank B. Knapp	
Palisade, " 216	*William R. Cummins		
Wauneta, " 217		Anstin C. Pence	
Bloomfield, " 218	Abram L. Jones	*William D. Funk	*Gus E. Swanson.
Relief, " 219		*William C. Mitchell	Frank H. Peck.
Magnolia, " 220	Frank Coye		
Woodlake, " 221	James M. Hanna		
Landmark, " 222	John H. Chambers	*Melville S. Wilcox	
Eminence, " 223	John W. Farrand		
Silver Cord, " 224	Walter H. Williams	Wiley W. Parsons	
Cable, " 225	John Finch	Richard E. Allen	
Grace, " 226	Captain E. Marsfeller	Winfield S. Marr	
North Star, " 227	Clark W. Beacher		
Bartley, " 228	William F. Miller		
Comet, " 229	*Charles A. Brown	Charles A. Brown	
Delta, " 230	*Alfred Powell, Sr	Alfred Powell, Sr.	
Mt. Hermon, " 231	Enos M. Shaw		
Gilead, " 233	William D. Spicknall		
Zion, " 234	*William H. Nickles		
Fraternity, " 235	*John Elliott		
Golden Rule, " 236	Charles A. Coffin	William J. Armour	
Cubit, " 237	William Whalen	Allen H. Hostetter	*Charles Marshall.
Friendship, " 239	William Riels		
Pilot, " 240	Lemuel C. Coffin		
George Arm- strong, " 241	John Driscoll		
Orion, " 242	William H. Bartz		
Tyrian, " 243	Addison C. Maynard		
Sincerity " 244	*Frank E. Martin		

*Proxy.

Your committee also reports the presence of representatives near the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, from the following Grand Lodges: California, David M. McElhinney, 50; Colorado, Charles J. Phelps, 34; Connecticut, Samuel P. Davidson, 17; England, George W. Lining, 3; Georgia, Edwin F. Warren, 2; Idaho, James A. Tulleys, 53; Illinois, George H. Thummel, 33; Indiana, Harry P. Deuel, 11; Ireland, William Cleburne, 3; Kansas, James P. A. Black, 76; Louisiana, Albert W. Crites, 158; Manitoba, Job J. King, 95; Michigan, Daniel H. Wheeler, 1; Minnesota, William W. Keysor, 25; Missouri, George B. France, 56; Montana, John J. Mercer, 4; Nevada, John B. Dinsmore, 49; New York, Edward K. Valentine, 27; North Carolina, Melville R. Hopewell, 31; North Dakota, John A. Ehrhardt, 41; Nova Scotia, Henry H. Wilson, 19; Oregon, Henry Brown, 3; South Carolina, Frank E. Bullard, 32; South Dakota, Manoah B. Reese, 59; Tennessee, Francis E. White, 6; Texas, Martin Dunham, 3; Utah, Robert E. French, 46; Vermont, Frank H. Young, 207; Virginia, John S. Davisson, 136; Wisconsin, Robert E. Evans, 5; Wyoming, Rolland H. Oakley, 19.

The following standing committees having been appointed by the Grand Master under circular issued May 19th, 1900, were now called and vacancies therein filled:

Visiting Brethren—Bros.: Charles A. Dunham, 3; William S. Heller, 1; Burton E. Wilcox, 184; Mathew A. Priestly, 15; Henry G. Langley, 88.

Relief—Bros.: Frank E. Ward, 31; James H. Fair, 117; Hugh W. Cole, 135; Jacob H. Eller, 139; John N. Neely, 25.

Returns—Bros.: John J. Mercer, 4; William H. Pruner, 232; Detrich W. Schminke, 2; Robert H. Harris, 87; Fred W. VanWie, 210.

Credentials—Bros.: John H. Chambers, 222; Alexander E. Porter, 19; Samuel H. Ladd, 195; William F. Downing, 51; Samuel G. Dean, 55

Grievances—Bros.: Robert E. French, 46; Samuel A. Gilliland, 26; Peter Waldorf, 140; James W. Maynard, 11; Lemuel C. Coffin, 240.

By-Laws of Chartered Lodges—Bros.: Frank C. Wiser, 9; William H. Fanning, 181; Will H. H. Davis, 21; Charles G. Skinner, 68; Camden J. Garlow, 58.

Accounts—Bros.: John S. Davisson, 136; Almon J. Ryan, 56; Webster Josselyn, 60; James Pepperl; Malcolm MacLean, 159.

Unfinished Business—Bros.: Charles C. Callahan, 75; Mark Butler, 79; Alexander Ross, 132; Edwin Metcalf, 182; Neal A. Pettygrove, 138.

Doings of Grand Officers—Bros.: John T. McClure, 93; Addison C. Maynard, 243; Frank Coye, 220; James L. Stewart, 202; Henry H. Stedman, 99.

Charters and Dispensations—Bros.: Robert L. Downing, 187; Newton R. Persinger, 36; Lewis E. Shelley, 35; Wendell P. Pierce, 157; Robert H. Pomeroy, 101.

Pay-Roll—Bros.: Charles Perky, 59; Frank D. Burgess, 143; Benjamin F. Pitman, 158; C. Edwin Burnham, 166; William H. Rish, 55.

Grand Lodge Office—Bros.: Omer L. Cox, 194; John M. Bever, 23; James H. Davis, 189; Elias H. Clark, 10; Omer D. Harford, 110.

Ways and Means—Bros.: Michael Dowling, 119; Zwingle M. Baird, 155; Thomas J. Taylor, 64; William H. Dean, 121; John Driscoll, 241.

Jurisprudence—The Past Grand Masters present, with the junior as chairman.

Fraternal Dead—Bros.: John F. Poucher, 222; Edward K. Valentine, 27; George H. Thummel, 33; Robert E. French, 46; George W. Lininger, 3.

The Worshipful Master of Ashlar Lodge No. 33 presented the following amendment to the constitution, signed by six members, which, under the law lies over for one year:

Be it Resolved, That Article Three of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska, be amended as follows: "Article III. The Grand Lodge shall hold a regular communication biennially at such time and in such place as it may designate and all the officers of said Grand Lodge shall hold their offices for a period of two years, or until their successors are elected and installed, and that all Grand Lodge dues hereafter collected and not expended for the holding of said biennial communication, shall be appropriated and used for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, and maintaining a Masonic Home.

Past Grand Master John B. Dinsmore addressed the Grand Lodge on behalf of the Nebraska Veteran Freemasons, inviting those who were eligible to membership to send in their applications to the Secretary.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Cuba was presented and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

An account for the premium on the Grand Secretary's bond was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Brother John T. McClure, 93, for the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, presented the following report and the same was adopted:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge:

Your committee, to whom has been referred the doings of the grand officers, has examined the address of the M.:W.:Grand Master and the reports of the other grand officers, and respectfully reports—

1. That portion of the Grand Master's address relating to representatives, the action of the M.:W.:Grand Master relating to the trustees of the Orphans Educational Fund, and his recommendations in regard to the same, his actions in regard to Summit Lodge No. 141, Lebanon Lodge No. 58, Landmark Lodge No. 222; also his special dispensations, be approved.

2. That portion of the Grand Master's address referring to the fraternal dead, be referred to a special committee of five, to be appointed by the M.:W.:Grand Master.

3. So much of the address as relates to the Grand Lodges of Washington and Mexico, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

4. That portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the Grand Treasurer, be referred to the Committee on Accounts.

5. That portion of the address relating to Jasper Lodge No. 122 and lodges under dispensations, be referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

6. That portion of the address which relates to Zion Lodge No. 234 and Eminence Lodge No. 223, together with the Grand Master's action in regard to Zeredatha Lodge No. 160, be referred to the Committee on Grievances.

7. That portion of the address relating to decisions and the Grand Master's recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

8. That portion of the address relating to by-laws, be referred to the Committee on By-laws of Chartered Lodges.

9. That portion of the address relating to bonds and recommendation No. 4, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

10. That the Grand Treasurer's report be referred to the Committee on Accounts.

11. That the Grand Secretary's report, except the portion relating to the Relief Fund, be referred to the Committee on Accounts.

12. That the part of the Grand Secretary's report which relates to the Relief Fund, be referred to the Committee on Relief.

13. That the Grand Custodian's report be approved.

Past Grand Master John J. Mercer, for the Committee on Returns, presented the report of the committee as printed, and on motion, it was adopted.

On motion the election of officers was made the special order for three P. M. to-day.

Brother Walter W. Wells, 34, now delivered the following oration, and, on motion, he was requested to furnish a copy for publication with the proceedings:

There is no religion higher than Truth whereby freedom and restoration are vouchsafed a needy humanity.

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:

Upon an occasion like this, your orator is expected to say something for your edification and instruction. Something that will arouse and stimulate, or, even possibly, create a conviction which shall lead to a practical sense of duty.

Duty is the essence of all life, and in the upper form thereof it becomes the continual performance of the correct, conscientious, affirmative answer, deliberately obtained, to the question, is it right?

In the lower order of creation it is taught by instinct, but, in the higher,

by a correct judgment reached through a trained reason, and by a strong will co-operating with an enlightened conscience, which is man's moral guide, that celestial spark which will be to him a light that will lead him thro' the mists and perplexities of this life to that goal of rest, that fruition of his earthly hopes and aspirations, just as the pillar of fire led God's ancient people thro' the wilderness, until, Jordan crossed, they entered into the possession of their long-promised inheritance.

Please bear with me, brethren, in the presentation and discussion of a cardinal principle upon which all our structural work as true men and masons must be founded, and let me be permitted to do so in words that are plain but, I trust, none the less forceful, in a persuasive rather than a polemic sense.

Truly the highest achievements to be attained by a speaker as the champion of a most worthy cause consist not in bursts of eloquence and oratory which fire man's emotional nature, and, like the flash of a meteor in the evening sky, illumine but for a moment only, leaving increased darkness in its train, but rather in that simplicity and clearness of utterance which awakens the conscience and strengthens the conviction, thereby urging on the hearer to the performance of righteous acts which shall lead to the establishment of correct habits, thus building upon the solid foundation of eternal Truth a noble character which will inevitably result in a destiny that will bring to its possessor a triumphal crown of victory, smoothing down, as naught else can, his dying pillow, robbing death of its sting and the grave of its victory, and bestowing upon him that eternal crown of glory that fadeth not away.

When the duty of acceptably presenting the claims for the necessity of the accomplishment of so much that is not only desirable but absolutely essential to the present as well as the future well-being of every human creature, is made dependent upon the efforts of a select individual, the burden of responsibility must lie heavy upon the heart of him who is thus honored by his fellow men, and the weakness of frail humanity manifests itself in an earnest invocation of the gracious favor of the Muse of thought and diction for inspiration to aid and direct in presenting acceptably the subject matter for consideration so that every Mason shall be induced to lay hold with renewed vigor upon everything stored in our cosmopolitan and impregnable citadel of Masonry, which can be of any help or assistance to aid him in his glorious undertaking, and which, if rightly understood, and unceasingly practiced will make him true to his obligation, true to his brethren, his family, his God, his country and himself. This will cause every such true Mason to become a powerful instrument for good both to himself and others, and to bring lasting renown upon that grand and potent aggregation of Beauty and Goodness whose foundation is Truth, whose cement is Brotherly Love, and whose finishing cap-stone is Relief.

Think of the immense importance of an Order so wide spread, so international! The inventive wit of man has devised nothing that can be compared with it!

The good that may be accomplished through it for the elevation of man-

kind and the promotion of human brotherhood are only measured by the fidelity of its members to rise to the full height of their great possibilities. How earnestly then should each one strive to illustrate the principals of its constitution, and practically demonstrate the love, loyalty, and self-sacrifice that permeate the teachings of all its rites and ceremonies! The discordant world needs something like this which shall harmonize and bind together men of warring races, opposing interests, and adverse creeds; something that thinketh no evil, but breathes into all its speech a fraternal spirit, and that in all its life will live it.

May we not fail, my brethren, ever to aspire after the reality of this high aim in all we are and do, and never fall below it.

In such a high, noble, and heroic conception and illustration of Freemasonry only lies its glory.

If sometimes we have fallen below it, if we have been satisfied hitherto with those feature of the Order which emphasize its social or mutually beneficial character, its friendly, convivial or self-protective aims, let us make this near approach to the dawn of a new century an occasion for rising to this higher conception of its purpose, and for striving after a better realization of its loftier aspirations.

As it stands supremely for human brotherhood, let us strive to make that a true and universal brotherhood.

So, too, as it stands for loyalty to our free country, and the priceless legacy of our free institutions, let us jealously guard and defend them in the true spirit of freedom.

Let us not as Freemasons ever dishonorably bend the knee to any foreign potentate, civil or ecclesiastical, or yield allegiance, temporal or spiritual, to any alien sovereignty; but always stand fast in that liberty wherewith the Truth and our fathers in their adherence thereto alone hath made us free.

Upon the very threshold of his entrance into Masonry the Novitiate is impressively taught by the most beautiful symbolism and veiled allegory, strengthened and supported by all that is good both in precept and admonition, that he must make Truth, being one of the principal tenents of our Order, the chief and only corner-stone upon which to erect his moral and spiritual superstructure both for time and for eternity.

He is still further cautioned to discern with careful discrimination, and not to commit the fatal error of certain former builders whose rejected stone became the head of the corner.

To be of unerring assistance to him while groping in the blindness and darkness of ignorance for the glorious brightness of that true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world, and for a knowledge of the Truth as it is in Him, the Bible is given to the Entered Apprentice to be a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his path.

By the aid of its light, he is urged to follow the leadings of the attributes of the Truth as avenues, using as he journeys and not simply admiring, for thus only will he most surely arrive at an experimental knowledge of Truth itself.

Every Mason, without which his masonry is at best but embryonic,

accepts this sacred trust and acknowledges it to be his Great Light for all time, giving a most solemn token of his sincerity of purpose and intended fidelity to its precepts, which must be more sacredly kept than was that sworn fealty of a faithless one of old who sealed his infidelity and betrayal with a kiss.

Surely no modern Neophite would care to invite the just and awful retribution visited upon this ancient traitor and become like him a son of perdition as a reward for his treachery.

Thus we see that all who are brought to light in Masonry are trained very carefully to aspire after and seize upon the three great tenets of our beloved Order, which are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and he is made to know that the real, practical essence, aim, and end of the whole system of moral instruction contained therein begins, continues, and ends in a teaching which clusters around the right conception of Truth, from which, being accepted and practically demonstrated, follows the manifested operations of Brotherly Love and Relief as naturally as fruit succeeds the blossom.

How obvious then must be to all the grave necessity for a right understanding and clear discernment of Truth.

Far back, in ages remote and closely allied to the advent of time, when "the morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy," Truth, radiant pearl of greatest price in all the galaxy of benign graces, so permeated with the attributes of her great Author and Founder as to be merged into and lost in Divinity itself, sat enthroned in regal splendor, surrounded and implicitly obeyed by all things that were then in existence, and which had been created and designed by omnipotence to form a prospective universe in which the same harmony that then existed should prevail throughout the endless future ages.

This was the manifestation of the Word of Truth in the beginning creating all things, and without whom nothing was made that was made. The same which was in the beginning with God and which was God. Against whom the gates of hell should not prevail, though flung wide ajar to pour forth all of Error's artillery of sin, deceit, and defilement to effect a downfall, and the usurpation of His throne.

But, alas! for the subjects of the throne endowed with freedom of will to yield, but yet vouchsafed the strength, if sought and used, to resist the darts of the enemy, it remained for them to suffer ignominious defeat, and cause the comely face of Truth, man in God the Truth's image, to become marred by the ugly trail of sin as a result of his disobedience through the exercise of his free-will.

For man was given a free-will, by which, if rightly used for good works, and the maintenance of a glorious warfare against sin, the world, and the Devil, being clad in the armour of light, he could defeat and route the enemy, making of this earth a heaven; but, neglected or abused, all is changed into a veritable hell, and the powers of darkness prevail against him, and he forfeits his citizenship in the realm of Light and Truth, becoming alienated from his king.

This estrangement between the God of Truth and His subjects could

only be reconciled and complete harmony restored by the King's own intervention and conquest of sin and its author together with death and destruction, resultant upon the fall of man.

Will He do it? Look again!

Anon we see the manifestation of Truth again in the world which He had created pure and holy, now reconciling that world, rife with evil and discordant through error, unto Himself, to the end that all that believe on Him might not perish, but have everlasting life, and that, too, more abundantly.

Hark! Hear His pleading cry, "Every one that is of the Truth heareth my voice," then note the answer that is begotten of ignorance through the depravity of sin: "What is Truth?"

Nineteen hundred years ago this question was asked by one who was confronted with the Word of Truth Incarnate. This bold question did not wait for an answer lest peradventure through its definition he himself might suffer condemnation. Since then, echoing and re-echoing down through the winding corridors of time, this momentous question has been reiterated by the people of each succeeding generation with varying degrees of honesty of purpose in asking it, until even now in our day this is the all important question, and upon its appropriate answer and the just appreciation thereof depend alike our present and future weal or woe.

Many, like Pilate, ask the question, but shun the answer.

Many ask in derision and agnosticism and say there is no Truth that can be found, known, and followed. Alas, for the sad, wailing cry of such shipwrecked mariners!

Others still, declare that the Lord is the God of Truth and thus perforce is Truth itself.

They ask for a revelation of Himself, and, when the answer comes, they gladly receive it, acting upon it, and following it, they seek and find the object of their quest.

Environment and association make men like their surroundings. Lovers and admirers of Truth seek and find the Truth, become His devotees and profit thereby, for supreme moral excellence alone brings true greatness.

There is, properly speaking, a triune of Truth as evidenced in the natural, the moral, and the spiritual realms.

These all blend together into one complete and harmonious Truth which the Incarnate Word of God has declared Himself to be.

That *Truth* is mighty and must prevail thus becomes an axiom. It makes no difference in the existence and efficacy of Truth, what people believe in regard to it, or what prejudices they may have or how much ignorance may display itself in regard to the reception and advancement of Truth, for it is complete in itself, needing no outside help as an aid to its perfection, and it is just as sure to be finally triumphant as that it has an existence.

Progress towards the attainment of Truth can only be made when we are walking in the ways of Truth, spiritually as well as physically and morally.

Man has not been inaptly likened to a tree of which the bark is com-

pared to his physical nature, the fiber to his intellectual, and the sap to his spiritual nature. Too often we abnormally develop either or both of the first two natures to the neglect of the third, forgetting that the tree without the sap is dead.

Contemplated from different standpoints, Truth may present to the beholder the appearance of a many-sided prism; and the tendency in our day is to follow the lead of some brilliant mind, who, having obtained but a partial or cloudy vision of Truth, presents it in a striking and effective way thus furnishing for himself and others an entirely inadequate foundation for building up the substantial fabric of a true Masonic character, for all its faces are only the constituent parts of one harmonious whole, which must be studied carefully and thoughtfully from the plane of humility as a common level that it may be understood, appreciated, and assimilated in its entirety.

In entering upon this plane, the confines of which are as boundless, unfathomable, and infinite as the great I Am himself, all attempts at progress will be futile and abortive and like the efforts of a skilled mariner on a trackless and unknown sea without compass, chart, or rudder, unless we have for a lamp the torch of Holy Writ, the acknowledged Great Light of all true Masons, to illuminate our pathway.

“The Bible! that’s the Book, the Book indeed
 The Book of Books,
 On which who looks
 As he should do aright, shall never need
 Wish for a better light
 To guide him in the night.

A Book to which no other book can be compared
 For excellence;
 Pre-eminence
 Is proper to it and cannot be shared.
 Divinity *alone*
 Belongs to it or none.

It is the Book of God: what if I should say
 God of Books?
 Let him who looks
 Angry at this expression as too bold
 His thoughts in silence smother
 Till he shall find such another.”

Equipped with this precious Book as companion and guide for our journey, we shall advance with the unerring, upright, regular steps of Masonry, and eventually scale the crystal heights of Truth and gaze with undimmed eyes of perfect satisfaction upon the face of Him who said “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”

Vain were the command to lift up our hearts, unless the objective point of elevation be clearly defined. Then comes the hearty response, we

will lift them up unto the Lord, who hath declared, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me." "I am the Way." "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Thus having been shown the Way and having started to walk therein, the seeker after Truth is not left to pursue his journey alone and unaided, but realizes the fulfillment of the promise that, "When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come He will guide you into all truth; and it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because Spirit is Truth."

Since the downfall of man was accomplished through the exercise of his free-will, so, too, must his restoration be effected through the same channel.

As he deliberately chose the downward path so must he as deliberately and persistently choose to adopt the plan of redemption or it becomes to him of none effect.

But the way is too difficult for man unaided by the operations of the Holy Spirit to follow. The accumulated hereditary weakness and the acquired power of his spiritual enemy are too strong for him alone to overcome. The needed help ever near and ready may be rejected and the lamentation of the Truth Incarnate, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings; and ye would not!" may be applied to him who resists the operations of the Holy Spirit. He predicted that the destruction of that beautiful temple, fit dwelling for the manifestation of the Shechinah, the symbol of the divine presence for the oracular guidance of the people, would be so complete that not one stone would be left upon another.

A similar fate will be his who likewise willfully rejects the Truth! And why?

This magnificent temple, the nucleus of the inception of Masonry and the symbol of so many beautiful traditions, rites, and ceremonies, and which was and is typical of man for, "know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God?" this temple, I say, became polluted, its services were corrupted, and it was finally so completely destroyed through its willful rejection of the overtures of mercy from the Truth Incarnate.

To avoid the same dire calamity man, as God's temple, needs the continual indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Without His aid to regain our lost estate we are constrained to cry out in our utter helplessness, "that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that I do." "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me?"

Therefore let us beware how we grieve away from our carnal temples the Holy Spirit of God.

In the full brilliancy of such clear light from our Great Light in Masonry, in comparison with which the noonday sun but pales into insignificance, and with the abundant and continual promise of more and further light, no man, especially if he be a Mason, can plead agnosticism as a legit-

imate palliation for not becoming benefited and enobled by the teachings of Freemasonry.

And, if like the prophet of old, from his close proximity to the manifestations of Divine Truth, he becomes so imbued with its salient splendor and influence as to ever remember that no man is accounted noble merely by accident of birth or through ancestral greatness, but by a life of unselfishness and self-respect, and fully to realize and appreciate the Fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man with their necessary complement—the exercise of Brotherly Love and the practical evidence of its existence, Relief—then let him discard forever the use of the veil as he goes forth to mingle with mankind, and let his light so shine before men that they may see his good works and glorify Him who hath said, “I am the Truth and the Life.”

So by following the Way shall he at length arrive at the Truth, and by emulating His good works finally prove his title to that Life which He was and which is even Life for ever more.

Be comforted and strengthened, brethren, but not unduly elated with these thoughts, ever remembering in whom we have put our trust; for, while life lasts, our earthly pilgrimage will be continually harrassed by our spiritual enemy and, “Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”

Temptations will be allowed to come to us, not that we may fall, but that through victory over them we may triumph, and, by persevering, multiply our merits and increase our glory.

The obstacles in our way by the aid of supernatural assistance, which is ours by asking, cease to be hindrances and actually become opportunities for developing the higher life, thus enabling man to regain all that was lost through disobedience.

Let us “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage,” for, “If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”

This freedom once gained becomes to us a freedom than which no higher could be conceived, for it is perfect. It frees the enthralled serf from all the enslaving chains of sin and the debasing effects of all evil habits upon both the body and the soul.

Thus the whole man in his physical, moral, and spiritual natures is completely emancipated, and he is lifted out of the depths of ignorance, superstition, and vice, becoming a new creature, saved from the evil effects of the fall, with his feet placed upon a solid rock of defence, sustenance, and safety by a freedom whose luster is undimmed by any shadow of license or taint of liberty to think, say, or do aught beyond what is right.

The slightest compromise with the enemy for a freedom on any other terms brings only galling servitude and final ruin in its train.

This true freedom only makes possible Freemasonry, for it is not only individual but institutional, national, and even universal in its scope. It opens the way for free hospitals, asylums for the destitute, and free institutions of learning, all fostered under the protecting care of a free government, which really to be such must be instituted, constructed, and

administered upon principles fully in accord with a like interpretation of freedom.

It renders practical also the adjustment of all difficulties arising between capital and labor upon this basis, together with the settlement of all international troubles by means of arbitration.

So, too, the vexing problems of imperialism, militarism, and expansion could be amicably solved, giving no opportunity for might to usurp the place of right and to oppress the weak in the interests of the strong.

Then war with all its attendant horrors, under its influence would be happily overpast, and the efforts of multitudes of our best men, now gathered into standing armies for mutual protection or for invasion, and exercising their superior skill and energy in misdirected efforts to invent improved weapons and modes of warfare to the injury of mankind, would on the contrary be spent in peaceful exertions for the advancement of humanity in the arts and sciences, for superior industrial skill, and for better methods of work as well as for a greater variety of implements and for improved machinery.

That the nations are slowly but surely beginning to recognize this important fact is evidenced in the reason assigned by the czar for calling his peace conference last year, which was to seek some means of relief for industry from what he styled the crushing burden of European armaments. Compare the military system of our own country, incomplete and imperfect though it may be, with that of any European nation, and choose between them. The many young immigrants who leave their native land and come to this country to avoid a compulsory militia, show a decided preference for our side of the question. The very conception and possibility of the peace conference is proof conclusive that the world does move.

The relief which the czar sought for himself and his empire, and which many nations and individuals seek to-day for this and the many other kindred evils of the hour, is not too much to expect, and to be practically demonstrated in proportion as men learn to subdue their passions, improve themselves in masonry, and subject their unruly wills to Him whose service is perfect freedom, who is the Author of peace and Lover of concord, under the influence of whose great love the redemption of the world becomes complete in the restoration of its pristine harmony, when all nature again attuned to the chorus of the morning stars, and supplemented by a victorious shout of the sons of God whose regained loss through humanity's fall makes perfect a universal brotherhood of man among whom contention is unknown save that noble contention of who best can work and best agree.

Hence we see there are two freedoms: the false, where a man is free to do what he likes; the true, where he is free to do what he ought.

Practice the first, worship Error, and like base menials live and eventually perish with your idol; or, choose the second, worship the Truth and be exalted at last as sons to be forever with the Truth, as a benefit derived through His accomplished restoration.

As the stream cannot rise above its fountain-head, so there can be no higher plane for Masonry than that of Truth.

Brethren, we are nominally Free and Accepted Masons, but are we rising to that more exalted plane where the true significance of these terms is fully realized? That we are Free because, as Alpha at the Trestle-board, our King has said, "Ye shall *know* the Truth and the Truth shall make you Free." Free from the service of bondage and sin.

Masons, because, as our Emanuel, seated at the right hand of the Father both as Intereessor and Master Overseer, He says, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward."

Accepted, because, as Omega, the righteous Judge and Rewarder of the faithful, enthroned in the perfected Temple of the new Jerusalem, He says, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

On motion of Brother Bullard, 32, the Committee on Pay-roll was instructed to pay mileage and per diem to the representatives of lodges whose secretaries had failed to comply with the law in regard to reporting the distances from the places where their lodges are held to the place of meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Petitions from Lincoln Lodge No. 19, Lancaster, 54, and Landmark, 222, for charters to replace the ones destroyed, were referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations.

The Grand Lodge was now called from labor to refreshment until two-thirty P. M.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

THURSDAY, June 7, 1900.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at the appointed hour, Grand Master William W. Keysor presiding, and with officers and members as at the morning session.

Brother Robert L. Downing, 187, for the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following reports:

To the Grand Lodge:

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations to whom was referred the matter of the loss of charter of Landmark Lodge No. 222, by cyclone on June 13, 1899, would respectfully recommend that a charter be issued to said lodge as prayed for, free of charge.

Also in reference to Lincoln Lodge No. 19, and Lancaster Lodge No. 54, whose charters were destroyed by fire September 16, 1899, would respectfully recommend that charters be issued to said lodges as prayed for, free of charge.

With reference to the petitions for charters and accompanying papers and records of Hampton Lodge U.:D.:, located at Hampton, Nehawka Lodge U.:D.:, at Nehawka, and Corner-Stone Lodge U.:D.:, at Osmond, your committee would recommend that a charter be issued to said Hampton Lodge, under the name of Hampton Lodge No. 245; also to Nehawka Lodge, under the name of Nehawka Lodge No. 246; and to Corner-Stone Lodge, under the name of Corner-Stone Lodge No. 247. We also recommend that the proposed by-laws of each of these lodges be approved as amended by your committee, and that each lodge file a copy of its by-laws with the Grand Secretary within sixty days from this date.

Your committee further recommends that Laurel Lodge U.:D.:, located at Laurel, be continued under dispensation.

Brother Baird, 155, moved to amend the report of the committee by inserting therein that a charter be issued to Laurel Lodge, under the name of Laurel Lodge No. 248. The amendment carried, and the report of the committee as amended, was, on motion, adopted.

Brother Prince, of Ashlar Lodge No. 33, invited the Grand Lodge to hold its next annual communication in the city of Grand Island, presenting the advantages to be gained by a change of location, setting forth the ability of the city to suitably care for the members, and moved that the invitation be accepted. Brother Coutant, 11, invited the Grand Lodge to hold its next session in Omaha and moved to amend the motion by striking out Grand Island and inserting Omaha. The amendment prevailed and the motion as amended, by inserting Omaha as the next place of meeting, was adopted.

Past Grand Master French, 46, for the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report and moved it be adopted:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge:

In the matter of Zeredatha Lodge No. 160, we unanimously recommend that the wise action of our efficient Grand Master be sustained.

We recommend that the application of Brother _____ for restoration to his rights and privileges as a mason be granted.

We recommend that the question of jurisdiction between Zion Lodge

No. 234 and Eminence Lodge No. 223, be referred to the incoming Grand Master for settlement, your committee not having sufficient data to properly determine the rights of the lodges.

In regard to the appeal of Brother John G. Logue from the action of Stromsburg Lodge No. 126, in passing sentence of suspension for thirty days on a brother charged with unmasonic conduct, we recommend that the appeal be sustained, and the sentence changed from suspension for thirty days, to expulsion.

Past Grand Master France, 56, moved to amend the report of the committee by approving the action of Stromsburg Lodge in the matter of suspending for thirty days the brother charged with unmasonic conduct. This motion did not prevail.

Brother Pedler, 106, moved to amend the report of the committee by striking out the word "expulsion" and inserting the words "indefinite suspension." The motion to amend was lost, and the report of the committee as presented was adopted.

On motion of Past Grand Master Ehrhardt, 41, the Committee on Pay-roll was instructed to make up the roll for three days attendance.

Brother Dowling, 119, presented the following report from the Committee on Ways and Means; on motion the same was adopted:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge:

We, the Committee on Ways and Means, recommend the following appropriations:

Postage, telegrams, telephones, expressage.....	\$300 00
Stationery	50 00
Blanks	150 00
Incidentals	150 00
Pay-roll, as much as necessary.	
Chairman of Committee on Returns.....	100 00
Grand Master's expense	250 00
" " clerk hire	250 00
Grand Treasurer's salary	50 00
Grand Secretary's salary	1,800 00
" " clerk hire	900 00
Grand Custodian's salary	1,200 00
" " expense	700 00
Treasurer Orphans Educational Fund, salary	5 00
" " " " clerk hire.....	60 00
Committee on Foreign Correspondence	100 00
Printing and electrotyping proceedings of 1900	650 00
Purchasing supplies for sale and issue to lodges	750 00

Library: purchasing, binding, etc.....	\$100 00
Filing cases	30 00
Printing twenty-five blank parchment charters	45 00
Grand Lodge office rent	200 00
" " " heat and light.....	50 00
" " " janitor	60 00
" " " telephone	30 00
Relief: Kent insurance	750 00
Printing and binding Vols. V, VI, and VII	1,000 00
Grand Tyler	15 00
Assistant Tyler	2 00
Janitor's service.....	6 00
Grand Secretary's surety bond.....	15 00
" Treasurer's " " 	50 00

Brother Davisson, 136, for the Committee on Accounts, reported the following, which was adopted:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

Your Committee on Accounts has carefully examined the report of the Grand Treasurer, submitted by Mrs. Sarah E. Hartman, as published, and find it in all respects correct. We also find that a complete and full settlement was made by Mrs. Hartman with the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary and all moneys turned over to this grand body, and your committee recommends that the settlement made with Mrs. Sarah E. Hartman be approved.

Your Committee on Accounts has carefully examined the published report of the Grand Secretary, checked the vouchers on file, and compared them with the ledger entries and finds the report correct.

In the General Fund, we find balance on hand.....	\$9,590.37
In Relief Fund, " " " " "	740.69
In Masonic Home Fund, " " " " "	3,000.00
Total	\$13,331.06

We have also compared the bills receivable with the record and find that there is still outstanding the sum of \$6771.59.

Your committee is of the opinion that a special effort should be made to collect all notes given by the several lodges in 1895, especially the note given by Gauge Lodge No. 208 for \$100.00, due October 1st, 1895. No payments having been made, the statute of limitation will soon attach. Your committee, therefore, is of the opinion that in the matter of the note of Gauge Lodge No. 208, a settlement should be made at once; and if payment cannot be secured, that a new note be taken for the same.

We have examined the following bills and recommend their payment:

To John A. Ehrhardt: expenses to Columbus.....	\$8.30
To Charles K. Coutant: expenses to Columbus	6.80

In the matter of the Grand Secretary's report of supplies on hand, we

have carefully examined the same, but did not deem it expedient to invoice said supplies, realizing that time would not permit.

Your committee reports in a general way that it found the Grand Secretary's books and accounts in excellent order, and so arranged as to afford your committee the best possible opportunity to examine the same, and we congratulate this grand body on the courtesy and efficiency of your Grand Secretary.

The Committee on Jurisprudence received, considered, and reported on the following:

Applications for relief from lodges that had failed to elect officers within the time provided by law; those who had elected after the statutory time, and those who had paid for special dispensations to elect. The committee presented the following resolution and it was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to issue dispensations for the election of officers out of time during the month of June 1900, without the payment of the usual fee, and that fees heretofore collected in such cases be refunded and that the action of lodges in this jurisdiction that have held elections out of time, is hereby legalized.

Query by Brother Beecher of North Star Lodge No. 227:

Is the ballot for the Entered Apprentice taken for the degrees, and the ballots after examination for proficiency? *Answer*, No. (See Section 108, Par. 3, Law of Freemasonry.)

Query by Brother Lockwood of Omadi Lodge No. 5:

Paragraph 4 of Section 307, page 69, of the law, provides that if a brother has been personally served with a summons notifying him to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues, and he fails to appear or answer, "the offense of non-payment of dues shall be held in abeyance until the delinquent shall show cause for disobedience of summons" etc. Is it permissible for a subordinate lodge, under such circumstances, to proceed to suspend, or must the lodge put the brother on trial for the offense of disobedience of summons.

Answered by the law, which is mandatory as to taking up delinquency for disobedience to a summons.

Brother J. H. Chambers, of Landmark Lodge No. 222, presented the following:

Brother.....petitioned Landmark Lodge No. 222 for initiation and was duly elected and received the Entered Apprentice Degree. He then removed to Tekamah, and Tekamah Lodge No. 31 asked permission to examine him and confer the degrees of Fellow Craft and Master Mason, Landmark Lodge to elect him and to receive the fees. About two years later, when notices of delinquent dues were sent out by Landmark Lodge,

Brother.....was notified and replied that he was a member of No. 31 at Tekamah. No. 222 then communicated with No. 31 and asked by what authority Brother.....became a member of the latter lodge. Not receiving a satisfactory reply, Brother.....was summoned to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues. Not appearing, he was tried on the greater charge and was indefinitely suspended. Today he is a non-affiliated Mason with No. 222 and is affiliated with Tekamah No. 31. Now we appeal to the Grand Lodge to establish the status of Brother.....

Answer: Brother.....is a suspended Mason, a member of Landmark Lodge No. 222.

By Brother Lewis E. Shelley of Fairbury Lodge No. 35:

That Article 8 of Section 309 of the Law of Freemasonry in Nebraska, for the year 1895, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence for a full and complete interpretation of the latter clause of said Article 8 which reads: "On the announcement thereof by the master." Such interpretation to cover the point of whether the announcement is a part of the restoration. If so, when and where the same should be made, or whether the restoration is complete without such announcement.

Answer: The last clause means when announcement is made by the master in open lodge.

Application was made by Frank Welch Lodge No. 75 to change the name of one of its members from Harry Hudson to his real name of Edgar Hallenbeck; this was granted, and the lodge directed to make due report to the Grand Secretary when the change is made.

Past Grand Master Young, 207, for the committee, presented the following:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

Your committee recommends that decisions of the Grand Master Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14, be approved. We recommend that decision 1 be not approved, it being in conflict with the procedure prescribed in our law for the trial of a brother charged with a Masonic offence. Our law provides that a trial may be had at a special meeting; every meeting, strictly speaking, is a regular meeting, but by usage in this grand jurisdiction, the stated meetings are called regular meetings, and all others, including those appointed for the trial of a brother, are called special meetings.

We recommend that decision No. 12 be not approved.

We recommend that the following portion of decision No. 15 be approved: "That when objections are filed with the Worshipful Master against conferring the E. A. degree, the objector is not bound to disclose reasons for his objections," and that the remainder of said decision be not approved, to-wit: "but when objections are against the advancement of a broth-

er, the grounds of the objection must be stated in open lodge if called for and the lodge allowed to pass on their sufficiency."

We recommend that decision No. 16 be not approved.

The report of the committee on decision No. 1 that it be not approved, and that Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15 as amended by the committee, be approved, was adopted. Past Grand Master Davidson, 17, moved to amend the report of the committee in regard to decision No. 12 by striking out the word "not." The motion to amend was carried and the report of the committee as amended was adopted.

Past Grand Master Davidson, 17, moved to amend the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence in regard to decision No. 16, by striking out the word "not." The motion to adopt the amendment did not prevail. A motion to adopt the report of the committee carried.

The claim for mileage and per diem of the representatives present from lodges U. . D. . and from the Master of Lebanon Lodge No. 58 for the same at the last session while the charter of said lodge was suspended, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and the committee decided that the law does not permit payment of mileage and per diem in such cases.

Past Grand Master Phelps, 34, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the following report in regard to the Grand Lodge of Washington, which on motion, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. Near the close of the session, the committee asked for further time to consider the report, which request was granted:

To the Grand Lodge:

Your Committee on Correspondence to whom was submitted so much of the Grand Master's address as referred to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington at its annual communication in June, 1899, in apparently rescinding its obnoxious resolutions of 1898, recognizing so-called Negro Masonry, promulgated in bodies regarded in the resolutions of this Grand Lodge, adopted in 1877, as clandestine, has had the matter under consideration, and fraternally reports—

That we agree with our Grand Master that the said 1899 resolutions do but reaffirm the position taken by the Grand Lodge of Washington, which was denounced by every Grand Lodge in the United States considering the same, many of which Grand Lodges by action cut off all fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington. While our Grand Lodge, as

our Grand Master says, had it not been advised that the Grand Lodge of Washington would in all probability rescind its obnoxious resolutions, would have acted in the matter.

There are in this state clandestine negro lodges; they can have no recognition by our lodges; yet, as the Grand Master well says, members of these clandestine lodges may move to the state of Washington, and, under the obnoxious resolutions of that Grand Lodge in 1899, be admitted and affiliated in their lodges.

While such a condition exists in Washington, this Grand Lodge should have no fraternal communications or relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington and its subordinate lodges.

We therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That all fraternal relations existing between the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and the Grand Lodge of Washington, be and the same are hereby severed.

Recommendations Nos. 1, 2, and 5 of the Grand Master, were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and the following amendments to our law were presented:

Add to Paragraph 1, Section 2, by-laws relating to the Grand Lodge, the following words: "Said Grand Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Grand Lodge, if kept in a bank, in a separate account and not mingled with his own funds in his private account."

Unanimous consent was asked for and granted to consider the amendment at this time. After due consideration, the amendment was adopted.

Add as part of Section 1, Paragraph 2, by-laws of the Grand Lodge, "The Committee on Fraternal Dead."

Add to Paragraph 3, in line 3, after the word "law," "And Committee on Fraternal Dead."

It was asked, and unanimous consent was granted, for this amendment to be considered at once. The amendment was adopted after due consideration.

Add to Paragraph 2, Section 7, by-laws, relating to the Grand Lodge, the following words: "Provided that no trustee shall have any personal interest in any loan made."

Unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of this amendment was asked and granted; and the amendment, after due deliberation, was adopted.

The committee presented the following resolution, which, on motion, was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Master be permitted to omit from his address all matters relating to deceased brethren, and that such matters be embodied in the report of the standing Committee on Fraternal Dead, and be published at the same time as the Grand Master's address and reports of officers.

The committee also presented the following amendment, which, under the law, lies over for one year:

Add to Paragraph 3, Section 7, the following words: "Said trustee shall be appointed within ten days after the close of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge."

The committee reported against recommendation No. 3. of the Grand Master, and the report was concurred in. A favorable report was presented on the first part of the amendment to the law found on page 5738 (1899 proceedings) which reads: "Amend section 111, page 53, 'Work,' by adding as paragraph 9, the following: Every mason hereinafter raised to the degree of Master Mason shall become proficient therein as required in the former degrees and give proof thereof by examination in open lodge; which fact shall be entered of record." On motion, the foregoing amendment to the law was adopted.

The committee asked and was granted further time to consider the recommendation of Past Grand Master Young in regard to furnishing our own monitors.

Brother John F. Poucher, 222, for the Committee on Fraternal Dead, read the following tribute to the memory of our illustrious brothers who have gone before:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge:

This is the universal anthem sung since the days of the primal curse to which the souls of men departing every second beat mournful time: "Man dieth and wasteth away; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up, so man lieth down, and riseth not up till the heavens shall be no more."

It is not wonderful that we die; it is far more wonderful that we live. The elements are against us from the beginning. The erect position that God gave us is against us, and we must pump up the nourishment to the brain against the mighty force of gravity which constantly fulfills the decree, "Dust thou art, unto dust shalt thou return." We engender poisons within ourselves and no adherence to the laws of hygiene can wholly prevent it. The very thought that aspires so high, the feelings that diffuse themselves so widely that they take in the whole human race, exhaust us—con-

sume us, and so wherever we are, we are ever journeying to our last resting place.

It is with profound sorrow that we note the passing of the death angel who has beckoned to many of our beloved brethren who have obeyed the summons and departed to be "Forever with the Lord."

Our own jurisdiction bows submissively to the decree of the Almighty God, who took from us on September 28, 1899, our Grand Treasurer, Christian Hartman. He was a man of quiet but determined energy, and of indomitable perseverance in the discharge of duty, fearless in the declaration of God's truth, and of high toned conscientiousness in seeking the best interests of the fraternity. He was, withal, a man of deep sympathies and naturally shared the sorrows and entered into the joys of the brethren. He was gentlemanly and dignified in his deportment, of great solidity of judgment, and possessed a well balanced mind. In the social circle his presence has ever been welcomed. His open countenance, goodly presence and manly bearing, prepared his friends for that cheerful disposition and downright honesty which characterized his life. He has indeed, "passed from labor on earth to everlasting refreshment in the paradise of God." And while the remembrance of his manly virtues does not dry our tears, yet it takes the brine out of them, and they are refreshing tears, rather than tears of depression.

Our brethren of Colorado, Arkansas, Nova Scotia, West Virginia, Connecticut, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Oregon, Montana, and Kansas, have been stricken by the hand of an allwise Providence and are called to part, for a while, with those who were bound to them by the ties of brotherly affection.

We mourn the death of many of our brethren throughout the state, and may it be with each of us that when the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, when the dust shall return unto the earth as it was, and the spirit unto God who gave it, that our work may be approved, our mark accepted and we raised to the celestial lodge above where the Grand Architect of the Universe forever presides.

The report of the committee was adopted by a silent rising vote.

The hour for the special order having arrived, the Grand Lodge proceeded to elect office-bearers for the ensuing masonic year.

The following brethren were appointed tellers: Brothers Smith, 123, Fowler, 21, Jackson, 71, Norris, 37, Chapman, 3, Gilmore, 4.

The ballot resulted in the choice of—

- BRO.: ALBERT W. CRITES, 158Grand Master.
- BRO.: ROBERT E. EVANS, 5Deputy Grand Master.

BRO.: NATHANIEL M. AYERS, 93.....	Grand Senior Warden.
BRO.: FRANK E. BULLARD, 32.....	Grand Junior Warden.
BRO.: JOHN B. DINSMORE, 49.....	Grand Treasurer.
BRO.: FRANCIS E. WHITE, 6.....	Grand Secretary.

Later in the communication appointment was made of—

BRO.: ALLEN R. JULIAN, 158.....	Grand Chaplain.
BRO.: CHARLES S. LOBINGIER, 25.....	Grand Orator.
BRO.: JAMES A. TULLEYS, 53.....	Grand Custodian.
BRO.: DAVID M. McELHINNEY, 50.....	Grand Marshal.
BRO.: JAMES DINSMORE, 43.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
BRO.: MELVILLE R. HOPEWELL, 31.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
BRO.: JACOB KING, 3.....	Grand Tyler.
Bros.: Francis E. White, 6; Charles J. Phelps, 34; and Daniel H. Wheeler, 1, Committee on Foreign Correspondence.	
Bros.: Frank H. Young, 207; Charles S. Lobingier, 25; and John S. Bishop, 54, Committee on Codification of the Law.	
Bros.: Samuel P. Davidson, 17; Allen R. Julian, 158; and Frank E. Bullard, 32, Committee on Fraternal Dead.	

The following requests were referred to the Committee on Relief:

Brother Gastineau, 186 (extinct), for relief from payment of Grand Lodge dues.

Aurora Lodge No. 68, for the return of ten dollars, fee for a special dispensation to install the secretary out of statutory time.

Bloomfield Lodge No. 218, for continuance of ten dollars per month for relief of Brother Arthur N. Doane.

Gilead Lodge No. 233, relief for the family of Brother Wilson F. Wadsworth.

Zeredatha Lodge No. 160, relief from payment of its note due the Grand Lodge for funds advanced for relief.

Garfield Lodge No. 95, relief from payment of interest on its note due the Grand Lodge for funds advanced.

Emmet Crawford Lodge No. 148, for continuance of five dollars per month for the relief of Mary E. Russell.

Scribner Lodge No. 132, for continuance of eight dollars per month for the relief of the widow of Brother Jesse A. Nason.

Parian Lodge No. 207, for continuance of five dollars per month for the relief of Brother James A. Pike.

Later in the session, Brother Frank E. Ward, 31, for the com-

mittee, presented the following report which was considered by sections, voted on separately, and then adopted as a whole:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

Your Committee on Relief, to whom was referred the several matters hereinafter mentioned, reports thereon as follows:

1. In the matter of the request of Brother James Gastineau, a member, at the time the charter was surrendered, of Plumb Lodge No. 186, for the remission of Grand Lodge dues to the amount of about twelve dollars, accumulated subsequent to the surrender of the charter of said lodge, your committee recommends that the request be granted: and that all Grand Lodge dues charged to the brother after the surrender of the charter of Plumb Lodge be remitted.

2. In the matter of the application of Aurora Lodge No. 68, for the repayment of ten dollars, the fee for a special dispensation to install its secretary out of time, your committee recommends that the application be not granted, no showing having been made that the secretary might not have been installed within the time fixed by the law.

3. In the matter of the application of Parian Lodge No. 207, for the continuance of relief to Brother James A. Pike, a member of said lodge, your committee recommends the continuance of the payment of five dollars per month, payable quarterly, to Parian Lodge No. 207, for the relief of Brother Pike.

4. In the matter of the application of Gilead Lodge No. 233, for an appropriation for the relief of the widow and minor children of Brother Wilson F. Wadsworth, late a member of Hooper Lodge No. 72, your committee finds that Brother Wadsworth took his demit from Hooper Lodge, and, with his family, removed to the state of California, and there died, a non-affiliated mason; that since his death, his family has returned to this state and now resides within the jurisdiction of Gilead Lodge No. 233. Your committee finds that although this family is both worthy and needy, that it has no legal claim or right to ask, or receive, relief from this Grand Lodge. We do not believe that your committee ought to establish the precedent of recommending the granting of relief to demitted masons, their widows and orphans; especially in a case like this, where no showing is made of the length of time the brother carried his demit prior to his death. Your committee therefore recommends that the relief asked for be not granted.

5. In the matter of the application of Scribner Lodge No. 132, for a continuance of the payment of eight dollars per month for the relief of the family of Brother Jesse A. Nason, late a member of said lodge, and now deceased, your committee finds that the necessity for relief remains the same as one year ago, and we therefore recommend a continuance of the payment of eight dollars per month, payable quarterly, to Scribner Lodge No. 132 for the relief of the family of the deceased brother.

6. In the matter of the application of Bloomfield Lodge No. 218, for a continuance of the appropriation of ten dollars per month for the relief of Brother Arthur N. Doane, a member of said lodge, your committee finds

that the amount asked for is no more than is needed and required for the relief of this brother; but your committee finds that Bloomfield Lodge has had a prosperous year, and is now in such financial condition that it can, and should, furnish one-half of the amount needed by the brother. We therefore recommend the payment of five dollars per month, payable quarterly, to Bloomfield Lodge No. 218, for the relief of Brother Doane.

7. In the matter of the application of Zeredatha Lodge No. 160, for a release from the payment of its note of \$500.00 due the Grand Lodge, we recommend that the request be not granted, for the reason that no showing has been made to the committee of any diligence on the part of Zeredatha Lodge to collect the notes given by the several members to the lodge.

8. In the matter of the application of Garfield Lodge No. 95, for the cancellation of its note due the Grand Lodge in the sum of \$145.24 with interest thereon since January 1895, upon the payment of the principal of said note, your committee reports that Garfield Lodge has placed the sum of \$145.24, the face of said note, in our hands, and we recommend that said sum be accepted in full payment of the note.

9. Your committee, having examined so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to the disbursement of relief funds, concurs in the report and recommends its approval.

10. Your committee to whom was referred the application of Emmet Crawford Lodge No. 148, for the continuance of relief to the widow and minor children of Brother Edwin F. Russell late a member of said lodge, recommends that the sum of five dollars per month, payable quarterly to Emmet Crawford Lodge No. 148, be granted.

Brother Callahan, 75, for the committee, reported as unfinished business, an amendment to Section 111, Law of Freemasonry, found on page 5738, proceedings of 1899. A resolution repealing subdivision one of by-law 110 relating to subordinate lodges, found on page 5749, proceedings of 1899. The recommendation of Grand Master Young in regard to publishing our own monitors, and recommended the adoption of the amendments and the recommendation of P. G. M. Young.

P. G. M. Edward K. Valentine, 27, raised the point of order that the committee could not recommend, it being their duty to report the unfinished business. The Grand Master decided the point of order well taken, and the report of the committee was amended by striking out the recommendations.

The amendments found on pages 5738 and 5749 and the recommendation of Grand Master Young were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Brother Wisner, 9, for the Committee on By-Laws of Char-

tered Lodges, reported as follows, and, on motion, the same was adopted :

To the Grand Lodge :

Your Committee on By-Laws, to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to his official acts in approving the by-laws of chartered lodges, or amendments thereto, recommend that his actions be sustained.

We further recommend that the by-laws of McCook Lodge No. 135, adopted and amended by said lodge June 5, 1900, be approved.

We further recommend that the amendment to Section 5, Article 7, of the by-laws of Fairbury Lodge No. 35, be approved as amended by the committee.

Brother Hopewell, 31, for the special Committee on Relief, submitted the following report which was on motion adopted :

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Nebraska :

Your committee appointed at the last session of this Grand Lodge to inquire into the condition of all funds intended for charitable and educational purposes, and to report rules and regulations for the expenditure of the income derived therefrom, having carefully considered the matter, report as follows :

We find a balance on hand of the income from the Relief Fund for the past year of \$740.69, as per report of the Grand Secretary. We recommend a continuance of the present method of expenditure of this fund through the Relief Committee.

We find the income from the Orphans Educational Fund for the past year to be \$2613.36. We recommend that disbursements from this fund be made through a standing committee of three, to be known as the Committee on Orphans Educational Fund, to be appointed by the Grand Master; one member to serve one year, one for two years, and one for three years; and as the term of each expires, the vacancy to be filled by the Grand Master for three years; to which committee shall be added as advisory members, the Grand Master, the Treasurer of the Orphans Educational Fund, and the outgoing chairman of the Committee on Relief.

We recommend that for the present there be expended annually from this fund, not exceeding 75 per cent. of the income; such income to be estimated and based on that of the preceding year.

We further recommend that no expenditures be made by such committee, except on written application of the master and wardens of the lodges within whose jurisdiction the proposed beneficiary resides, setting out fully all facts connected with the case; and that all orders for the payment of money be signed by the chairman and secretary of such committee and sent to the Grand Secretary; upon receipt of which, warrants are to be drawn upon the treasurer in the usual manner.

We further recommend that it be the duty of the outgoing chairman of the Relief Committee of the Grand Lodge, to investigate and report at

the next session of the Grand Lodge upon the condition of the Relief Fund, and to make such recommendation in regard thereto as he may deem proper.

The Grand Lodge was now called from labor to refreshment until seven-thirty P. M.

SECOND DAY—EVENING SESSION.

THURSDAY, June 7, 1900.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at the appointed hour under the direction of M. : W. : William W. Keysor, with officers and members as at the afternoon session.

Brother Cox, 194, for the Committee on Grand Lodge Office, presented the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska:

We, your Committee on Grand Lodge Office, fraternally submit the following report:

Having carefully examined the office of your Grand Secretary, we find everything in excellent condition; and the Grand Secretary is entitled to credit for the neat and systematic manner in which his office is kept. We find that through his instrumentality the Masonic Temple Craft of Omaha has provided a vault for the safe keeping of the records and property of the Grand Lodge and improvements in the library at an expense of about five hundred dollars, free of charge, so that the whole expense to the Grand Lodge for rent of the Grand Secretary's office, and for light and heat, is but two hundred and fifty dollars per year. The thanks of this Grand Lodge are due to the Masonic Temple Craft for its generosity.

We find the necessities of the office well supplied with the exception of labels for file cabinets, and an addressograph, which are greatly needed. We therefore recommend that the same be supplied. We find further that the other grand officers do not maintain offices.

The question was raised whether the adoption of the report would carry an appropriation for the articles specified; it was decided that it would, and on motion the report was adopted.

Past Grand Master Black, 76, extended a cordial invitation to any of the brethren visiting Salt Lake City, to call on Grand Secretary Christopher Dielil.

Brother Evans, 5, addressed the Grand Lodge in regard to the sufficiency of security bonds for Grand Lodge officers.

Past Grand Master Phelps presented the following report in

relation to the Gran Dieta Simbolica of Mexico, and moved its adoption :

To the Grand Lodge:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred the recommendation of the Grand Master that the character and standing of the Gran Dieta Simbolica of the United States of Mexico be investigated with a view to entering into fraternal relations therewith, fraternally report that they have had the same under consideration. That from the best attainable sources of information, we are enabled to state that early in this century, (assuming that we are still in the nineteenth) Freemasonry was introduced into Mexico by Spanish civil and military officers, but soon ceased to exist; that afterwards the A.:A.:S.:R.: established lodges, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Spain; that these lodges were composed almost exclusively of Spaniards, and they permitted but few Mexicans to be made masons, or affiliate with them. The Mexican masons introduced the York Rite, but politics and the clerics figured so prominently that disaster followed disaster, so that in 1860 there were no Masonic organizations in that country.

In that year, Brother Charles Laffon of New Orleans, a member of the Supreme Council, A.:A.:S.:R.:, of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, went to Mexico to establish masonry in that country. To facilitate his work he erected lodges and Scottish Rite bodies, and masons were made. The regularity of making masons under the authority of a supreme council, when there is no other Masonic body in the country, has been questioned, but Brother Drummond, who is justly regarded as very good authority, and we think a majority of the Masonic jurists of our day, acknowledge the right, and the power has been recognized, and our Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations with grand lodges where the principle has been fully sanctioned.

Subsequent to the establishment of masonry in Mexico, as last above shown, in several of the Mexican states, lodges have been chartered by grand lodges in our own country, and grand lodges formed.

In 1890 the Gran Dieta Simbolica was organized, and by treaty with the Supreme Council, A.:A.:S.:R.:, the latter resigned all claim of jurisdiction over the three degrees composing ancient craft Masonry, the Gran Dieta Simbolica taking full control as a grand lodge, under whose jurisdiction all, or very nearly all blue lodges, grand and subordinate, in the country, voluntarily entered. The Gran Dieta maintains a relation to state grand lodges very similar to that of the Grand Lodge of England to provincial grand lodges, and that of the General Grand Chapter, R.:A.:M.:, of the United States, to the grand chapters of our several states.

There had always existed in some of the Mexican lodges, irregularities women were, in a few lodges, made masons; in others, as in other Latin-American lodges, the book of constitutions, instead of the Holy Bible, was placed on the altar. There were, however, many lodges working upon the same plan and observing strictly all the rules of lodges in our country, some

of which were originally chartered by American grand lodges. These were called American lodges and are now constituents of the Gran Dieta.

In 1835, because of protests entered against these serious irregularities, and especially under the advice and counsel of Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary Theodore S. Parvin of Iowa, who visited Mexico and studied the conditions there, edicts were issued by the Gran Dieta, presided over by Brother Dias, that great Mexican statesman and ruler, to correct the irregularities existing and to enforce the observance of the ancient landmarks of Masonry to the same extent that we observe them.

Under these edicts the irregularities have ceased and the Bible has its place there as it ever has had in all English speaking lodges. The Gran Dieta, in making these reforms, and in maintaining a compliance with the laws of ancient craft Masonry, has sought and obtained the counsel and advice of many American grand masters, our own Grand Master Keysor being one thus consulted.

The Gran Dieta has been recognized by many grand lodges; in our own country by those of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Texas, and Virginia, according full recognition and maintaining fraternal correspondence and fraternal relations.

In one Grand Lodge, refusing such recognition, the principal objection urged was that those made masons in the few Mexican lodges without the presence of the Great Light in Masonry, were irregularly made, which is true; but the same grand lodge had, at its next preceding annual communication, unreservedly restored fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru, as we think every other Grand Lodge has done since the restoration of the Bible to its proper place in that jurisdiction. But there was a whole year during which the Bible was banished from the altar in every lodge in Peru, and, of course, the candidates then made were all irregularly made. No Grand Lodge, so far as we have learned, has refused to resume fraternal relations on that account.

The truth is, that the influence of our American Grand Lodges in maintaining the Bible as an open book on the altar in the American-Latin countries, is a grand work and every effort of our brethren in those countries to conform to the landmark involved, should meet with the encouragement of Freemasonry everywhere.

The people in the Latin-American republics, through the medium of Freemasonry, are having opened to them, as a book to be read, the Word of God, to which free access, under the blighting influence of a bigoted clergy, has been denied. In all the more enlightened christian nations, the influence of the open Bible is believed to be the source of the liberty enjoyed by the people.

The important facts are that the lodges under the Gran Dieta are in possession of the secrets of Freemasonry. Their lodges, many at any rate were regularly constituted, and the others have doubtless been healed as well as under the circumstances could be done. They are maintaining to the best of their ability, the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry, and there is no reasonable ground to fear that they will not continue to do so. The

Gran Dieta was organized, perhaps not regularly, if a strict compliance with all the rules now observed in English speaking countries is considered, but, as hereinbefore stated, they are doing the best they can.

We therefore recommend that our Grand Lodge recognize the Gran Dieta Simbolica of the United States of Mexico, as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge, and that we enter into full fraternal relations with the same.

Past Grand Master Ehrhardt, 41, moved that further consideration of the report be laid over until our next annual communication. The motion to postpone was lost and the motion to adopt the report prevailed.

Past Grand Master George W. Lininger, 3, assisted by Past Grand Master Samuel P. Davidson, 17, now installed the office-bearers for the ensuing Masonic year and due proclamation was made thereof.

Remarks of a fraternal nature were made by several Past Grand Masters and other brethren present. Also by Grand Master Crites, who said in his closing remarks that Brother George W. Lininger deserved to be known as the "Landmark of Masonry in Nebraska."

Brother Evans, 5, moved that a vote of thanks be extended by this Grand Lodge to the Omaha brethren who have so kindly exerted their efforts in making our visit to Omaha both pleasant and agreeable. The motion prevailed.

Past Grand Master Coutant, 11, said: "It is fitting that some resolution or recognition of the services and efficiency of the work of our Past Grand Master Keysor, be placed upon the records. It is not simply as an ordinary compliment that I rise to make a motion of this kind, but I feel, as I know all the brethren of this Grand Body must feel, that the affairs of the Grand Lodge during the past year have been in very able and excellent hands, and that the work and his duties have been ably, conscientiously and faithfully performed; and I move that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to him for his labors during the past year." The motion prevailed unanimously.

On being called to respond, P. · G. · M. · Keysor said:

Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Members of the Grand Lodge:

I am sure you have heard quite enough from me today to excuse me from further remarks, except to say in the language of the closing para-

graph of my address, that I approach this hour with great delight; not because I have not enjoyed the work of the past year, but because I now realize what I have been going through. The criticisms and the arguments that were made today upon my acts and decisions, made me realize that they were far more important than I thought. I desire to thank the brethren of this Grand Lodge for the excellent attention that has been given during this session, and also wish to thank those who have received me so cordially and friendly throughout the state when visiting lodges. My duties have not permitted many visitations. Many cordial invitations were refused; but wherever I went I was received with that dignity, that courtesy and cordiality which is due to the office of Grand Master. Throughout the state of Nebraska the members of this great fraternity recognize the importance of this body. It is made up of a class of men whose equal cannot be found in any profession or church organization in this state. I thank you again for having placed me at the head of such an institution, and I promise you that during the rest of my life as Past Grand Master I will talk as little as possible, and thus bid you God speed.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at ten-thirty P. M., June 7, 1900.

ALBERT W. CRITES,
Grand Master.

Francis Ellthuis

Grand Secretary.



THIS PAGE IS INSCRIBED TO THE

Memory of

Christian Hartman,

GRAND TREASURER, 1879-1899.



Born May 7th, A. D. 1844, A. S. L. 5844.

Died September 28th, A. D. 1899, A. S. L. 5899.



THIS PAGE IS INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF OUR
BELOVED BRETHREN WHO ARE

At Rest.

NAME	LODGE	No.	DATE OF DEATH
FRANK O. ALBERTSON	Nebraska,	1	Sept. 25, 1899
JOHN COWLES	Nebraska,	" 1	Dec. 28, 1899
U. GRANT HULSIZER	Nebraska,	" 1	Feb. 3, 1900
JOSEPH E. KREBS	Western Star,	" 2	Apr. 18, 1899
NELSON R. PINNEY	Western Star,	" 2	May 2, 1899
WILLIAM M. HICKLIN	Western Star,	" 2	June 25, 1899
ROBERT M. OLIVER	Western Star,	" 2	June 27, 1899
WILLIAM R. BOWEN	Capitol,	" 3	May 6, 1899
GUY V. HENRY	Capitol,	" 3	Oct. 27, 1899
HENRY B. MEISEL	Capitol,	" 3	Aug. ..., 1899
RICHARD SMITH	Capitol,	" 3	Sept. 23, 1899
CHARLES E. SUMNER	Capitol	" 3	June 25, 1899
HENRY H. VISSCHER	Capitol,	" 3	Mar. 12, 1899
THOMAS F. PERRY	Nemaha Valley,	" 4	Oct. 25, 1899
CYRUS W. WHEELER	Nemaha Valley,	" 4	Nov. 14, 1899
JOHN C. CUMMINS	Plattsmouth,	" 6	Oct. 22, 1899
JAMES S. RIDDLER	Solomon,	" 10	Mar. 2, 1900
GEORGE L. NICHOLS	Covert,	" 11	Apr. 6, 1899
MICHAEL O. MAUL	Covert,	" 11	Aug. 15, 1899
SQUIRE P. ROMANS	Covert,	" 11	Aug. 20, 1899
CHRISTIAN HARTMAN	Covert,	" 11	Sept. 28, 1899
CALVIN HAMPTON	Covert,	" 11	Mar. 12, 1900
JOHN F. SMITH	Covert,	" 11	Mar. 24, 1900
JOHN SINCLAIR	Nebraska City	" 12	Dec. 30, 1899
URIAH DAVIS	Nebraska City,	" 12	Feb. 6, 1900
HIRAM R. DRAKE	Nebraska City,	" 12	Mar. 28, 1900
ELI HAGER	Fremont,	" 15	Apr. 14, 1899
SAMUEL SICKEL	Fremont,	" 15	Oct. 7, 1899
FRANK L. ESMAY	Fremont,	" 15	Nov. 30, 1899
THEODORE COOL	Fremont,	" 15	Dec. 21, 1899
ALFRED B. HUGHES	Fremont,	" 15	Feb. 14, 1900
ROBERT G. WORK	Tecumseh,	" 17	Dec. 26, 1899
ROBERT STEWART	Lincoln,	" 19	July 20, 1899
WILLIAM J. HOUSTON	Lincoln,	" 19	Dec. 12, 1899
JAMES M. GILMORE	Lincoln,	" 19	Jan. 4, 1900
RICHARD P. R. MILLAR	Lincoln,	" 19	Feb. 14, 1900
JOSEPH L. EDWARDS	Pawnee,	" 23	July 16, 1899
AUGUSTUS E. HASSLER	Pawnee,	" 23	July 19, 1899

THIS PAGE IS INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF OUR
BELOVED BRETHREN WHO ARE

At Rest.

NAME	LODGE	No.	DATE OF DEATH
JOHN C. MOODIE	St. Johns,	25	May .., 1899
JAMES LARNED	St. Johns,	" 25	.....1899
THOMAS H. BABCOCK	St. Johns,	" 25	Dec. 5, 1899
JAMES H. THOMPSON	St. Johns,	" 25	Mar. 12, 1900
LESLIE GILLETT	Beatrice,	" 26	Apr. 24, 1899
JOHN H. CONLEE	Beatrice,	" 26	May 19, 1899
SAMUEL C. RYAN	Beatrice,	" 26	Jan. 17, 1900
JAMES SHIELDS	Jordan.	" 27	Sept. 7, 1899
AARON BENNETT	Jordan,	" 27	Jan. 9, 1900
WILLIAM S. HALL	Hope,	" 29	Feb. 18, 1900
HENRY W. MERRILL	Ashlar,	" 33	July 8, 1899
EDWIN O. WRIGHT	Ashlar,	" 33	Dec. 23, 1899
BLAKE C. HOWARD	Ashlar,	" 33	Mar. 14, 1900
ROBERT GEDDES, Sr	Ashlar,	" 33	Mar. 18, 1900
HENRY F. COURTWAY	Fairbury,	" 35	Dec. 23, 1899
JAMES DUNOVAN	Lone Tree,	" 36	Oct. 19, 1899
JOHN FOULKES	Lone Tree,	" 36	Dec. 11, 1899
WILSON RICHARD BUCK	Crete,	" 37	Jan. 21, 1900
JOHN LANHAM	Crete,	" 37	Mar. 3, 1900
WILLIAM W. HICKMAN	Oliver,	" 38	Apr. 8, 1899
JOSEPH A. MALL	Hebron,	" 43	Jan. 6, 1900
HENRY C. SAPPENFIELD	Hebron,	" 43	Mar. 10, 1900
THOMAS R. WYCKOFF	Harvard.	" 44	May 1, 1899
AMASA P. HESS	Harvard,	" 44	Oct. 20, 1899
CALEB J. DILWORTH	Hastings,	" 50	Jan. 27, 1900
JOHN S. MILLER	Fidelity,	" 51	Sept. 15, 1899
GEORGE W. L. MITCHELL, Sr.	Hiram,	" 52	Jan. 5, 1900
ALEXANDER G. WILLIS	Charity,	" 53	July 20, 1899
PETER MCNITT	Charity,	" 53	Aug. 18, 1899
ALVIN S. MARSH	Charity,	" 53	Nov. 26, 1899
HENRY W. BREWER	Charity,	" 53	Mar. 27, 1900
JOSEPH H. MALLALIEU	Lancaster,	" 54	Sept. 14, 1899
NATHAN S. HARWOOD	Lancaster,	" 54	Jan. 5, 1900
HARRY DOW RUGG	Lancaster,	" 54	Jan. 12, 1900
EZRA T. DURLAND	Mosaic,	" 55	Jan. 30, 1900
ANDREW ROWLEY	York,	" 56	Nov. 13, 1899
FREDERICK A. ARCHERD	York,	" 56	Dec. 5, 1899
ROBERT H. HENRY	Lebanon,	" 58	Feb. 1, 1900

THIS PAGE IS INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF OUR
BELOVED BRETHREN WHO ARE

At Rest.

NAME	LODGE	No.	DATE OF DEATH
ALBERT C. ROBBINS	Melrose,	60	Mar. 10, 1906
WILLIAM H. HARDIN	Keystone,	62	Jan. ..., 1899
DANIEL MEISENBACH	Blue Valley,	64	Feb. 18, 1900
JACOB GROVES	Livingstone,	66	Oct. 1, 1899
LUCIEN D. ELLSWORTH	Aurora,	63	Jan. 5, 1900
FRANK R. THOMPSON	Friend,	78	Aug. 13, 1899
JACOB WIDAMAN	Albion,	78	Jan. 6, 1900
JAMES MEYERS	Albion,	78	Jan. 20, 1900
ANTHONY KOEHLER	Geneva,	79	Feb. 20, 1900
SAMUEL W. RISING	Composite,	81	Apr. 14, 1899
HERMAN A. SCHOERGGE	Corinthian,	83	Mar. 16, 1900
JACOB KING	Tyre,	85	Feb. 19, 1900
WILLIAM REEVES	Cedar River,	89	Nov. 9, 1899
JOHN G. PRESTON	Oakland,	91	Apr. 27, 1899
HENRY NEUMANN	Oakland,	91	Sept. 7, 1899
JOHN H. HARRIS	Bennett,	94	Nov. 16, 1899
CHARLES GREENWOOD	Utica,	96	Sept. 21, 1899
JOHN A. BOON	Utica,	96	Nov. 24, 1899
JAMES B. RUNYAN	Utica,	96	Feb. 20, 1900
ALEXANDER STEWART	Wymore,	104	Jan. 9, 1900
HENRY EARNHART	Wymore,	104	Feb. 12, 1900
JOHN GARNER	Stella,	105	May 18, 1899
JOHN A. ALEXANDER	Steele City,	107	Jan. 23, 1900
JOHN G. LARSEN	Arapahoe,	109	May 12, 1899
NELSON B. HULL	DeWitt,	111	Aug. 14, 1899
JOHN H. MILLER	Springfield,	112	Mar. 26, 1900
JAMES STUART	Globe,	113	Apr. 6, 1899
WILLIAM L. HATCHER	North Bend,	119	July 7, 1899
S. EDWIN WILSON	Superior,	121	July 10, 1899
WILLIAM MURPHY	Indianola,	121	June 25, 1899
ISAAC VANDERVOORT	Indianola,	123	Oct. 14, 1899
CHARLES H. WILLARD	Auburn,	124	July 10, 1899
WILLIAM WILLIAMS	Guide Rock,	128	Sept. 20, 1899
GEORGE W. WARNER	Guide Rock,	128	July 31, 1899
HENRY W. HALL	Blue Hill,	129	Feb. 8, 1900
JEREMIAH H. FAIR	Tuscan,	130	May 7, 1899
JOHN ROMBERG	Scribner,	132	Dec. 20, 1899

THIS PAGE IS INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF OUR
BELOVED BRETHREN WHO ARE

At Rest.

NAME	LODGE	DATE OF DEATH
LEVI J. SPIKELMIER	McCook,	No. 135 Apr. 16, 1899
HORACE H. EASTERDAY	McCook,	" 135 Jan. 27, 1900
JOSEPH M. WILL	Long Pine,	" 136 Oct. 16, 1899
JAMES A. NAY	Long Pine,	" 136 Feb. 19, 1900
JOHN G. HAYZLETT	Kenesaw,	" 144 May 19, 1899
JOHN W. WATSON	Bancroft,	" 145 Nov. 10, 1899
AMOS R. SAMSON	Emmet Crawford,	" 148 Apr. 5, 1899
EDGAR E. HARDEN	Parallel,	" 152 June 2, 1899
ROBERT AXTELL	Lily,	" 154 May 26, 1899
ALVIN C. FOWLER	Samaritan,	" 158 Sept. 25, 1899
BURGESS B. BAKER	Curtis,	" 168 Feb. 12, 1900
JOSEPH A. HENDERSON	Amity,	" 169 July 18, 1899
HENRY H. CALFEE	Robert Burns,	" 173 Nov. 23, 1899
JOHN W. RODGERS	Culbertson,	" 174 July 22, 1899
ABRAHAM W. HYATT	Gladstone,	" 175 Nov. 22, 1899
THOMAS E. WHITE	Faith,	" 181 Dec. 12, 1899
DANIEL C. NORTHWAY	Israel,	" 187 Nov. 12, 1899
WILLIAM H. LAMME	Israel,	" 187 Dec. 24, 1899
GONSELLO C. WRIGHT	Crystal,	" 191 Mar. 28, 1900
JOSEPH M. HAAG	Minnekadusa,	" 192 July 1, 1898
STEPHEN H. HENDERSON	Level,	" 196 Apr. 15, 1899
WILLIAM H. WILMETH	Level,	" 196 Nov. 14, 1899
LAWRENCE C. VAN ALLEN	Morning Star,	" 197 Apr. 26, 1899
NEIL CAMERON	Blazing Star,	" 200 Mar. 10, 1900
GIBSON H. GALE	Naphthall,	" 206 Aug. 18, 1899
HERMAN F. KOEHLER	East Lincoln,	" 210 Jan. 21, 1900
NICHOLAUS SCHLICHTING	Occidental,	" 215 June 18, 1899
CHESTER L. SOLACE	Palisade,	" 216 Apr. 8, 1899
FRED C. PIPER	Palisade,	" 216
NATHANIEL C. HEDRICK	Silver Cord,	" 224 Mar. 3, 1900
EDWIN S. GREUSEL	North Star,	" 227 Oct. 10, 1899
SAMUEL C. SAMPLE	Gilead,	" 233
WILLIAM L. MATTHEWS	Zion,	" 234 Dec. 31, 1899
AARON H. HENDERSON	Cubit,	" 237 Feb. 19, 1900
WILLIAM M. ROTHELL	Ithmar,	" 238 Aug. 22, 1899
JOSEPH CARSON	Tyrian,	" 243 Dec. 6, 1899
JOHN L. AVERY	Sincerity,	" 244 Mar. 23, 1900

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

*Robert C. Jordan 1857-58-59
 *George Armstrong 1860-61-62
 Daniel H. Wheeler, Omaha 1863-64
 Robert W. Furnas, Brownville 1865-66
 *Orsamus H. Irish 1867-68
 Harry P. Deuel, Omaha, 1902 Dodge
 street 1869-70
 William E. Hill, Los Angeles, Cal. 1871-72
 Martin Dunham, Omaha 1873
 *Frank Welch 1874
 *Alfred G. Hastings 1875
 George H. Thummel, Grand Island 1876
 George W. Lininger, Omaha, 1801 Dav-
 enport street 1877
 Edward K. Valentine, West Point 1878
 Roland H. Oakley, Lincoln 1879
 James A. Tulleys, Red Cloud 1880
 James R. Cain, Falls City 1881
 Edwin F. Warren, Nebraska City 1882

*Deceased.

Samuel W. Hayes, Norfolk 1883
 John J. Wemple, Cleveland, Ohio, 97
 Beil avenue 1884
 Manoah B. Reese, Lincoln 1885
 Charles K. Goutant, Omaha 1886
 Milton J. Hull, Washington, D. C. 1887
 George B. France, York 1888
 John J. Mercer, Omaha 1889
 Robert E. French, Kearney 1890
 Bradner D. Slaughter, Lincoln 1891
 Samuel P. Davidson, Tecumseh 1891
 James P. A. Back, Bloomington 1893
 John A. Ehrhardt, Stanton 1894
 Henry H. Wilson, Lincoln 1895
 Charles J. Phelps, Schuyler 1896
 John B. Dinsmore, Sutton 1897
 Frank H. Young, Broken Bow 1898
 Wm. W. Keyser, Omaha 1899

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA
NEAR OTHER GRAND LODGES.

GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Alabama	Henry H. Mathews	Montgomery	Nov. 13, 1899
Arizona	Alonzo Bailey	Globe	June 6, 1892
Canada	William Roaf	Toronto	July 17, 1899
Colorado	Calvin E. Reed	Denver, 1320 Gaylord St.	Oct. 8, 1897
Connecticut	Reuben H. Tucker	Ansonia	Dec. 4, 1894
Delaware	Daniel McClintock	Wilmington	Mar. 18, 1892
Dist. Columbia	Frederick G. Alexander	Washington City, 1525 Columbia St., N. W.	May 20, 1893
Florida	Thomas M. Puleston	Monticello	Nov. 26, 1898
Georgia	Francis A. Johnson	Rome	April 19, 1899
Idaho	William Hull	Montpelier	Nov. 24, 1898
Indian Territory	David C. Blossom	Atoka	June 6, 1892
Iowa	Richard J. Crouch	Dewitt	Mar. 18, 1892
Ireland	John Gordon	Dublin	June 28, 1899
Kansas	Charles E. Cory	Fort Scott	Nov. 17, 1893
Louisiana	George H. Pabst	New Orleans	Nov. 2, 1897
Maine	Edward P. Burnham	Saco	April 4, 1892
Manitoba	Richard Dennis Foley	Maniton	Nov. 13, 1890
Maryland	John H. Miller	Baltimore	Mar. 25, 1893
Minnesota	Jeremiah E. Finch	Hastings	June 6, 1892
Mississippi	John K. McLeod	Moss Point	April 4, 1892
Missouri	Charles F. Vogel	St. Louis, 716 Chestnut St.	April 4, 1892
Montana	Henry M. Parchen	Helena	Mar. 18, 1892
Nevada	Channey N. Noteware	Carson	Mar. 18, 1892
New Hampshire	Alpheus W. Baker	Lebanon	April 4, 1892
New Jersey	Charles Bechtel	Trenton	Feb. 21, 1893
New Mexico	Richard English	Raton	Jan. 1, 1890
New York	Thomas C. Cassidy	New York City	Feb. 20, 1891
Nova Scotia	Alexander S. Townshend	Parrsborough	Mar. 18, 1892
Ohio	Robert Gwynn	Norwood, Hamilton Co.	Mar. 18, 1892
Oregon	Phil Metchan	Salem	May 22, 1893
Pennsylvania	James W. Robbins	Philadelphia, Merion P. O.	April 4, 1892
Quebec	William M. Le Mesurier	Montreal	Oct. 31, 1892
South Carolina	Augustine T. Smythe	Charleston	Feb. 20, 1892
Tennessee	Isaac J. Thurman	McWinnville	April 19, 1899
Utah	Abbot R. Haywood	Ogden	Feb. 20, 1892
Vermont	Charles C. Miller	Burlington	Aug. 10, 1890
Virginia	Etheldred L. Turner	Emporia	April 4, 1892
Washington	Archibald W. Frater	Seattle	April 13, 1890
West Virginia	James McCahon	Wheeling	April 19, 1899
Wisconsin	Freeman H. L. Cotter	Eu Claire	Nov. 20, 1896
Wyoming	John H. Symons	Laramie	April 28, 1892

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GRAND LODGES NEAR THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

GRAND LODGE	REPRESENTATIVE	ADDRESS	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Alabama	Thornton B. Myers, 51	David City	Nov. 24, 1896
Arizona	Lewis A. Kent, 127	Minden	Jan. 4, 1891
Arkansas	Samuel W. Hayes, 55	Norfolk	March 6, 1878
Brt. Columbia	William Adair, 5	Dakota City	May 12, 1874
California	David M. McElhinney, 50	Hastings	Nov. 17, 1890
Canada	James Gilbert, 3	Omaha	June 2, 1890
Colorado	Charles J. Phelps, 34	Schuyler	Oct. 8, 1890
Connecticut	Samuel P. Davidson, 17	Tecumseh	Oct. 10, 1889
Delaware	Carroll D. Evans, 58	Columbus	Aug. 3, 1900
Dist. Columbia	Bradner D. Slaughter, 89	Lincoln	Oct. 22, 1890
England	George W. Lininger, 3	Omaha	June 23, 1883
Florida	Julius Beckman, 15	Fremont	Sept. 27, 1899
Georgia	Edwin F. Warren, 2	Nebraska City	March 31, 1883
Idaho	James A. Tulleys, 59	Red Cloud	Feb. 1, 1873
Illinois	George H. Thummel, 33	Grand Island	March 14, 1892
Indiana	Harry P. Deuel, 11	Omaha	Nov. 8, 1890
Indian Territory	James M. Kennedy, 125	Genoa	Oct. 4, 1890
Ireland	William Cleburne, 3	Omaha	Dec. 7, 1890
Kansas	James P. A. Black, 76	Bloomington	Nov. 21, 1893
Louisiana	Albert W. Crites, 155	Chadron	Nov. 6, 1890
Maine	Thomas K. Sudborough, 25	Omaha	Oct. 15, 1890
Manitoba	Job J. King, 95	O'Neill	Nov. 1, 1899
Maryland	Henry Gibbons, 46	Kearney	Oct. 3, 1899
Michigan	Daniel H. Wheeler, 1	Omaha	June 10, 1891
Minnesota	William W. Keyser, 25	Omaha	Sept. 4, 1899
Mississippi	John M. Burks, 19	Lincoln	Dec. 31, 1869
Missouri	George B. France, 56	York	June 25, 1888
Montana	John J. Mercer, 4	Omaha	Oct. 19, 1899
Nevada	John B. Dinsmore, 49	Sutton	Sept. 6, 1899
New Brunswick	Addison S. Tibbets, 51	Lincoln	July 19, 1900
New Hampshire	Frank W. Hayes, 15	Fremont	Feb. 8, 1879
New Jersey	James R. Cain, 9	Falls City	Sept. 24, 1878
New Mexico	Henry E. Palmer, 6	Omaha	April 25, 1879
New York	Edward K. Valentine, 27	West Point	Feb. 11, 1889
North Carolina	Melville R. Hopewell, 31	Tekamah	Sept. 27, 1899
North Dakota	John A. Ehrhardt, 41	Stanton	Aug. 1, 1890
Nova Scotia	Henry H. Wilson, 19	Lincoln	Feb. 26, 1892
Ohio	Robert W. Furnas, 4	Brownville	Sept. 10, 1869
Oregon	Henry Brown, 3	Omaha	Dec. 23, 1869
P. Edward Isl'd	George E. Whitman, 138	Oxford	Jan. 6, 1891
Quebec	*James Tyler	Lincoln	
Rhode Island	William M. Knapp, 54	York	April 9, 1877
South Carolina	Frank E. Bullard, 32	North Platte	Jan. 14, 1881
South Dakota	Manoah B. Reese, 59	Lincoln	March 30, 1885
Tennessee	Francis E. White, 6	Flattsmonth	March 12, 1900
Texas	Martin Dunham, 3	Omaha	Feb. 22, 1876
Utah	Robert E. French, 46	Kearney	May 4, 1888
Vermont	Frank H. Young, 207	Broken Bow	Oct. 21, 1899
Virginia	John S. Davison, 136	Long Pine	July 14, 1900
Washington	Charles K. Coutant, 11	Omaha	April 12, 1900
West Virginia	Frank M. Knight, 183	Alliance	July 3, 1900
Wisconsin	Robert E. Evans, 5	Dakota City	Sept. 13, 1899
Wyoming	Rolland H. Oakley, 19	Lincoln	March 7, 1877

* Recommended for appointment.

LIST OF GRAND LODGES AND THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES.

GRAND LODGE	GRAND SECRETARY	ADDRESS
Alabama	H. Clay Armstrong	Montgomery.
Arizona	George J. Roskruge	Tucson.
Arkansas	Fay Hempstead	Little Rock.
Brt. Columbia...	Walter J. Quinlan	Victoria.
California	George Johnson	Masonic Temple, San Francisco.
Canada	John J. Mason	Hamilton, Ontario.
Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Masonic Temple, Denver.
Connecticut	John H. Barlow	Hartford.
Delaware	Benjamin F. Bartram	Wilmington.
Dist. Columbia..	William R. Singleton	Masonic Temple, Washington.
England	Edward Letchworth	Freemasons Hall, London.
Florida	Wilber P. Webster	Jacksonville.
Georgia	William A. Wolihin	Macon.
Idaho	Theophilus W. Randall	Boise City.
Illinois	Joseph H. C. Dill	Bloomington.
Indiana	William S. Smythe	Indianapolis.
Indian Territory	Joseph S. Murrow	Atoka.
Iowa	Theodore S. Parvin	Cedar Rapids.
Ireland	Henry E. Flavelle, Dep'y	Dublin.
Kansas	Albert K. Wilson	Topeka.
Kentucky	Henry B. Grant	Louisville.
Louisiana	Richard Lambert	Masonic Temple, New Orleans.
Maine	Stephen Berry	Portland.
Maine	William G. Scott	Winnipeg.
Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	5 Howard St., Baltimore.
Massachusetts ..	Sereno D. Nickerson	Masonic Temple, Boston.
Michigan	Jefferson S. Conover	Coldwater.
Minnesota	Thomas Montgomery	St. Paul.
Mississippi	John L. Power	Jackson.
Missouri	John D. Vincil	516 Pine St., St. Louis.
Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
Nebraska	Francis E. White	1608 Capitol Ave., Omaha.
Nevada	Chauncey N. Noteware	Carson.
New Brunswick ..	J. Twining Hartt	120 Prince William St., St. John.
New Hampshire ..	Frank D. Woodbury	Concord.
New Jersey	Thomas H. R. Redway	Trenton.
New Mexico	Alpheus A. Keen	Albuquerque.
New So. Wales ..	Arthur H. Bray	Sidney.
New York	Edward M. L. Ehlers	Masonic Hall, New York.
New Zealand	William Ronaldson	Christ Church.
North Carolina ..	John C. Drewry	Raleigh.
North Dakota	Frank J. Thompson	Fargo.
Nova Scotia	William Ross	Halifax.
Ohio	Jacob H. Bromwell	Masonic Temple, Cincinnati.
Oklahoma	James S. Hunt	Stillwater.
Oregon	James F. Robinson	Eugene.
Pennsylvania	William A. Sinn	Masonic Temple, Philadelphia.
Pr. Edward Isl'd ..	Nell MacKelvie	Summerside.
Quebec	John II. Isaacson	Montreal.
Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
Scotland	D. Murray Lyon	Edinburgh.
So. Australia	James H. Cunningham	Adelaide.
South Carolina ..	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.
South Dakota	George A. Pettigrew	Flandreau.
Tasmania	John Hamilton	Hobart.
Tennessee	John B. Garrett	Nashville.
Texas	John Watson	Houston.
Utah	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
Vermont	Warren G. Reynolds	Burlington.
Victoria	John Braim	Melbourne.
Virginia	George W. Carrington	Richmond.
Washington	Thomas M. Reed	Olympia.
West Virginia ..	George W. Atkinson	Charleston.
Wisconsin	John W. Laffin	Milwaukee.
Wyoming	William L. Kuykendall	Saratoga.

NEBRASKA LODGES ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED.

- Acacia, 34.
 Adams, U. D., (extinct.)
 Adoniram, (159.)
 Ainsworth, U. D., (131.)
 Albion, 78.
 Alexandria, 74.
 Allen, U. D., (236.)
 Alliance, 183.
 Amethyst, 190.
 Amity, 169.
 Anchor, 142.
 Arapahoe, 109.
 Arcana, 195.
 Ark and Anchor, 131, (ext.)
 Armada, U. D., (extinct.)
 Ashland, 18, (extinct.)
 Ashlar, 33.
 Atkinson, 164.
 Auburn, 121.
 Aurora, 68.
 Bancroft, 145.
 Bannack City, U. D., (ext.)
 Barneston, 165.
 Bartley, 238.
 Battle Creek, U. D., (ext.)
 Beatrice, 26.
 Beaver, U. D., (179.)
 Beaver City, 93.
 Beaver Valley, U. D., (230.)
 Bell Creek, U. D., (241.)
 Benkelman, U. D., (180.)
 Bee Hive, 134.
 Bennett, 94.
 Blazing Star, 200.
 Bloomfield, 218.
 Blue Hill, 129.
 Blue River, 30.
 Blue Springs, U. D., (85.)
 Blue Valley, 64.
 Boaz, 185.
 Brainard, 115.
 Bromfield, U. D., (ext.)
 Bromfield, U. D., (23.)
 Burchard, U. D., (137.)
 Burnett, U. D., (166.)
 Butte, U. D., (233.)
 Cable, 225.
 Cambridge, 150.
 Canopy, 209.
 Carleton, U. D., (199.)
 Capitol, 3.
 Cedar, U. D., (13.)
 Cedar Bluffs, U. D., (215.)
 Cedar Rapids, U. D., (143.)
 Cedar River, 89.
 Cement, 211.
 Central City, U. D., (ext.)
 Ceresco, U. D., (229.)
 Chadron, U. D., (158.)
 Chapman, U. D., (239.)
 Charity, 53.
 Clay Centre, 139.
 Columbus, U. D., (extinct.)
 Columbus, U. D., (extinct.)
 Columbus, U. D., (58.)
 Columbus, 8, (extinct.)
 Comet, 229.
 Compass and Square, 212.
 Composite, 81.
 Corinthian, 83.
 Corner-Stone, 247.
 Covert, 11.
 Crab Orchard, U. D., (238.)
 Crawford, U. D., (181.)
 Creighton, 100.
 Crescent, 143.
 Crete, 37.
 Crystal, 191.
 Cubit, 237.
 Culbertson, 174.
 Cuming City, U. D., (21.)
 Custer, U. D., (148.)
 Curtis, 168.
 Dakota, 5.
 Danbury, U. D., (185.)
 Davenport, U. D., (154.)
 Decatur, 7, (extinct.)
 Delta, 230.
 DeWitt, 111.
 Doniphan, 86.
 Doric, 118.
 Douglas, U. D., (237.)
 East Lincoln, 210.
 Edgar, 67.
 Elk Creek, 90.
 Elm Creek, 133.
 Elwood, 167.
 Eminence, 223.
 Emmet Crawford, 148.
 Euclid, 97.
 Eureka, 16, (extinct.)
 Evening Star, 49.
 Evergreen, 153.
 Ewing, U. D., (156.)
 Exeter, U. D., (extinct.)
 Fairbury, 35.
 Fairfield, 84.
 Fairmont, 48.
 Faith, 181.
 Falls City, 9.
 Fidelity, 51.
 Firth, U. D., (66.)
 Fortitude, 69, (extinct.)
 Frank Welch, 75.
 Fraternity, 235.
 Fremont, 15.
 Friend, 73.
 Friendship, 239.
 Garfield, 95.
 Gauge, 208.
 Gavel, 199.
 Geneva, 79.
 Genoa, U. D., (125.)
 George Armstrong, 241.
 Gibbon, (see 46.)
 Gibbon, U. D., (189.)
 Giddings, 2.
 Gilead, 233.
 Gladstone, 176.
 Globe, 113.
 Golden Fleece, 205.
 Golden Rule, 236.
 Golden Sheaf, 202.
 Gothenburg, U. D.,
 Grace, 226.
 Grafton, 172.
 Grant, U. D., (34.)
 Grant, U. D., (186.)
 Granite, 189.
 Greenwood, U. D., (163.)
 Gresham, U. D., (197.)
 Guide Rock, 128.
 Hamilton, U. D., (68.)
 Hampton, 245.
 Hardy, 117.
 Harlan, 116.
 Harmony, U. D., (extinct.)
 Harmony, U. D., (extinct.)
 Hartington, 155.
 Harvard, 44.
 Hastings, 50.
 Havelock, U. D.,
 Hay Springs, 177.
 Hebron, 43.
 Hermon, U. D., (231.)
 Hesperia, 178.
 Highland, 194.
 Hillsdale, U. D., (29.)
 Hiram, 52.
 Holdrege, 146.
 Hooper, 72.
 Hope, 25.
 Hubbell, 92.
 Humboldt, 40.
 Hyaniss, U. D., (234.)
 Idaho, U. D., (extinct.)
 Imperial, U. D., (198.)
 Incense, 182.
 Indianola, 123.
 Ionic, 87.
 Israel, 187.
 Itimar, 238.
 Jaehn, 146.
 Jasper, 122.
 Jewel, 149.
 John S. Bowen, 232.
 Johnson, U. D., (141, ext.)
 Joppa, 76.
 Jordan, 27.
 Juniata, 42.
 Justice, 180.
 Kenesaw, 144.
 Keystone, 62.
 LaFayette, 24, (extinct.)
 Lancaster, 54.
 Landmark, 222.
 Laurel, 248.
 Lebanon, 58.
 Leigh, U. D., (193.)
 Level, 196.
 Liberty, U. D., (152.)
 Lily, 154.
 Lincoln, 19.
 Livingstone, 66.
 Lone Tree, 36.
 Long Pine, 136.
 Loup Fork, U. D., (8, ext.)
 Mackey, U. D., (41.)

- Macoy, 22, (extinct.)
 Magic City, U. S. D., (184.)
 Magnolia, 240.
 Mason City, 170.
 McCook, 135.
 Melrose, 60.
 Meridian, 188.
 Merna, 171.
 Minden, 127.
 Minnekadusa, 192.
 Monitor, U. S. D., (extinct.)
 Morning Star, 197.
 Mosaic, 55.
 Mount Hermon, 231.
 Mount Moriah, 57.
 Mount Nebo, 125.
 Mount Zion, 161.
 Mystic Tie, 166.

 Naphthali, 206.
 Nebraska, 1.
 Nebraska City, 12.
 Nehawka, 246.
 Nelson, 77.
 Nemaha Valley, 4.
 Norfolk, U. S. D., (55.)
 North Bend, 119.
 North Loup, U. S. D., (142.)
 Northern Light, 41.
 North Star, 227.

 Oakland, 91.
 Occidental, 215.
 Odell, U. S. D., (122.)
 Ogallala, 159.
 Ohiowa, U. S. D., (182.)
 Oliver, 38.
 Omadi, 5.
 Ord, 103.
 Orient, 13.
 Orion, 242.
 Osceola, 65.
 Oxford, U. S. D., (138.)

 Palestine, U. S. D., (extinct.)
 Palisade, 216.
 Palmyra, 45.
 Papillion, 39.
 Parallel, 152.
 Parian, 207.
 Pawnee, 23.
 Pawnee City, U. S. D., (23.)
 Peru, U. S. D., (extinct.)
 Peru, 14.
 Pilot, 240.

 Plainview, 204.
 Platte Valley, 32.
 Plattsmouth, 6.
 Plumb, 186, (extinct.)
 Plumbline, 214.
 Pomegranate, 110.
 Ponca, 101.
 Porter, 106.
 Prudence, 179.
 Purity, 198.
 Pythagoras, 156.

 Rawalt, 139.
 Relief, 219.
 Republican, 98.
 Reynolds, U. S. D., (160.)
 Rising, U. S. D., (81.)
 Rising Star, U. S. D., (29.)
 Riverton, 63.
 Robert Burns, 173.
 Rob Morris, 46.
 Rock Bluff, 20, (extinct.)
 Rocky Mountain, 8, (transferred.)
 Roman Eagle, 203.

 Saint Johns, 25.
 Saint Paul, 82.
 Salem, 47, (extinct.)
 Saline, U. S. D., (73.)
 Saline, U. S. D., (118.)
 Saline, U. S. D., (161.)
 Samaritan, 168.
 Scotia, U. S. D., (191.)
 Scotts Bluff, 201.
 Scribner, 132.
 Seward, U. S. D., (38.)
 Shelby, U. S. D., (161.)
 Shelton, 99.
 Shickley, U. S. D., (178.)
 Signet, 193.
 Shoam, 147.
 Silver Cord, 234.
 Silver Creek, U. S. D., (ext.)
 Sincerity, 244.
 Solar, 134.
 Solomon, 10.
 Springfield, 112.
 Square, 161.
 Square and Compass, 213.
 Stanton, U. S. D., (41.)
 Star, 88.
 Steele City, 107.
 Stella, 105.
 Sterling, 70.

 Stockville, U. S. D., (196.)
 Stromsburg, 126.
 Summit, 7, (transferred.)
 Summit, 141, (extinct.)
 Superior, 121.
 Syracuse, U. S. D., (57.)

 Table Rock, 108.
 Talmage, U. S. D., (162.)
 Tecumseh, 17.
 Tekamah, 31.
 Temple, U. S. D., (5, ext.)
 Temple, 175.
 Thistle, 61.
 Tobias, U. S. D., (149.)
 Trenton, U. S. D., (extinct.)
 Trestle Board, 162.
 Trilumular, U. S. D., (210.)
 Trowel, 71.
 Tuscan, 139.
 Tyre, 85.
 Tyrian, 243.

 Ulysses, U. S. D., (187.)
 Unity, 163.
 Upright, 137.
 Utica, 96.

 Valentine, U. S. D., (113.)
 Valley, 157.
 Valparaiso, U. S. D., (151.)

 Waco, 80, (extinct.)
 Wahoo, 59.
 Washington, 21.
 Waterloo, 102.
 Wauneta, 217.
 Wayne, 120.
 Weeping Water, U. S. D., (97.)
 Western, 130.
 Western Star, 2.
 Wilcox, U. S. D., (226.)
 Winslow, U. S. D., (235.)
 Wisner, 114.
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 Zeredatha, U. S. D., (98.)
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LOCATION OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES.

BY TOWNS, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED.

- Adams, 214.
Ainsworth, 224.
Albion, 78.
Alexandria, 74.
Allen, 236.
Alliance, 183.
Alma, 116.
Ansley, 176.
Arapahoe, 109.
Arcadia, 208.
Arlington, 52.
Arnold, 225.
Ashland, 110.
Atkinson, 164.
Auburn, 124.
Aurora, 68.
- Baneroft, 145.
Barneston, 165.
Bartley, 228.
Battle Creek, 244.
Beatrice, 26.
Beaver Crossing, 179.
Beaver City, 93.
Benkellman, 180.
Bennett, 94.
Blair, 21.
Bloomfield, 218.
Bloomington, 76.
Blue Hill, 129.
Blue Springs, 85.
Brainard, 115.
Brock, 162.
Broken Bow, 148.
Bromfield, 223.
Brownville, 4.
Burchard, 137.
Burnett, 166. (Tilden P. O.)
Burwell, 200.
Butte, 233.
- Callaway, 207.
Cambridge, 150.
Carleton, 190.
Cedar Bluffs, 215.
Cedar Rapids, 143.
Central City, 36.
Ceresco, 229.
Chadron, 158.
Chapman, 239.
Chappel, 205.
Clarks, 134.
Clay Centre, 139.
Co eridge, 219.
Columbus, 58.
Cook, 231.
Cortland, 194.
Cozad, 188.
Crab Orchard, 238.
Craig, 241.
Crawford, 181.
Creighton, 100.
Crete, 37.
Culbertson, 174.
Curtis, 168.
Dakota City, 5.
Danbury, 185.
- Davenport, 154.
David City, 51.
Decatur, 88.
DeWitt, 111.
Diller, 206.
Doniphan, 86.
Dorchester, 118.
Douglas, 237.
- Edgar, 67.
Elk Creek, 90.
Elm Creek, 133.
Elmwood, 209.
Elwood, 167.
Emerson, 220.
Ewing, 156.
- Fairbury, 85.
Fairfield, 84.
Fairmont, 48.
Falls City, 9.
Filley, 175.
Firth, 66.
Fort Calhoun, 10.
Fremont, 15.
Friend, 73.
Fullerton, 89.
- Gandy, 190.
Geneva, 79.
Genoa, 125.
Gering, 201.
Gibbon, 189.
Gordon, 195.
Grafton, 172.
Grand Island, 33.
Grant, 186.
Greenwood, 163.
Gresham, 197.
Guide Rock, 128.
- Hampton, 245.
Hardy, 117.
Hartington, 155.
Harvard, 44.
Hastings, 50.
Hay Springs, 177.
Hebron, 43.
Herman, 222.
Holdrege, 146.
Hooper, 72.
Hubbell, 92.
Humboldt, 40.
Hyannis, 234.
- Imperial, 198.
Indianola, 123.
- Juniata, 42.
- Kearney, 46.
Kenesaw, 144.
Kennard, 232.
- Laurel, 248.
Leigh, 193.
Lexington, 61.
- Liberty, 152.
Lincoln, 19, 54, 210.
Long Pine, 136.
Loup City, 106.
Lyons, 240.
- Madison, 113.
Mason City, 170.
McCook, 135.
Merna, 171.
Milford, 30.
Miller, 213.
Minden, 127.
- Nebraska City, 2, 12.
Nehawka, 246.
Neligh, 71.
Nelson, 77.
Nemaha City, 29.
Niobrara, 87.
Norfolk, 55.
North Bend, 119.
North Loup, 142.
North Platte, 32.
- Oak, 243.
Oakland, 91.
Odell, 122.
Ogallala, 159.
Ohiowa, 182.
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O'Neill, 95.
Ord, 163.
Orleans, 60.
Osceola, 65.
Osmond, 247.
Oxford, 138.
- Palisade, 216.
Palmyra, 45.
Papillion, 39.
Pawnee City, 23.
Pender, 203.
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Phillips, 62.
Pierce, 163.
Plainview, 204.
Plattsmouth, 6.
Ponca, 101.
- Randolph, 202.
Ravenna, 242.
Red Cloud, 53.
Republican City, 98.
Reynolds, 160.
Rising City, 81.
Riverton, 63.
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Rushville, 169.
- Saint Edward, 230.
Saint Paul, 82.
Schuyler, 34.
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Seward, 38.
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Shelton, 99.
 Shickley, 178.
 Sidney, 75.
 South Omaha, 184.
 Springfie d, 112.
 Stanton, 41.
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 Steele City, 107.
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 Stromsburg, 126.
 Stuart, 147.
 Sumner, 212.
 Superior, 121.
 Surprise, 130.
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Syracuse, 57.
 Table Rock, 108.
 Tecumseh, 17.
 Tekamah, 31.
 Tobias, 149.
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 University Place, 227.
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 Valentine, 192.
 Valparaiso, 151.
 Wahoo, 59.
 Wakefield, 83.
 Waterloo, 102.

Wauneta, 217.
 Wayne, 120.
 Weeping Water, 97.
 Western, 140.
 West Point, 27.
 Wilber, 64.
 Wilcox, 226.
 Wilsonville, 157.
 Winside, 235.
 Wisner, 114.
 Wood Lake, 221.
 Wood River, 211.
 Wymore, 109.
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LOCATION OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES.

BY COUNTIES, ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED.

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 Brown, 136, 224.
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 Dixon, 83, 101, 220, 236.
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 Filmore, 48, 79, 172, 178, 182
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 Frontier, 168, 196.
 Furnas, 93, 109, 138, 150, 157.
 Gage, 26, 85, 104, 122, 152, 165, 175, 194, 214.
 Garfield, 200.
 Gosper, 167.
 Grant, 234.
 Greeley, 191.
 Hall, 33, 86, 211.
 Hamilton, 62, 68, 223, 245.
 Harlan, 60, 98, 116.
 Hitchcock, 173, 174, 216.
 Holt, 95, 147, 156, 164.
 Howard, 82.
 Jefferson, 35, 107, 160, 206.
 Johnson, 17, 70, 90, 231, 238.
 Kearney, 127, 226.
 Keith, 159.
 Knox, 87, 100, 218.
 Lancaster, 19, 54, 66, 94, 210, 227.
 Lincoln, 32.
 Logan, 190.
 Madison, 55, 113, 166, 244.
 Merrick, 36, 134, 239.
 Nance, 89, 125.
 Nemaha, 4, 14, 29, 124, 162.
 Nuckolls, 77, 117, 121, 243.
 Otoe, 2, 12, 45, 57, 237.
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 Perkins, 186.
 Phelps, 146.
 Pierce, 153, 204, 247.
 Platte, 58.
 Polk, 65, 126, 161.
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 Richardson, 9, 13, 40, 105.
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 Sarpy, 39, 112.
 Saunders, 59, 110, 151, 215, 229.
 Scotts Bluff, 201.
 Seward, 30, 33, 96, 179.
 Sherman, 106.
 Sheridan, 169, 177, 195.
 Stanton, 41.
 Thayer, 43, 74, 92, 154, 199.
 Thurston, 203.
 Valley, 103, 142, 208.
 Washington, 10, 21, 52, 222, 232.
 Wayne, 120, 235.
 Webster, 53, 128, 129.
 York, 56, 197.

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES,

WITH LOCATION, DATES OF REGULAR MEETINGS, ETC.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Nebraska, No. 1	Omaha	Douglas	First Tuesday	Feb. —, 55	Oct. 3, 55
	Western Star, " 2	Nebraska City	Otoe	Friday on or before ○	May 10, 55	May 28, 56
	Capitol, " 3	Omaha	Douglas	First Monday	Jan. 9, 57	June 3, 57
	Nemaha Valley, " 4	Brownville	Nemaha	Saturday on or before ○	Dec. 15, 57	June 2, 58
5	Omadi, " 5	Dakota City	Dakota	Saturday on or before ○	Jan. 18, 58	June 2, 58
	Plattsmouth, " 6	Plattsmouth	Cass	First and third Monday	Jan. 18, 58	June 2, 58
	Falls City, " 9	Falls City	Richardson	Monday before ○	Oct. 4, 64	June 23, 65
	Solomon, " 10	Fort Calhoun	Washington	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 15, 65	June 22, 66
	Covert, " 11	Omaha	Douglas	First Wednesday	July 24, 65	June 22, 66
10	Nebraska City, " 12	Nebraska City	Otoe	Tuesday on or before ○	Feb. 19, 66	June 22, 66
	Orient, " 13	Rulo	Richardson	Monday on or before ○	June 23, 66	June 19, 67
	Peru, " 14	Peru	Nemaha	Saturday on or before ○	May 23, 67	June 19, 67
	Fremont, " 15	Fremont	Dodge	First Tuesday	July 3, 66	June 20, 67
	Tecumseh, " 17	Tecumseh	Johnson	First and third Saturday	Dec. 7, 67	June 24, 68
15	Lincoln, " 19	Lincoln	Lancaster	First Tuesday	May 4, 68	June 25, 68
	Washington, " 21	Blair	Washington	Second Tuesday	Feb. 24, 68	June 25, 68
	Pawnee, " 23	Pawnee City	Pawnee	First and third Tuesday	Jan. 4, 69	Oct. 28, 69
	St. Johns, " 25	Omaha	Douglas	First Thursday	May 28, 69	Oct. 28, 69
	Beatrice, " 26	Beatrice	Gage	Second and fourth Monday	Mar. 23, 70	June 22, 70
20	Jordan, " 27	West Point	Cuming	Second and fourth Tuesday	Dec. 25, 69	June 23, 70
	Hope, " 29	Nemaha City	Nemaha	Friday on or before ○	Nov. 8, 69	June 23, 70
	Blue River, " 30	Milford	Seward	Thursday on or before ○	Apr. 25, 70	June 23, 70
	Tekamah, " 31	Tekamah	Burt	First and third Wednesday	Aug. 19, 69	June 23, 70
	Platte Valley, " 32	North Platte	Lincoln	Second Tuesday	Jan. 15, 70	June 23, 70
25	Ashlar, " 33	Grand Island	Hall	Second Thursday	Aug. 11, 70	June 22, 71
	Acacia, " 34	Schuyler	Coffey	First Thursday	July 18, 70	June 19, 72
	Fairbury, " 35	Fairbury	Jefferson	First and third Monday	June 30, 71	June 19, 72

†Or Oct. 28, 69.

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATION, DATES OF REGULAR MEETINGS, ETC.—Continued.

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LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Lone Tree, No. 36	Central City....	Merrick	First and third Saturday....	Aug. 9, 71...	June 19, 72
	Crete, " 37	Crete	Saline	First Friday	Jan. 8, 72...	June 19, 72
30	Oliver, " 38	Seward	Seward	Saturday on or before○....	July 25, 71...	June 18, 73
	Papillion, " 39	Papillion	Sarpy	First and third Saturday....	Nov. 18, 72...	June 18, 73
	Humboldt, " 40	Humboldt.....	Richardson	Thursday on or before○....	Dec. 16, 72...	June 18, 73
	Northern Light, " 41	Stanton	Stanton	Wednesday on or before○....	Jan. 20, 73...	June 18, 73
	Juniata, " 42	Juniata	Adams	Monday on or before○....	Feb. 21, 73...	June 18, 73
35	Hebron, " 43	Hebron	Thayer	First Thursday	Mar. 10, 73...	June 18, 73
	Harvard, " 44	Harvard	Clay	First and Third Tuesday....	Mar. 25, 73...	June 18, 73
	Palmyra, " 45	Palmyra	Otoe	Wednesday on or before○....	Jan. 9, 72...	June 26, 74
	Rob Morris, " 46	Kearney	Buffalo	First Wednesday	Feb. 21, 73...	June 26, 74
	Fairmont, " 48	Fairmont.....	Fillmore	Tuesday on or before○....	Dec. 4, 73...	June 26, 74
40	Evening Star, " 49	Sutton	Clay	Second and fourth Thursday.	Dec. 22, 73...	June 26, 74
	Hastings, " 50	Hastings	Adams	First Tuesday....	Jan. 3, 74...	June 26, 74
	Fidelity, " 51	David City	Butler	Saturday on or before○....	Jan. 19, 74...	June 26, 74
	Hiram, " 52	Arlington.....	Washington	Saturday on or before○....	Feb. 26, 74...	June 26, 74
	Charity, " 53	Red Cloud	Webster	Friday on or before○....	Mar. 2, 74...	June 26, 74
45	Lancaster, " 54	Lincoln	Lancaster	First Friday	April 20, 74...	June 26, 74
	Mosaic, " 55	Norfolk.....	Madison	First Tuesday	Oct. 1, 74...	June 23, 75
	York, " 56	York	York	Last Friday	Oct. 1, 74...	June 23, 75
	Mount Moriah, " 57	Syracuse	Otoe	Thursday on or before○....	Nov. 7, 74...	June 23, 75
	Lebanon, " 58	Columbus	Platte	Second Wednesday	Dec. 7, 74...	June 23, 75
50	Wahoo, " 59	Wahoo	Saunders.....	First Wednesday	Jan. 20, 75...	June 23, 75
	Melrose, " 60	Orleans	Harlan	Saturday on or before○....	Mar. 10, 75...	June 24, 75
	Thistle, " 61	Lexington.....	Dawson	Second Tuesday	May 8, 75...	June 21, 76
	Keystone, " 62	Phillips.....	Hamilton	Saturday on or before○....	Jan. 1, 76...	June 21, 76
	Riverton, " 63	Riverton	Franklin	Saturday on or before○....	Dec. 22, 75...	June 21, 76
55	Blue Valley, " 64	Wilber	Saline	Tuesday on or before○*....	Oct. 6, 76...	June 20, 77
	Osceola, " 65	Osceola	Polk	Saturday on or before○*....	Nov. 23, 76...	June 20, 77

*And two weeks thereafter.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

	Livingstone,	No. 66	Firth	Lancaster	First and third Wednesday	Feb. 16, 77	June 20, 77
	Edgar,	" 67	Edgar	Clay	Second and fourth Monday	Feb. 27, 77	June 20, 77
	Aurora,	" 68	Aurora	Hamilton	First and third Tuesday	Feb. 10, 76	June 19, 78
60	Sterling,	" 70	Sterling	Johnson	First and third Tuesday	July 16, 77	June 19, 78
	Trowel,	" 71	Neligh	Antelope	First and third Wednesday	Jan. 28, 78	June 19, 78
	Hooper,	" 72	Hooper	Dodge	Saturday on or before O	Mar. 19, 78	June 25, 79
	Friend,	" 73	Friend	Saline	Wednesday on or before O	May 4, 78	June 25, 79
	Alexandria,	" 74	Alexandria	Chayen	Second and fourth Monday	Dec. 26, 78	June 25, 79
65	Frank Welch,	" 75	Sidney	Cheyenne	First Tuesday	Dec. 26, 78	June 25, 79
	Joppa,	" 76	Bloomington	Franklin	Friday on or before O	Mar. 29, 79	June 25, 79
	Nelson,	" 77	Nelson	Nuckolls	Saturday on or before O	Mar. 15, 79	June 23, 80
	Albion,	" 78	Albion	Boone	First and third Saturday	Aug. 1, 79	June 23, 80
	Geneva,	" 79	Geneva	Fillmore	Friday on or before O*	Nov. 24, 79	June 23, 80
70	Composite,	" 81	Rising City	Butler	Tuesday on or before O	Mar. 20, 80	June 22, 81
	St. Paul,	" 82	Saint Paul	Howard	Third Thursday	April 15, 80	June 22, 81
	Corinthian,	" 83	Wakefield	Dixon	Saturday on or before O	April 22, 80	June 22, 81
	Fairfield,	" 84	Fairfield	Clay	First and third Monday	Sept. 3, 80	June 22, 81
	Tyre,	" 85	Blue Springs	Gage	First and third Tuesday	Sept. 16, 80	June 22, 81
75	Doniphan,	" 86	Doniphan	Hall	Saturday on or before O	Jan. 7, 81	June 22, 81
	Ionic,	" 87	Niobrara	Knox	Thursday on or before O	Jan. 24, 81	June 20, 82
	Star,	" 88	Decatur	Burt	First Tuesday	Sept. 17, 81	June 20, 82
	Cedar River,	" 89	Fullerton	Nance	First and third Monday	Jan. 19, 82	June 20, 82
	Elk Creek,	" 90	Elk Creek	Johnson	Wednesday on or before O	Feb. 11, 82	June 20, 82
80	Oakland,	" 91	Oakland	Burt	Second and fourth Wednesday	Feb. 7, 82	June 19, 83
	Hubbell,	" 92	Hubbell	Thayer	Second and fourth Saturday	April 29, 82	June 19, 83
	Beaver City,	" 93	Beaver City	Furnas	Saturday on or before O	May 3, 82	June 19, 83
	Bennett,	" 94	Bennet	Lancaster	Tuesday on or before O	May 5, 82	June 19, 83
	Garfield,	" 95	O'Neill	Holt	First and third Thursday	June 28, 82	June 19, 83
85	Utica,	" 96	Utica	Seward	Wednesday on or before O	July 14, 82	June 19, 83
	Euclid,	" 97	Weeping Water	Cass	First Monday	July 21, 82	June 19, 83
	Republican,	" 98	Republican City	Harlan	Wednesday on or before O	July 27, 82	June 19, 83
	Shelton,	" 99	Shelton	Buffalo	Friday on or before O	July 28, 82	June 19, 83
	Creighton,	" 100	Creighton	Knox	Tuesday on or before O	Aug. 19, 82	June 19, 83
90	Ponca,	" 101	Ponca	Dixon	Friday on or before O	Sept. 1, 82	June 19, 83
	Waterloo,	" 102	Waterloo	Douglas	Tuesday on or before O	Sept. 7, 82	June 19, 83

*And two weeks thereafter.

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATION, DATES OF REGULAR MEETINGS, ETC.—Continued.

LODGE		TOWN	COUNTY	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING	CREATED	CHARTERED
	Ord, No. 103	Ord	Valley	Wednesday on or before ○	Sept. 14, 82	June 19, 83
	Wymore, " 104	Wymore	Gage	Second and fourth Wednesday	Nov. 10, 82	June 19, 83
	Stella, " 105	Stella	Richardson	Wednesday on or before ○	Dec. 4, 82	June 19, 83
95	Porter, " 106	Loup City	Sherman	Tuesday on or before ○*	Dec. 9, 82	June 19, 83
	Steele City, " 107	Steele City	Jefferson	Wednesday on or before ○	Jan. 23, 83	June 19, 83
	Table Rock, " 108	Table Rock	Pawnee	Second and fourth Tuesday	Jan. 24, 83	June 19, 83
	Arapahoe, " 109	Arapahoe	Furnas	Saturday on or before ○	Feb. 10, 83	June 19, 83
	Pomegranate, " 110	Ashland	Saunders	First Friday	Feb. 13, 83	June 19, 83
100	De Witt, " 111	DeWitt	Saline	Monday on or before ○	Feb. 28, 83	June 19, 83
	Springfield, " 112	Springfield	Sarpy	Second and fourth Saturday	Mar. 30, 83	June 19, 83
	Globe, " 113	Madison	Madison	Tuesday on or before ○	Feb. 16, 82	June 24, 84
	Wisner, " 114	Wisner	Cuming	Second and fourth Wednesday	Feb. 12, 83	June 24, 84
	Brainard, " 115	Brainard	Butler	Tuesday on or before ○	July 11, 83	June 24, 84
105	Harlan, " 116	Alma	Harlan	Friday on or before ○*	July 12, 83	June 24, 84
	Hardy, " 117	Hardy	Nuckolls	Friday on or before ○	July 18, 83	June 24, 84
	Doric, " 118	Dorchester	Saline	Saturday on or before ○	Aug. 2, 83	June 24, 84
	North Bend, " 119	North Bend	Dodge	Second Tuesday	Sept. 5, 83	June 24, 84
	Wayne, " 120	Wayne	Wayne	Second and fourth Friday	Sept. 26, 83	June 24, 84
110	Superior, " 121	Superior	Nuckolls	Wednesday on or before ○	Nov. 22, 83	June 24, 84
	Jasper, " 122	Odell	Gage	Second and fourth Wednesday	Nov. 26, 83	June 24, 84
	Indianola, " 123	Indianola	Red Willow	Thursday on or before ○	Dec. 8, 83	June 24, 84
	Auburn, " 124	Auburn	Nemaha	Monday on or before ○	Dec. 25, 83	June 24, 84
	Mount Nebo, " 125	Genoa	Nance	Second and fourth Saturday	Jan. 1, 84	June 24, 84
115	Stromsburg, " 126	Stromsburg	Polk	First Saturday after ○*	Jan. 16, 84	June 24, 84
	Minden, " 127	Minden	Kearney	Wednesday on or before ○	Jan. 22, 84	June 24, 84
	Guide Rock, " 128	Guide Rock	Webster	Wednesday on or before ○	Jan. 28, 84	June 24, 84
	Blue Hill, " 129	Blue Hill	Webster	Friday on or before ○	Feb. 18, 84	June 24, 84
	Tuscan, " 130	Surprise	Butler	Thursday on or before ○	Feb. 20, 84	June 24, 85
120	Scribner, " 132	Scribner	Dodge	First Wednesday	July 9, 84	June 24, 85

*And two weeks thereafter.

	Elm Creek, No. 133	Elm Creek	Buffalo	First Tuesday	Aug. 8, 84	June 24, 85
	Solar, " 134	Clarks	Merrick	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 8, 84	June 24, 85
	McCook, " 135	McCook	Red Willow	First and third Thursday	Oct. 6, 84	June 24, 85
	Long Pine, " 136	Long Pine	Brown	First and third Saturday	Oct. 6, 84	June 24, 85
125	Upright, " 137	Burchard	Pawnee	Wednesday on or before ○	Nov. 14, 84	June 24, 85
	Rawalt, " 138	Oxford	Furnas	Saturday on or after ○	Nov. 15, 84	June 24, 85
	Clay Centre, " 139	Clay Center	Clay	First and third Saturday	Dec. 6, 84	June 24, 85
	Western, " 140	Western	Saline	Wednesday on or before ○*	Dec. 6, 84	June 24, 85
	Anchor, " 142	North Loup	Valley	First Saturday	Dec. 18, 84	June 24, 85
130	Crescent, " 143	Cedar Rapids	Boone	Saturday on or before ○	Jan. 24, 85	June 24, 85
	Kenesaw, " 144	Kenesaw	Adams	Friday on or before ○	Jan. 28, 85	June 24, 85
	Bancroft, " 145	Bancroft	Cuming	Second and fourth Wednesday	Feb. 25, 85	June 24, 85
	Jachin, " 146	Holdrege	Phelps	Third Thursday	Mar. 31, 85	June 17, 86
	Siloam, " 147	Stuart	Holt	Friday on or after ○	April 30, 85	June 17, 86
135	Emmet Crawford, " 148	Broken Bow	Custer	Saturday on or before ○	July 13, 85	June 17, 86
	Jewel, " 149	Tobias	Saline	Second and fourth Tuesday	Aug. 15, 85	June 17, 86
	Cambridge, " 150	Cambridge	Furnas	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 10, 85	June 17, 86
	Square, " 151	Valparaiso	Saunders	Second and fourth Tuesday	Sept. 7, 85	June 17, 86
	Parallel, " 152	Liberty	Gage	Thursday on or before ○	Nov. 20, 85	June 17, 86
140	Evergreen, " 153	Pierce	Pierce	Tuesday on or before ○*	Nov. 27, 85	June 17, 86
	Lily, " 154	Davenport	Thayer	Friday on or before ○	Nov. 28, 85	June 17, 86
	Hartington, " 155	Hartington	Cedar	Wednesday on or before ○	Jan. 26, 86	June 17, 86
	Pythagoras, " 156	Ewing	Holt	Saturday on or before ○	Oct. 24, 86	June 16, 87
	Valley, " 157	Wilsonville	Furnas	Saturday on or after ○	Feb. 22, 86	June 16, 87
145	Samaritan, " 158	Chadron	Dawes	First and third Thursday	Mar. 17, 86	June 16, 87
	Ogallala, " 159	Ogallala	Keith	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 14, 86	June 16, 87
	Zeredatha, " 160	Reynolds	Jefferson	First and third Saturday	Aug. 21, 86	June 16, 87
	Mount Zion, " 161	Shelby	Polk	Saturday on or before ○	Aug. 25, 86	June 16, 87
	Trestle Board, " 162	Brock	Nemaha	Saturday on or before ○	Oct. 9, 86	June 16, 87
150	Unity, " 163	Greenwood	Cass	Friday on or before ○	Dec. 18, 86	June 16, 87
	Atkinson, " 164	Atkinson	Holt	First and third Wednesday	Aug. 19, 86	June 21, 88
	Barneston, " 165	Barneston	Gage	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 20, 86	June 21, 88
	Mystic Tie, " 166	Burnett	Madison	Thursday on or before ○	Feb. 18, 87	June 21, 88
	Elwood, " 167	Elwood	Gosper	Saturday on or before ○	June 21, 87	June 21, 88
155	Curtis, " 168	Curtis	Frontier	First and third Monday	June 21, 87	June 21, 88

*And two weeks thereafter.

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATION, DATES OF REGULAR MEETINGS, ETC.—Continued.

5926

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

LODGE	TOWN	COUNTY	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING	CREATED	CHARTERED
Amity, No. 169	Rushville.....	Sheridan.....	Saturday on or before○.....	July 29, 86...	June 21, 88
Mason City, " 170	Mason City.....	Custer.....	Tuesday on or before○.....	Aug. 1, 87...	June 21, 88
Merna, " 171	Merna.....	Custer.....	Saturday on or after○.....	Aug. 2, 87...	June 21, 88
Grafton, " 172	Grafton.....	Fillmore.....	Wednesday on or before○*	Oct. 18, 87...	June 21, 88
160 Robert Burns, " 173	Stratton.....	Hitchcock.....	First and third Saturday.....	Nov. 15, 87...	June 21, 88
Culbertson, " 174	Culbertson.....	Hitchcock.....	First and third Wednesday.....	Nov. 16, 87...	June 21, 88
Temple, " 175	Filley.....	Gage.....	First and third Saturday.....	Dec. 9, 87...	June 21, 88
Gladstone, " 176	Ansley.....	Custer.....	Saturday on or after○.....	Feb. 18, 88...	June 21, 88
Hay Springs, " 177	Hay Springs.....	Sheridan.....	Monday on or before○.....	Feb. 20, 88...	June 21, 88
165 Hesperia, " 178	Shickley.....	Fillmore.....	Friday on or before○*	Jan. 11, 88...	June 20, 89
Prudence, " 179	Beaver Crossing.	Seward.....	Tuesday on or before○.....	Aug. 24, 88...	June 20, 89
Justice, " 180	Benkelman.....	Dundy.....	Friday on or before○.....	Oct. 8, 88...	June 20, 89
Faith, " 181	Crawford.....	Dawes.....	Saturday on or before○.....	Dec. 13, 88...	June 20, 89
Incense, " 182	Ohioa.....	Fillmore.....	Friday on or before○.....	Dec. 21, 88...	June 20, 89
170 Alliance, " 183	Alliance.....	Box Butte.....	Thursday on or before○.....	Jan. 18, 89...	June 20, 89
Bee Hive, " 184	South Omaha.....	Douglas.....	First Thursday.....	Jan. 22, 89...	June 20, 89
Boaz, " 185	Danbury.....	Red Willow.....	Wednesday on or before○.....	Jan. 24, 89...	June 20, 89
Israel, " 187	Ulysses.....	Butler.....	Tuesday on or before○.....	Feb. 2, 89...	June 20, 89
Meridian, " 188	Cozad.....	Dawson.....	Third Saturday.....	Feb. 4, 89...	June 20, 89
175 Granite, " 189	Gibbon.....	Buffalo.....	First Thursday.....	Feb. 18, 89...	June 20, 89
Amethyst, " 190	Gandy.....	Logan.....	Second and fourth Saturday.	Aug. 5, 89...	June 20, 90
Crystal, " 191	Scotia.....	Greeley.....	Saturday on or before○.....	Aug. 7, 89...	June 20, 90
Minnekadusa, " 192	Valentine.....	Cherry.....	Tuesday on or before○.....	Aug. 15, 89...	June 20, 90
Signet, " 193	Leigh.....	Colfax.....	Friday on or before○.....	Sept. 3, 89...	June 20, 90
180 Highland, " 194	Cortland.....	Gage.....	First and third Monday.....	Sept. 21, 89...	June 20, 90
Arcana, " 195	Gordon.....	Sheridan.....	First and third Monday.....	Oct. 17, 89...	June 20, 90
Level, " 196	Stockville.....	Frontier.....	Saturday on or before○.....	Nov. 1, 89...	June 20, 90
Morning Star, " 197	Gresham.....	York.....	Friday on or before○.....	Dec. 16, 89...	June 20, 90
Purity, " 198	Imperial.....	Chase.....	Friday on or before○.....	Dec. 21, 89...	June 20, 90

*And two weeks thereafter.

185	Gavel,	No. 199	Carleton	Thayer	Tuesday on or before ○	July 20, 89	June 18, 91
	Blazing Star,	" 200	Burwell	Garfield	Thursday on or after ○	Aug. 5, 90	June 18, 91
	Scotts Bluff,	" 201	Gering	Scotts Bluff	First Saturday	Aug. 8, 90	June 18, 91
	Golden Sheaf,	" 202	Randolph	Cedar	Monday on or before ○	Aug. 29, 90	June 18, 91
	Roman Eagle,	" 203	Pender	Thurston	Tuesday on or before ○	Aug. 30, 90	June 18, 91
190	Plainview,	" 204	Plainview	Pierce	Tuesday on or before ○*	Sept. 1, 90	June 18, 91
	Golden Fleece,	" 205	Chappell	Deuel	Thursday on or before ○	Sept. 2, 90	June 18, 91
	Naphthali,	" 206	Diller	Jefferson	Second and fourth Tuesday	Dec. 31, 90	June 18, 91
	Parian,	" 207	Callaway	Custer	Thursday on or before ○	Jan. 31, 91	June 18, 91
	Gauge,	" 208	Arcadia	Valley	Tuesday on or after ○*	Aug. 24, 91	June 16, 92
195	Canopy,	" 209	Elmwood	Cass	Saturday on or before ○	Sept. 4, 91	June 16, 92
	East Lincoln,	" 210	Lincoln	Lancaster	First Monday	Nov. 5, 91	June 16, 92
	Cement,	" 211	Wood River	Hall	Thursday on or after ○	Nov. 27, 91	June 16, 92
	Compass and Square,	" 212	Sumner	Dawson	Tuesday on or before ○	Dec. 12, 91	June 16, 92
	Square and Compass,	" 213	Miller	Buffalo	Friday on or before ○	Dec. 14, 91	June 16, 92
200	Plumblin,	" 214	Adams	Gage	Monday on or before ○	Nov. 17, 91	June 15, 93
	Occidental,	" 215	Cedar Bluffs	Saunders	Saturday on or before ○	July 16, 92	June 15, 93
	Palisade,	" 216	Palisade	Hitchcock	Tuesday on or before ○	July 18, 92	June 15, 93
	Wauneta,	" 217	Wauneta	Chase	First and third Thursday	Dec. 7, 92	June 15, 93
	Bloomfield,	" 218	Bloomfield	Knox	Tuesday on or before ○	Jan. 18, 93	June 15, 93
205	Relief,	" 219	Coleridge	Cedar	Second Friday	Jan. 19, 93	June 15, 93
	Magnolia,	" 220	Emerson	Dixon	Wednesday on or before ○	Jan. 21, 93	June 15, 93
	Wood Lake,	" 221	Wood Lake	Cherry	Saturday on or before ○	Sept. 22, 92	June 21, 94
	Landmark,	" 222	Herman	Washington	Tuesday on or before ○	Mar. 1, 93	June 21, 94
	Eminence,	" 223	Bromfield	Hamilton	Second and fourth Tuesday	Sept. 26, 93	June 21, 94
210	Silver Cord,	" 224	Ainsworth	Brown	Second Saturday	Oct. 17, 93	June 21, 94
	Cable,	" 225	Arnold	Custer	First and third Saturday	Nov. 17, 93	June 21, 94
	Grace,	" 226	Wilcox	Kearney	Monday on or before ○	Jan. 20, 93	June 13, 95
	North Star,	" 227	University Place	Lancaster	First Wednesday	July 28, 94	June 13, 95
	Bartley,	" 228	Bartley	Red Willow	Wednesday on or before ○	Nov. 23, 94	June 13, 95
215	Comet,	" 229	Ceresco	Saunders	Friday on or before ○*	Dec. 5, 94	June 13, 95
	Delta,	" 230	Saint Edward	Boone	First and third Saturday	Dec. 11, 94	June 13, 95
	Mt. Hermon	" 231	Cook	Johnson	Wednesday on or before ○	Dec. 19, 94	June 13, 95
	John S. Bowen,	" 232	Kennard	Washington	Thursday on or before ○	Feb. 6, 95	June 13, 95
	Gilead,	" 233	Butte	Boyd	Second and fourth Monday	Nov. 22, 94	June 10, 96

*And two weeks thereafter.

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES, WITH LOCATION, DATES OF REGULAR MEETINGS, ETC.—*Concluded.*

LODGE	TOWN	COUNTY	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING	CREATED	CHARTERED
220 Zion, No. 234	Hyannis.....	Grant.....	Wednesday on or before ○...	July 19, 95...	June 10, 96
Fraternity, " 235	Winside.....	Wayne.....	Wednesday on or before ○...	Aug. 2, 95...	June 10, 96
Golden Rule, " 236	Allen.....	Dixon.....	Thursday on or before ○.....	Aug. 3, 95...	June 10, 96
Cubit, " 237	Douglas.....	Otoe.....	Thursday on or before ○.....	Aug. 9, 95...	June 10, 96
Ithmar, " 238	Crab Orchard.....	Johnson.....	Monday on or before ○.....	Aug. 29, 95...	June 10, 96
225 Friendship, " 239	Chapman.....	Merrick.....	Second and fourth Friday....	Oct. 7, 95...	June 10, 96
Pilot, " 240	Lyons.....	Burt.....	Friday on or before ○.....	Nov. 29, 95...	June 10, 96
George Armstrong, " 241	Craig.....	Burt.....	First and third Tuesday.....	Aug. 1, 95...	June 17, 97
Orion, " 242	Ravenna.....	Buffalo.....	Second and fourth Friday....	Mar. 31, 97...	June 16, 98
Tyrian, " 243	Oak.....	Nuckolls.....	First and third Wednesday..	Aug. 24, 98...	June 8, 99
230 Sincerity, " 244	Battle Creek.....	Madison.....	Second and fourth Friday....	Feb. 18, 99...	June 8, 99
Hampton, " 245	Hampton.....	Hamilton.....	First and third Friday.....	July 13, 99...	June 7, 00
Nehawka, " 246	Nehawka.....	Cass.....	Wednesday on or before ○...	Jan. 2, 00...	June 7, 00
Corner-stone, " 247	Osmond.....	Pierce.....	Friday on or before ○..	Jan. 3, 00...	June 7, 00
234 Laurel, " 248	Laurel.....	Cedar.....	First and third Thursday....	Feb. 12, 00...	June 7, 00

ROLL OF EXISTING NEBRASKA LODGES.

See page 5873 for Statistics.

WITH INSTALLED OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1901.

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	SECRETARY
Nebraska,	No. 1	Fred J. Sackett	John D. Howe	Milton J. Kennard . . .	William C. McLean.
Western Star,	" 2	Detrich W. Schminke.	John W. Dixon	Willard S. Harding . . .	Milton R. Thorp.
Capitol,	" 3	John H. Chapman	Charles E. Bedwell . . .	William A. DeBord . . .	John Bamford.
Nemaha Valley,	" 4	Charles H. Gilmore	David C. McIninch	Wilber Roy	S. Ott McIninch.
5 Omadi,	" 5	Frank S. Macomber	John F. Sides	Robert L. Cheney	George C. Bille.
Plattsmouth,	" 6	Adam Kurtz	Michael Archer	Joseph Neely	Joseph F. Lake.
Falls City,	" 9	Frank C. Wiser	David W. Sowles	George Kachelries	Amos E. Gantt.
Solomon,	" 10	J. Marion Trisler	Anton Michelsen	William R. Duncan	Carl H. L. Feldhusen.
Covert,	" 11	Luther B. Hoyt	J. Elmer Anderson	John T. Cathers	Eben K. Long.
10 Nebraska City,	" 12	John M. Willman	William F. N. Houser	William Brower	William C. Willman.
Orient,	" 13	Evan Kulp	William F. Gingrich	Dudley VanValkenburg	George D. Kirk.
Peru,	" 14	Joseph A. Hays	William M. Whitfield	Horton W. Bedell	Daniel C. Cole.
Fremont,	" 15	Josiah M. Shively	James T. Bender	Charles E. Abbot	John L. Schurman.
Tecumseh,	" 17	George D. Bennett	William S. Bouton	Charles A. Pierce	Jacob S. Dew.
15 Lincoln,	" 19	Alexander E. Porter	Morris W. Folsom	H. Archie Vaughan	James W. Frow.
Washington,	" 21	William K. Fowler	John C. Johnson	Samuel L. Brown	Frederick W. Arndt.
Pawnee,	" 23	Leslie W. Leonard	Elmer W. Power	John C. David	George E. Becker.
Saint Johns,	" 25	Charles S. Lobingier	Clyde J. Backus	William T. Bourke	Carl E. Herring.
Beatrice,	" 26	Samuel A. Gilliland	Oliver P. Liston	John L. Anderson	Harry W. Kelsey.
20 Jordan,	" 27	Zed E. Briggs	Charles F. Nitz	Christian Hirschmann	Frederick A. C. Leffert.
Hope,	" 29	Benjamin T. Skeen	Alfred B. Kenton	James H. Linn	Alonzo L. P. Thompson.
Blue River,	" 30	John A. Cocklin	Franklin E. Stump	Henry C. Atwood	George W. Brandon.
Tekamah,	" 31	Frank E. Ward	Charles E. Hopewell	Frank J. Hayes	Emmett I. Ellis.
Platte Valley.	" 32	John Sorenson	George A. Beecher	John C. Orr	Frank E. Bullard.
25 Ashlar,	" 33	Robert R. Watson	Deidreich Spethman	Andrew Cosh	Oscar Wells.
Acacia,	" 34	Henry C. Wright	Herbert S. Wells	William F. Miller	George H. Wells.
Fairbury,	" 35	Edward L. Cline	Wilson H. Beatty	Edgar E. Howell	George A. White.

ROLL OF EXISTING LODGES, WITH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1901—Continued.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	SECRETARY
	Lone Tree, No. 36	John C. Lutes	James W. Tegarden . . .	Joseph E. Benton	George D. Bockes.
	Crete, " 37	Melville H. Fleming . . .	Nimrod W. Norris . . .	Charles B. Anderson . .	Seward L. Mains.
30	Oliver, " 38	John McLain	Major A. V. Davis . . .	John C. Oaks	Smith D. Atkins.
	Papillion, " 39	Malcolm P. Brown	Newel R. Wilcox	Alexander Catherwood .	George A. Ireland.
	Humboldt, " 40	Leroy S. Hackett	Charles E. Nims	Howard S. Norton	Edgar S. Norton.
	Northern Light, " 41	Henry F. Stephens	Charles P. Parish	Arthur W. Forbs	William T. McFarland.
	Juniata, " 42	William G. Saddler	Frank R. Hughes	William E. Cadwalader .	Addison P. Slack.
35	Hebron, " 43	Elmo B. Roper	Jacob J. Werner	William J. Long	Clarence C. Fowler, acting.
	Harvard, " 44	Harry N. Webster	Nathan H. Lewis	Arthur Wilson	Griffith J. Thomas.
	Palmyra, " 45	* <i>Dwight Wait</i>	* <i>William P. Severs</i> . . .	* <i>Alexander McIntyre</i> . .	* <i>Charles A. Sweet</i> .
	Rob Morris, " 46	Gilbert E. Haase	Roy A. Shahan	Clarence A. Murch . . .	Robert E. French.
	Fairmont, " 48	Alvah W. Loomis	Thomas Green	Frank Young	Joseph Burns.
40	Evening Star, " 49	Albert W. Clark	George Honey	Frederick J. Hoerger . .	William J. Legg.
	Hastings, " 50	John F. Beardsley	Frank C. Babcock	Myron W. Burgess	David M. McElHinney.
	Fidelity, " 51	Major R. Stenson	George L. Krahl	Roy W. Becker	John Harper.
	Hiram, " 52	Samuel G. Glover	* <i>William H. Baker</i> . . .	Frank A. Reynolds	Amasa F. Tyson.
	Charity, " 53	John C. Myers	John W. Tulleys	Lewis H. Blackledge . . .	Lewis H. Blackledge.
45	Lancaster, " 54	William Baird	Frank D. McClusky . . .	Frank W. Hill	John S. Bishop.
	Mosaic, " 55	John B. Maylord	George T. Sprecher . . .	Burt Mapes	Daniel J. Koenigstein.
	York, " 56	Almon J. Ryan	D. Webster Baker	Samuel E. Cain	George R. Reed.
	Mount Moriah, " 57	James R. Alexander	* <i>Jasper K. Griffith</i> . . .	Daughty C. Beyette . . .	William O. Stanbro.
	Lebanon, " 58	Louis G. Zinnecker	Gustavus A. Schroeder .	Charles L. Stillman . . .	Gus G. Becher.
50	Wahoo, " 59	Charles Perky	Fred R. Clark	Frank J. Kirchman	John C. Hamilton.
	Melrose, " 60	William H. Banwell	John A. Ellis	William S. Pexton	George M. Wallace.
	Thistle, " 61	William Kugler	Frank H. Adams	Albert Cole	Samuel C. Mullin.
	Keystone, " 62	William U. Biggart	Benjamin J. Fulton . . .	James O. Baker	Commadore P. Spurgeon.
	Riverton, " 63	Eugene Hunter	Hugh Crilly	Isaac Shepherdson	John D. Fulton.
55	Blue Valley, " 64	Joseph H. Grimm	Henry Jennings	Henry Binger	Charles J. Stiastny.
	Oseola, " 65	Lee K. McGaw	Oliver E. Mickey	Arns V. Nelson	Thomas H. Saunders.
	Livingstone, " 66	Edgar D. Champion	Albert R. TonVell	Joseph A. Burcham . . .	Charles F. Collins.
	Edgar, " 67	Joseph C. Gardner	Ralph C. Saxton	William E. Montgomery . .	John J. Walley.

* From last report of officers installed.

	Aurora,	No. 68	Charles G. Skinner	Amos D. Travis	Berg O. Bergerson	Henry B. Hart.
60	Sterling,	" 70	James W. Turner	Thompson M. Patton	Howard W. Dollarhide	E. Ross Hitchcock.
	Trowel,	" 71	Nelson D. Jackson	Charles A. Hewitt	Hugh L. McGinitie	Robert Wilson.
	Hooper,	" 72	Charles C. Cushman	Bernard Monnich	Henry Schwab	Edward W. Renkin.
	Friend,	" 73	Alexander McFarlane	Orville G. Ellsworth	Elbert E. Sams	Charles M. Sanders.
	Alexandria,	" 74	George H. Danforth	David A. Sherwood	Charles S. Bright	William L. Whitney.
65	Frank Welch,	" 75	Charles C. Callahan	Henry E. Gapen	J. Caesar Neubauer	Leslie Neubauer.
	Joppa,	" 76	James P. A. Black	Charles L. Owen	Harry S. Ayer	Charles K. Hart.
	Nelson,	" 77	Henry E. Goodrich	William M. Porter	Sidney H. Hinit	Edwin H. Dowland.
	Albion,	" 78	Arthur W. Ladd	Frederick M. Weitzel	Frank A. Doten	William Weitzel.
	Geneva,	" 79	Mark Butler	George R. Ward	John Mills	William T. Harris.
70	Composite,	" 81	James E. Wilson	William H. Sheppard	Horace H. Judd	Lucius A. Warren.
	Saint Paul,	" 82	James A. Wilhelmsen	Judsen E. Bartlett	Charles James	Fred W. Rineker.
	Corinthian,	" 83	David C. Leamer	John H. Mitchell	Herbert P. Shumway	William M. Wheeler.
	Fairfield,	" 84	Melvin D. Gates	Lester B. Stiner	D. Frank Phillips	Charles H. Epperson.
	Tyre,	" 85	John M. Falwell	James H. Casebeer	George S. Harris	J. Vincent Craig.
75	Doniphan,	" 86	George C. Humphrey	David C. Gideon	Albert B. Smith	John Schwyn.
	Ionic,	" 87	Benjamin F. Chambers	Frank Nelson	David M. Cunningham	Charles A. Nippell.
	Star,	" 88	John B. Walker	Thomas R. Ashley	Charles E. Barlow	Robert G. Langley.
	Cedar River,	" 89	Albert Thompson	William H. Davis	F. Morton Jones	Davis W. Randolph.
	Elk Creek,	" 90	Thomas B. Rogers	J. Frank Snethen	Thomas McClure	John W. Youngman,
80	Oakland,	" 91	Victor L. Fried	Charles J. Swanson	Charles A. Peterson	Arthur B. Peden.
	Hubbell,	" 92	Samuel A. Lockwood	Richard F. Hallenbeck	Samuel Patton	Harvey Ford.
	Beaver City,	" 93	William J. Lutton	Albert M. Keyes	Fletcher N. Merwin	John T. Sumny.
	Bennet,	" 94	Madson Willan	Thomas J. Dickson	William Nelson	Melvin O. McLaughlin
	Garfield,	" 95	James C. Harnish	Albert B. Newell	Elsworth J. Mack	Merritt J. Martin.
85	Utica,	" 96	Daniel J. Hartrum	Daniel P. Sherwood	Fred G. Limback	Calvin E. Phinney.
	Euclid,	" 97	James W. Brooks	John C. Lehman	Thomas F. Jameson	Hiram Peck.
	Republican,	" 98	Nelson J. Ludi	John A. McPherson	James Miner	Clarence A. Luce.
	Shelton,	" 99	Henry H. Stedman	Charles M. Wallace	Joseph Franks	Charles P. Miller.
	Creighton,	" 100	Harry A. Cheney	John K. Brown	Willis W. Brown	Leroy L. Seeley.
90	Ponca,	" 101	James E. Myers	James E. Stevenson	John A. Mohr	Marion L. Mellon.
	Waterloo,	" 102	Charles Witte	Frank Whitmore	Leslie W. Shannon	Bryan B. Hopper.
	Ord,	" 103	W. James Milford	Everett M. Williams	James H. Bradt	Frank R. Upjohn.
	Wymore,	" 104	George O. Laffin	John G. Hilder	Hector Murray	Cyrus O. Wertz.
	Stella,	" 105	James R. Cain, Jr	Samuel P. Hinds	Daniel S. Hinds	Wesley F. Kesler.

ROLL OF EXISTING LODGES, WITH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1901—Continued.

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	SECRETARY
95	Porter,	No. 106 Joseph S. Pedler	Thomas Inks.	R. Lew Arthur	Lauritz Hansen.
	Steele City,	" 107 John R. Zweifel	David A. Chancellor.	John R. Minkler.	John W. Hicks.
	Table Rock,	" 108 *Samuel G. Wright.	*Peter Stevens	*Charles J. Wood.	*James Tillotson.
	Arapahoe,	" 109 Jerome G. Pace	Robert B. Chambers. .	Bennie J. Baker	Rolando J. Finch.
	Pomegranate,	" 110 Omer D. Harford.	Willis M. Butler.	Charles F. Kirkpatrick	George L. Scott.
100	DeWitt,	" 111 Charles H. Culdice ...	John Badman	William S. Wiggins. .	John W. Hartman.
	Springfield,	" 112 Frederick E. Beal ...	John E. Liming	Charles A. Burbank ..	Thomas D. Roberts.
	Globe,	" 113 Christopher Schavland	Fred H. Davis	Edward Fricke.	Richard A. Maloney.
	Wisner,	" 114 Milton R. Snodgrass. .	George Nellor		Sylvanus Lant.
	Brainard,	" 115 John T. McKnight ...	Arthur L. Land	Dan C. Norris.	Charles H. Harriger.
105	Harlan,	" 116 Ashton C. Shallenbarger	George F. Miller.	John A. Gibson	Clinton M. Fletcher.
	Hardy,	" 117 Charles A. Hayes.	Daniel Whitson	Henry W. Gunnison ..	James H. Fair.
	Doric,	" 118 J. Frank Longanecker	Wm. James Scherzer ..	Albert B. Kenyon	William Freidell.
	North Bend,	" 119 Clarence H. Walrath. .	Eugene B. Sherman ..	Harry P. Dowling	John B. Foot.
	Wayne,	" 120 Anson A. Welch	J. Murrey Cherry	Julius Tower	Alvin T. Witter.
110	Superior,	" 121 John W. Mitchell.	Frank E. Browning. .	Frederick Cronkhite. .	Marcellus L. Pierce.
	Jasper,	" 122 *Ira N. Pickett.	*Thomas R. Callon. .	*John Bealor.	*Arthur B. Templeton.
	Indianola,	" 123 Arthur C. Crabtree. .	Andros W. Hoyt	William P. Elmer	James Hetherington.
	Auburn,	" 124 William Watson, Jr. .	James M. Burress	Robert C. Boyd	Thomas W. Eustice.
	Mount Nebo,	" 125 Henry Stevens	Alfred Watts	Lew Peterson	Hiram Lewis.
115	Stromsburg,	" 126 James D. Edwards ...	John L. Johnson	Robert B. Beer	Hamilton R. Hardy.
	Minden,	" 127 Hans P. Andersen	James E. Jones	Frank M. Saunders. .	Andrew Jensen.
	Guide Rock,	" 128 Ira A. Pace	Earnest S. Strickland.	Edwin E. Burr.	Ransom S. Proudfit.
	Blue Hill,	" 129 Lewis Waterbury.	Jotham K. Martin	Albert D. Ranney.	Robert A. Simpson.
	Tuscan,	" 130 George H. Miller	William Kunzman	Louis E. Ludden	Amasa S. Chapman.
120	Scribner,	" 132 Alexander Ross.	Edward C. Burns.	John F. Dringuis.	George Foster.
	Elm Creek,	" 133 Charles A. Willis.	August Pierson	Leslie G. MacKenzie. .	George G. Casc.
	Solar,	" 134 Mads M. Kokjer	Clyde B. Smith	John T. McLean.	William R. Morse.
	McCook,	" 135 George R. Johnson ...	Marion O. McClure. .	George Willetts, Jr. .	George S. Bishop.
	Long Pine,	" 136 Lewis E. Smith	George W. Dickson ...	Ottis R. Eller	Wesley A. Bucklin.
125	Upright,	" 137 David J. Reynish.	James R. Hungate. .	Albert Stake.	John A. Kinsey.

* From last report of officers installed.

	Rawalt,	No. 138	Neal A. Pettygrove...	William B. Kiser.....	Elbert E. Cone.....	J. Harvey Sherwood.
	Clay Center,	" 139	Jacob H. Eller.....	George A. Allen.....	Jacob C. Kapser.....	Charles C. Blanchard.
	Western,	" 140	Peter Waldorf.....	Charles W. Edwards..	Eugene G. Clark.....	Harry P. Stevens.
	Anchor,	" 142	Nathaniel K. Redlon.	Alza M. Stewart.....	W. Herman Rood.....	Eaton S. Sears.
130	Crescent,	" 143	Frank C. Compton...	*William H. Ward....	David S. McKellar....	William A. Gibson.
	Kenesaw,	" 144	Henry E. Norton.....	Eugene B. Moore.....	Allen S. Howard.....	Truman P. Booth.
	Bancroft,	" 145	William S. Collett....	William W. Sinclair...	Niels Hjelml.....	William H. Statia.
	Jachin,	" 146	Daniel J. Fink.....	Claude H. Roberts....	Clancy St. Clair.....	Elias W. Beghtol.
	Siloam,	" 147	James A. Rice.....	John H. Recroft.....	Harvard Lomax.....	Robert E. Chittick.
135	Emmet Crawford,	" 148	Augustin R. Humphrey	Melvin K. Hagadorn.	Sidney G. Empey.....	Leander H. Jewett.
	Jewel,	" 149	Levi H. Mumau.....	George S. Gillespie...	Thomas H. Clark.....	Richard G. Drysdale.
	Cambridge,	" 150	Washington Enlow...	William J. Collier....	Charles P. Proudfoot..	George W. McKean.
	Square,	" 151	William T. Craven....	Charles D. Mathews..	Lyford R. Craig.....	William Bays.
	Parallel,	" 152	Harley E. Bowhay....	Woods Cones.....	Monroe Bolton.....	Henry L. Yother.
110	Evergreen,	" 153	Charles C. Wilson....	Charles C. Snowdon..	Frank O. Robinson...	William B. Chilvers.
	Lily,	" 154	Robert Tweed.....	Robert G. Mason.....	Charles C. Knibbs....	Henry Ritzen.
	Hartington,	" 155	Zwingle M. Baird....	Samuel W. Green....	Joseph H. Phelps....	Fred M. Kimball.
	Pythagoras,	" 156	J. Newton Trommershauser	Amos W. Hunt.....	Edward L. Sterling...	Lewis A. Combes,
	Valley,	" 157	D. Fenton Hostetter..	Ernest M. Slattery...	James K. Allen.....	Albert B. Smith.
145	Samaritan,	" 158	Benjamin F. Pitman..	Axel Nelson.....	Benjamin F. Walker..	Byron L. Scovel.
	Ogallala,	" 159	Edwin M. Searle....	James K. Perry.....	George M. Smith.....	Edwin M. Searle, Jr.
	Zeredatha,	" 160	Alonzo H. Bothwell..	William L. Gould.....	Charles E. Wood.....	Thomas J. Kirk
	Mount Zion,	" 161	Henry Burritt.....	James F. Biggs.....	.....	Francis M. Leabee.
	Trestle Board,	" 162	Herman A. Hauptman	Charles Anderson....	Alfred T. Blackburn..	Almon C. DePue.
150	Unity,	" 163	William E. Hand.....	Jesse E. Brook.....	Elam Eckert.....	Robert A. Miller.
	Atkinson,	" 164	John J. Stilson.....	James M. Howe.....	Thomas K. Hansen....	James L. McDonald.
	Barneston,	" 165	Seth S. Ratliff.....	Anthony J. Dunlevy..	William Mahar.....	Julius Vogel.
	Mystic Tie,	" 166	C. Edwin Burnham...	Charles A. Yeoman...	Jacob Sherer.....	John F. Newhall.
	Elwood,	" 167	Burton L. Chambers..	Byron Andrews.....	Thomas E. Housh....	Benjamin O. Fickle
155	Curtis,	" 168	Charles B. Compton..	Henry F. Wasmund, Jr.	Edwin G. Burrows....	Willett W. Keith.
	Amity,	" 169	John H. Jones.....	Henry L. Crasley....	Lansing J. Read.....	Charles E. Woods.
	Mason City,	" 170	Alonzo E. Robertson..	Frank Jacquot.....	William Bosserman...	Mack C. Warrington.
	Merna,	" 171	Ernest M. Coleman...	Peter W. Walters....	Charles A. Besack....	Frank L. Manning.
	Grafton,	" 172	Orin H. Parsins.....	Harry L. Jones.....	William G. Manspeaker	Xerxes C. Cole.
160	Robert Burns,	" 173	William R. Ratcliff...	George G. Eisenhart..	.....	Samuel W. Bell.
	Culbertson,	" 174	J. Taylor Wells.....	.....	.....	Alexander H. Miller.

* From last report of officers installed.

ROLL OF EXISTING LODGES, WITH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1901—Continued.

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	SECRETARY
	Temple, No. 175	Samuel H. Martin	William D. Reed	John W. Wright	Andrew M. Tilton.
	Gladstone, " 176	Charles R. Hare	Orren B. Jenkins	John Davis	Elbert H. Gaines.
	Hay Springs, " 177	Benjamin Levensky . . .	Adam D. Wagner	William R. Bowman . .	Irwin S. Knight.
165	Hesperia, " 178	Joseph W. Ireland	Harry Patee	Franklin B. Huston . .	Joseph H. Springer.
	Prudence, " 179	Smith Rodman	William H. Ritchie . . .	Arthur Cowperthwaite	Dewitt Eager.
	Justice, " 180	Philip Marshall	John G. Walthall	Samuel M. Ewing	Wilber F. Wood, acting.
	Faith, " 181	Fred C. Scofield	William Cooper	Franklin Force	Charles A. Minnick.
	Incense, " 182	Edwin Metcalf	John F. Steele	George W. Phelps	Samuel J. Spelde.
170	Alliance, " 183	Leon H. Mosher	Samuel A. Franklin . . .	James H. H. Hewett . .	Robert Marler.
	Bee Hive, " 184	John C. Buchanan	James W. Hastings . . . .	.....	Ethelbert W. Chandler.
	Boaz, " 185	William Sandon	Thomas E. McDonald . . .	Marion J. Walters	Clifford Naden.
	Israel, " 187	Claude B. Coleman	Clement L. Baker	James Stephens	Elbert B. Zimmerman.
	Meridian, " 188	Clark K. Brown	Alfred H. Bain	Hugo Eymann	John T. Buckley.
175	Granite, " 189	James H. Davis	Leroy J. Babcock	Charles M. Beck	Ira A. Kirk.
	Amethyst, " 190	Charles M. Fisher	Allen C. Kirby	Heber A. Chapin	Heber A. Froman.
	Crystal, " 191	George W. Fitzsimmons . .	Henry S. Sprecher	Uri Talbert	Theodore J. Stoetzel.
	Minnekadusa, " 192	Thomas C. Hornby	John H. Neiss	Edgar D. Spencer	John T. Keeley.
	Signet, " 193	Charles E. Beaty	Frank N. Nichols	Herman P. Buhman . . .	Joseph F. McKinley.
180	Highland, " 194	Omer L. Cox	Albert B. McNickle	Orville R. Demming . . .	Leonard Grieser.
	Arcana, " 195	Samuel H. Ladd	Uli Powell	Amos Burwell	Samuel S. Joice.
	Level, " 196	Luke H. Cheney	William A. Bradbury . . .	John A. Lynch	Ernest S. Case.
	Morning Star, " 197	Robert S. Hirsch	William H. Cone	William Downey	Samuel A. Tobey.
	Purity, " 198	Robert Malcolm	Andrew J. Sroufe	Fred F. Tomblin	John T. Johnston.
185	Gavel, " 199	Clarence A. Capron	John D. McFaden	Elmer E. Wheeler	James H. Bryant.
	Blazing Star, " 200	Robert W. Hanna	Albert I. Cram	James R. Alderman	Allen Mitchell.
	Scotts Bluffs, " 201	Martin Bristol	Asa B. Wood	Peter McFarlane	Henry M. Thornton.
	Golden Sheaf, " 202	James L. Stewart	Arthur H. Terry	Melville N. Winebreuer	Harry M. Hammond.
	Roman Eagle, " 203	John Forrest	William Stage	Foster D. Edgar	Merton N. Snyder.
190	Plainview, " 204	George H. Hecht	Frank P. Chamberlain . . .	Walter L. Mote	Abel Buckingham.
	Golden Fleece, " 205	Harvey I. Babcock	August G. Neumann	Thomas M. Johnson	Edward C. Wolf.
	Napthali, " 206	Thomas Nelson	J. Smith Diller	Adelbert Stotts	Isaac D. Steiner.

	Parian,	No. 207	Henry H. Andrews....	Arthur J. Higbee.....	Alexander L. Mathews	Mark P. Miller.
	Gauge,	" 208	James W. Landers....	J. William Monteith..	Charles L. Cooper....	Peter Christian.
195	Canopy,	" 209	Sandy A. Morrison....	William Deles Dernier	John M. Neely.....	David L. Cartmell.
	East Lincoln,	" 210	Henry P. Kauffman....	James D. Jones.....	John W. Kaufman....	Thomas W. Moore.
	Cement,	" 211	Frank E. Slusser.....	Charles L. Dickey.....	William T. Spelts....	Charles E. Towne.
	Compass & Square,	" 212	Marcus E. Bush.....	Lambert Johnson.....	John L. Smith.....	.....
	Square & Compass,	" 213	Ernest M. Close.....	Lewis M. Kidd.....	Albert LaRue.....	Erie W. Northrop.
200	Plumbline,	" 214	Charles L. Bates.....	Horace B. Alexander..	Robert L. Galloway..	John E. Killen.
	Occidental,	" 215	Frank B. Knapp.....	Andrew E. Stuart....	Ulysses S. Sampson..	John H. Mackprang.
	Palisade,	" 216	William R. Cummins..	Worthie Shipley.....	* <i>Silas K. Glen</i>	Charles J. Wilcox.
	Wauneta,	" 217	Austin C. Pence.....	James A. Dick.....	George Metcalf.....	William M. Pence.
	Bloomfield,	" 218	Abram L. Jones.....	William D. Funk.....	George Gray, Jr.....	Ephraim Lauver.
205	Relief,	" 219	William C. Mitchell..	Frank H. Peck.....		Frank L. Hicks.
	Magnolia,	" 220	Frank Coye.....	Adelbert A. Davis....	Louis Schwartz.....	George H. Haase.
	Wood Lake,	" 221	Andrew L. Johnson..	David Hanna.....	Aaron J. Wilson.....	Ulysses G. Stevenson.
	Landmark,	" 222	Melville S. Wilcox..	Frank Eriksen.....	John Patrick.....	Herbert H. Herzog.
	Eminence,	" 223	John N. Brock.....	B. Frank McDanil....	Owen Wright.....	Frank W. Mather.
210	Silver Cord,	" 224	Wiley W. Parsons....	Edgar B. Smith.....	George Savage.....	Walter H. Williams.
	Cable,	" 225	John Finch.....	Charley C. Ross.....	Claude L. Brown.....	Lonny G. Bullock.
	Grace,	" 226	Captain E. Marstetter.	Winfield S. Marr.....	Henry A. Cox.....	Charles W. Morrow.
	North Star,	" 227	Dennis C. Berry.....	Archibald Adams, Sr..	* <i>Clark W. Beecher</i> ...	John J. Adams.
	Bartley,	" 228	James H. Keys.....	John Johnson.....	Andrew L. Cochran..	James A. Finnegan.
215	Comet,	" 229	Charles A. Brown....	George A. Sawyer....	John Malingren.....	Hugh Leal.
	Delta,	" 230	Alfred Powell, Sr....	Ervin A. Gill.....	George P. Clark.....	James S. Kennedy.
	Mount Hermon,	" 231	Oscar F. Harlan.....	George Winslow.....	Lewis Richards.....	Charles R. Lehrack.
	John S. Bowen,	" 232	Charles M. Weed.....	John F. McCann.....	Eugene A. Leach.....	William H. Epling.
	Gilead,	" 233	William D. Spicknall..	William H. Whittig..	John A. Lawson.....	Robert Ford.
220	Zion,	" 234	William H. Nickles..	John M. Gentry.....	John L. Alden.....	Thomas McCawley.
	Fraternity,	" 235	John Elliott.....	Jerry P. Marvin.....	Frank S. Benser.....	J. Harry Prescott.
	Golden Rule,	" 236	William J. Armour....	John F. Pomeroy....	Horace Woodworth..	Samuel Saberson.
	Cubit,	" 237	Allen H. Hostetter..	Albert L. Loper.....	James A. Harlan.....	Edward C. Neel.
	Ithmar,	" 238	Isaac H. Rathbun....	Eugene B. Laffin....	David Duncan.....	Frank Rothell.
225	Friendship,	" 239	William Ricks.....	William H. H. Baird..	Ulysses Grant Pavy..	Maurice Tester.
	Pilot,	" 240	George W. Little....	Melvin J. Metcalf....	Thomas Hanson.....	Charles A. Darling.
	George Armstrong,	" 241	John Driscoll.....	Levi D. Phipps.....	Andrew T. Struthers.	George O. Remy.
	Orion,	" 242	Edward Cronau.....	Charles F. Bukey.....	* <i>John B. Wyatt</i>	John H. Thompson.

* From last report of officers installed.

ROLL OF EXISTING LODGES, WITH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1901—*Concluded.*

LODGE		MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	SECRETARY	
	Tyrian,	No. 243	Addison C. Maynard..	George D. Follmer....	Ernst Meyer.....	Vincent P. Britts.
230	Sincerity,	" 244	Howard Miller	Frank E. Martin	Luther B. Baker.....	Thomas L. White.
	Hampton,	" 245	Eugene E. Carr.....	John F. Houseman....	James M. Cox.....	Isaiah W. Haughey.
	Nehawka,	" 246	David C. West.....	Henry M. Pollard.....	Robert A. Case.....	Edwin A. Kirkpatrick.
	Corner-stone,	" 247	Henry G. Hamer.....	Harry Fullen.....	Nis Nissen.....	Andrew G. Weander.
234	Laurel,	" 248	Joseph F. Guss.....	Charles F. Furley....	Daniel McBain.....	Edmund R. Gurney.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA:

Herewith is submitted our second report on correspondence. Matters of statistics will be found in a table appended, and are so placed to be more convenient for reference than if mingled in the body of the report where no mention of them is made. We have reviewed all proceedings which have reached us before sending our manuscript to the printer.

CHARLES J. PHELPS,
For the Committee.

MEXICO.

The action of our Grand Lodge in recognizing and entering into fraternal relations with the Gran Dieta Simbolica of the United States of Mexico, based upon our special report to our Grand Lodge, to which the reader is referred, suggests a further brief discussion of the interesting subject of Freemasonry in that country.

The upheaval in Masonic matters in Mexico during the last few years, and especially since January, 1895, has been marked by an earnest effort on the part of those most desirous to promote conformity with ancient landmarks, to hold to all that is correct and to abolish innovations which had found toleration in some of the organizations connected with the Gran Dieta. This has been accomplished more rapidly than would naturally be expected.

Ambitious men in the Mexican Supreme Council, A. A. S. R. were adverse to the independence of the Gran Dieta—a necessary condition, and were quite active in leading that body into aggressive action, united with a pretended Grand Lodge at Vera Cruz, styling itself the United Grand Lodge of Mexico, and entered into a treaty binding the lodges of said Grand Lodge to conditions of obedience to the Scottish rite council, altogether incompatible with the liberties and self-government of blue lodge Masonry.

The successor of our late Brother Albert Pike, Brother Thomas H. Caswell, Sovereign Grand Inspector-General of the A. A. S. R., of the southern jurisdiction of the United States of America, has reproached the Mexican Supreme Council for its unwarranted action in a communication to the Mexican Supreme Council, in which he expressly declares that the United Grand Lodge of Mexico, at Vera Cruz, is of very doubtful origin.

This action on the part of the Supreme Council of Mexico is in violation of a former solemn treaty with the Gran Dieta, by which all control over the degrees of symbolic Masonry was resigned to the Gran Dieta, where it rightfully belongs. Its new treaty with the Vera Cruz lodge is an attempt to revive and foster a discredited organization which presents no claims worthy of consideration by sovereign grand lodges.

Our American grand lodges to the number, at least, of fifteen have entered into full fraternal relations with the Gran Dieta, but, in a few, objections have been raised. It has been contended that, because the membership of its lodges contains masons who were made in lodges chartered by Scottish rite bodies, they cannot be recognized.

The question thus raised has been decided over and over again. In many of the foreign grand lodges, in full fraternal relations with American grand lodges, the same condition exists.

Again, it has been complained in one of our American grand lodges, that in one of the Mexican lodges a former resident of the American jurisdiction who wore an artificial limb, while living in Mexico was made a Mason, and upon returning to the United States sought admission into one of the lodges in his native state. The answer to this objection is, that the same thing has occurred in a sister grand jurisdiction when one of its former citizens, with an artificial leg, was made a Mason by an English lodge in whose jurisdiction the candidate was residing at the time, under the liberal rule as to physical qualifications, recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England, the mother grand lodge of most of the grand lodges in the world.

Another instance of inconsistent objection is that cited in our special report to our Grand Lodge, found in the proceedings in this volume.

By reference to our topical report published in our proceedings of 1899, under the title: "Patriotic Utterances," on pages 5807-9, a matter of international importance is shown to have been engaged in between the Grand Lodge of New York and the Gran Dieta. Turn and read it.

The Grand Lodge of New York adopted the following:

To the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of New York:

On the 15th day of February, 1898, the United States battleship *Maine*, while on a friendly mission in the harbor of Havana, was destroyed by an explosion due, there is painful reason to believe, to malign agency. Two hundred and sixty-six brave American sailors, of whom eighty-three were Free Masons, lost their lives.

As citizens of this great Republic, as members of a brotherhood whose aim it has ever been to cultivate right, justice and good-will to all men, the members of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York mourn over this appalling catastrophe, which sent a thrill of horror through the entire civilized world. We deplore the cruel loss that has befallen our Nation and our Brotherhood; we declare our deep sympathy with those who have been most bereaved by the loss we have all sustained, and we express to our brethren from other jurisdictions our heartfelt thanks for the fraternal condolence they have tendered us in the dark hour of our affliction.

To our Sister Grand Lodge, the Gran Dieta Simbolica of Mexico, we return our especial acknowledgments. Through its Grand Master (Most Worshipful PORFIRIO DIAZ, the President of the Republic of Mexico), it has officially sent to this Grand Lodge the expression of its sorrow because of the sad fate of so many of our brethren and fellow-citizens. It has announced to us that all Lodges of its obedience in the Republic of Mexico, pursuant to the order of the Grand Master, have draped their altars in mourning, to show their sympathy with us in this afflicting calamity. Lodges of sorrow have been held by the Mexican Free Masons in memory of our unfortunate brethren and eloquent tributes to their worth have been pronounced. At these mournful solemnities were uttered words of

friendship for the United States that embody the purest principles of our beloved Brotherhood and manifest the universality of Masonry, for they show that by a common sorrow, distinctions of speech, nationality, religion, and political opinion are obliterated in our great Fraternity.

Though our brothers on the *Maine* were hurried without warning from this imperfect to the all-perfect, glorious and celestial Lodge above; though they were deprived of the solemn Masonic rites of burial, and though no evergreens were strown on their last resting place, nevertheless, the sympathy expressed to us in our affliction impresses upon us the importance of inculcating in all men the practice of the truly commendable virtues which are the great tenets of a Free Mason's profession, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Your committee, appreciating the fraternal spirit which prompted the message of sympathy sent to this Grand Lodge by the Grand Master of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, on the occasion of the affliction we have sustained by the untimely death of the brave sailors of the *Maine*, and recognizing the friendship so firmly cemented between these two Grand Bodies, recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved: That our Most Worshipful Grand Master be requested to assure the Grand Master of the Gran Dieta of Mexico that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York deeply appreciates and gratefully acknowledges his expression of sympathy and sorrow in the hour of our national calamity, and assures him of its earnest hope and desire that the cordial relations now existing between the Gran Dieta Simbolica of Mexico and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York may continue throughout all time.

Fraternally submitted,

J. EDWARD SIMMONS,
BENJAMIN FLAGLER,
JOSEPH J. COUCH,
HENRY C. POTTER,
JOSEPH H. HORSFALL,

} Committee.

ALABAMA, 1898.

December 6th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Montgomery, the Seventy-eighth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. James A. Bilbro, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, five past grand officers, eighteen past grand officers and representatives from three hundred and ten of the three hundred and seventy-nine subordinate lodges in attendance.

From the opening paragraph of the Grand Master's annual address we extract:

A kind providence has permitted the continuance of our organization and under His divine care it is stronger than ever before. Since its inception we have been blessed with the godly example and influence of many of the best, purest and brightest men in its Jurisdiction. Many of these, though dead, still speak to us words of encouragement in the promotion of the great aim we have in view as Masons. Of the thirty-eight Grand Masters who have served this Grand Lodge all are dead except nine. Those who have crossed the river ahead of us have left behind a record of noble deeds which should inspire us to greater usefulness in the years that may be left us.

He pays tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead in well-chosen language.

He reported the granting of special dispensations on several occasions for the usual purposes, and three for the institution of new lodges. He reports eighteen decisions, but we do not find that the Committee on Jurisprudence reported on them, but the record discloses that they did take up and act upon decisions made the preceding year. He recommended:

1. I recommend that the explanation of the principal tenets of the Order as given in the Chart, and the three great duties of a Mason, as given in the charge at initiation, be read in open Lodge at each regular Communication of our subordinate Lodges.

I do not believe these great lessons can be too often repeated nor made too familiar to the Craft. They are the basis of all that is good in Masonry, and without their practice there can be no growth in those virtues which mark true Masonic character.

2. I recommend that the time within which a Lodge may demand of a Sister Lodge fees, because of a failure to comply with Section 13 of Article 6 of the Constitution, be limited to three months after notice or information that the degrees, or any of them, have been conferred.

3. I recommend that hereafter each subordinate Lodge forward with its returns to the Grand Lodge a report signed by the Master, stating the number of widows and orphans of deceased Masons, in the Jurisdiction of his Lodge, in circumstances of need, and what is being done for their relief.

4. I recommend that at the regular Communications of a subordinate Lodge, the following questions be asked by the Master, before closing the Lodge:

1. Are any of the brethren sick?
2. Is there a Master Mason or member of his family, in the Jurisdiction of this Lodge, in want or distress?
3. Are the brethren living in peace and harmony?

We give place to an extract from the report of the special committee to propose a memorial on the death of Past Grand Master Palmer J. Pillans:

Brother Pillans was for more than forty years an earnest, active member of the Grand Lodge, and was Grand Master of Masons of Alabama in 1875-76 and in 1876-77. Eloquent and cultured, his Masonic addresses were marked by great ability and the truest conception of the principles of Free Masonry. No Grand Master ever better upheld the dignity of the office, nor was any more jealous of any infringement of its prerogatives. In the Grand Lodge he was especially loved by all. Of a genial and sunny nature, earnest and ardent in whatever he professed, never afraid to express and maintain his own views, yet so courteous his demeanor, so honest his arguments, that all men loved him even in friendly opposition, and no Mason ever spoke his name except in terms of tenderest affection.

Brother Pillans was for twenty years Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge, and his reports have been read with interest, pleasure and profit throughout the Masonic world, and have received commendation from the most eminent Masonic writers of our day.

Full of years and honors, our beloved Brother has entered the upper Sanctuary where all mysteries are revealed and all deficiencies are supplied.

Brother Wm. T. Titcomb presented the report on correspondence covering one hundred and forty-three pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-five sister grand lodges.

His fitness for the work is attested by his conclusion:

Some one high in station has, in substance, observed (facetiously or maliciously; we hardly know which) that the repertorial corps are prone to air their individual opinions *ex cathedra* as it were, and to see those opinions received by the Craft in general as authoritative.

Be that as it may, if they are styled by some, a windy set, they may leave it to their readers to deny the soft impeachment, provided the latter are willing to do so. As for ourselves, we beg brethren of the quill not to forget we are a "new hand at the bellows." and to look upon our manifest short-comings with what leniency they may.

At length our task, for the present, is done; consequently we heave a sigh of relief, coupled, nevertheless, with one of regret at parting company with such excellent companions as we have found in these correspondents.

If peculiarly fastidious friends would not regard the allusion as too gross, we would illustrate by saying that we seem to ourselves quite comparable to the hungry wayfarer who is admitted to a banquet hall where the tables groan beneath a profusion of good things, which he may just taste barely enough to provoke his palate, and must, on the instant, go away leaving the luscious repast almost untouched.

The genius of Masonry commands the respect of mankind despite all such assaults and villifications as that of the "Anti-Mason Congress at Trent" and others instigated by the Papal See.

We have been wont to liken our Craft to a stately ship sailing over many a sea. This majestic ship of Masonry has come on her glistening way adown the ages, leaving behind her a resplendent wake on the sea of human vicissitudes. At times her skies have been serene, and, for a season, she has ploughed her foamy furrow with even keel; anon, she has encountered storm and tempest.

The hidden reefs of envy have lurked below a smooth and shining surface to lure her to destruction; the blasts of fury have descended upon her as did those let loose by Eolus on the fleet of pious Æneas; the fierce lightnings of malice have blazed about her bulwarks; the loud thunders of hate have roared and rattled above her; the huge billows of rage have opened wide their cavernous jaws to swallow her bodily, but with timbers staunch and tight, her faithful crew all at their posts, the pilot, Wisdom, at the helm, the square and compasses as her guides, and the Holy Bible for her chart, she has held on her way, and still holds on toward the Port of Everlasting Peace.

But, hold! If an honored brother of another Jurisdiction will overlook this little spurt of "rhetorical pyrotechnics" we may promise not to do so any more.

And, here, we make a respectful bow to our brethren of the Guild.

M.:W.:B. Dudley Williams, Oxford, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:Brother H. Clay Armstrong, Montgomery, is Grand Secretary.

ALABAMA, 1899.

December 5th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Montgomery, the Seventy-ninth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:B. Dudley Williams, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, six past grand officers, thirty-seven grand representatives and representatives from two hundred and seventy-one of the three hundred and seventy-seven subordinate lodges in attendance.

With greetings of fraternal love the Grand Master hailed his brethren, in opening his annual address. In a spirit of gratitude he recounted the blessings of the year past, "in bountiful harvests, in exemption from scourge and pestilence and dire contagious disease, in the glorious triumphs of liberty, justice and enlightenment, and disentrallment of the down-trod-

den and oppressed." Peace and prosperity, he says, have reigned through out their borders, and never has there been less contention and discord among the subordinate lodges, and more of that harmony "which is the strength and support of all institutions, especially ours."

He reported sixty decisions all of which, excepting four, were concurred in by the Committee on Jurisprudence and adopted by the action of the Grand Lodge. Another decision declares that "it is unmasonic for a brother, a member of a lodge, to disclose how he voted upon the application of a candidate to be initiated or advanced, and it is also unmasonic for him to declare before the election, how he will vote." Of this the committee say, the Grand Lodge concurring :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence agree with the Most Worshipful Grand Master in the question actually decided, the first paragraph of which is the settled law, and the second paragraph of which is evidently intended to mean that he ought not to state in public, even in the lodge-room, how he will vote on the application. Your Committee is of the opinion that if a member of a Lodge knows any good reason why any candidate for initiation or advancement, or for affiliation, should not be initiated, advanced or affiliated he has not only the right, but it is his duty to disclose such reason to the Committee on Investigation or to the Master of his Lodge. Your Committee does not understand the decision of the Most Worshipful Grand Master to conflict with this view, but this statement is made simply for the purpose of preventing a misunderstanding of what the decision really means.

In the following, the physical perfectionist gets a rap over the knuckles :

11. An applicant for the degrees in Masonry has lost on his left hand, the little ring fingers including the metacarpal bones of those fingers. On his right hand he has lost the distal and middle phalanges of the ring and middle fingers, and the distal phalanx and part of the middle phalanx of the index finger. He has good use of the remaining parts of his hands; would such injury disqualify him?

Held: That such deformity would not render the applicant incapable of practicing and teaching the ritual of the Fraternity, and that he is therefore not physically disqualified to receive the degrees.

Having gone so far in the above we are somewhat surprised at the following:

24. A gentleman, an engineer, petitioned a Lodge in Georgia to be made a Mason, was reported favorably, balloted upon and duly elected, but a few days before the appointed time for him to be initiated he happened to an accident and his left leg was cut off just above his knee; now he has an artificial limb which he uses and can get in all positions necessary. Can he be made a Mason?

Held: That a man who has lost a leg, and has an artificial limb which he uses and can get in all positions necessary, does not possess the full enjoyment of all those limbs necessary for the reception and imparting of Masonic knowledge, and he is therefore physically disqualified from taking the degrees in Masonry.

Under the caption, "Special Dispensations Granted," we extract:

During the year thirty-one Special Dispensations have been granted, authorizing Lodges to confer the degrees of Masonry out of time. Most of these were for conferring the degrees at Masonic Conferences, in almost every instance under the supervision of a District Grand Lecturer, a member of the Committee on Work, or a permanent member of the Grand

Lodge. A great many of these Conferences have been held during the year, more perhaps than ever before, and I believe I am fully warranted in saying that they have been potent in creating a zeal for knowledge, a greater efficiency and uniformity in the work and an inspiration for purer, nobler life. The pittance of expense they impose is unworthy of comparison with the Corn, Wine and Oil of the Fellow Craft, and the "more wages" of the finished workman, which nourish, refresh and gladden the soul, and cement heart to heart under holy benedictions of Brotherly Love. Some of the sweetest moments that ever came to me have been at these Conferences, when, in a spirit of unfeigned fraternity, and with feelings untinged with selfishness, I have feasted upon the beautiful symbolic teachings of Masonry, elucidating and impressing truths divine, whose consolations, refreshing as the "dews of Hermon," have cheered and strengthened the heart, while the spirit of love without dissimulation held universal sway.

He reported laying the corner-stone of a new court house, the appointment of district lecturers and many grand representatives, the granting of dispensations for four new lodges, and special dispensations, to elect wardens, to continue work, to dedicate a new Masonic hall and for the consolidation of lodges, in two instances.

Loving fraternal tribute to the memory of the illustrious dead of his grand jurisdiction, and appropriate mention of those in sister grand jurisdictions we find duly recorded.

He reports the receipt of a telegram from the Master of a subordinate lodge in the state of Washington on the eve of the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Washington, June 3, 1899, and his response, relative to the so-called Negro Masonry of that Grand Lodge.

Our Grand Master, at or about the same time, received a like message, which he reported to our Grand Lodge, which was in annual session the next week, but our Grand Master, and our Grand Lodge, concurred in the view that correspondence between a subordinate lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction and our Grand Lodge, was an unwarranted proceeding and could not be indulged.

The adoption of the following report explains itself, and so just and logical are its conclusions, we transcribe the record :

Your committee, to whom was referred the special report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence relating to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, at its last annual communication, in rescinding certain resolutions heretofore adopted by that Grand Body, with reference to the status of certain negroes claiming to be regularly made Masons, beg leave to report, after careful consideration of the matter submitted to us :

We are constrained to the conclusion that while the Grand Lodge of Washington has in terms rescinded the resolutions which were offensive to this Grand Lodge, and which caused the severance of fraternal relations between us and that Grand Body, it has accompanied the act of rescission with declarations which plainly and pointedly indicate that it is of "the same opinion still," and further that it proposes to uphold any Lodge within its jurisdiction in acting on the spirit of the resolutions in the recognition of persons as regular Masons whom this Grand Lodge in common with other Grand Lodges has expressly declared to be clandestine; and that by the adoption of these declarations it has destroyed the force of the mere formal act of rescission, and therefore has failed to remove the real cause which has given offense.

Resolved, 1st, That in view of existing conditions, this Grand Lodge "does not see its way clear" to revoke, at this time, its action in withdrawing fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of the State of Washington.

2. That reaffirming our former action in this behalf we desire the Grand Lodge of Washington and all other Grand Bodies to distinctly understand that we sincerely desire to preserve and perpetuate fraternal relations with them all, and to this end are ready at any future time to rescind our action with reference to the Grand Lodge of Washington whenever we can do so without a sacrifice of a principle which we deem essential to the purity of our order, and to the protection and preservation of true Masonic principles, usages and landmarks.

Brother William Y. Titcomb, presents the report on correspondence covering two hundred and eight pages, and reviewing in an able manner the proceedings of fifty-five sister grand jurisdictions. We would like to quote from it, but so much space has already been given to Alabama, that we forbear.

M.·W.·B. Dudley Williams, Oxford, is Grand Master.

R.·W.·H. Clay Armstrong, Montgomery, is Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA, 1893.

November 14th, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Tucson, the Eighteenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.·W.·Anthony Arthur Johns, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, ten past grand officers, eighteen grand representatives and representatives from twelve of the fourteen subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master expressed pleasure in announcing a numerical increase in the membership in his grand jurisdiction, and a gratifying degree of prosperity in the finances of the grand lodge.

The ranks of the grand lodge had not been broken by death during the year. He reported, with appropriate comment, the death of illustrious brethren in sister grand jurisdictions, and paid loving tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead in his subordinate lodges.

He decided a case where the subordinate lodge desired to initiate a candidate, who "uses a wooden foot, and is slightly, apparently, crippled, with a foot off a few inches above the ankle," holding that he was not eligible to be made a mason.

Another decision was :

A candidate for the second and third degrees of Masonry, who has received the first degree in a foreign country, asks a waiver of jurisdiction from his Lodge in the old country, with a view of becoming a member of this Lodge, if found worthy, and have the second and third degrees conferred by this Lodge ; the Lodge from which he asks this waiver of jurisdiction ballots upon each degree separately. Now, the question arises, has he to be in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of this Territory twelve months before his petition for the second and third can be acted upon, and the degrees conferred if found worthy?

To this question I answer : 'Yes. The candidate must reside in this jurisdiction twelve months, as laid down in the Constitution of the M.·W.· Grand Lodge of Arizona, before your lodge can regularly ballot on his petition.'

He reported having visited several, but not as many of the lodges as he had hoped to do.

We think he acted quite sensibly in the following :

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Under this head, I beg to report the receipt of a circular from M.:W.: Grand Master Upton, of Washington, relative to the action of that Grand Lodge in reference to Negro Masonry.

I also received a letter from what appeared to be the opposition, asking me to wire a protest to the Grand Lodge of Washington.

I answered both of these letters by referring to the action taken by this Grand Lodge at its last session. I do not think the correspondence of sufficient importance to warrant its being printed in full. The Grand Lodge of Washington spent considerable time in discussion of the affair, and, from the reports I have seen of its proceedings, I judge it had changed materially its point of view. Grand Master Upton, however, writes me as follows: "At its last Communication, the Grand Lodge of Washington made no change in its position, but it greatly modified its language, in the hope that no excuse may longer exist for misunderstanding us, or *meddling with our affairs.*" If this is the case, I suggest that we oblige them by letting the matter alone.

We gladly give place to the following :

I also recommend that a page of our proceedings be set apart for the names of our members who fought with the celebrated "Rough Riders," or who joined our Territorial regiment, the First U. S. Volunteers, as well as those of our members who belong to the Regular Army. I recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to ascertain from each Lodge the names of these worthy brethren for the above purpose. I also suggest that all Lodges follow the example of "Aztlán" Lodge No. 1, and remit the dues of members who are on active duty in the army. Our brethren have been and are now fighting in a glorious cause, a cause in which, as Masons, we should rejoice—that of spreading light, liberty, and civilization in the dark and downtrodden places of the earth.

M.:W.:Brother George J. Roskrige, Grand Secretary, presents an admirable report showing that a careful attention to the best interest of the craft has been the rule during the past year.

The following interesting information is quoted from the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, and the diligence of the committee in consulting authority is commendable, too often such committees guess :

Some difference of opinion having arisen in regard to the eligibility of a brother holding our certificate of withdrawal without recommendation to apply for membership by affiliation to a Masonic Lodge in this jurisdiction, your committee has taken the time to look up the authorities in the library of the Grand Lodge of California on the subject, back as far as the year 1723, and have found, without exception, that a brother holding a certificate of withdrawal showing that he is in good standing, that no charges are against him, and whose dues are paid, is entitled, as a Masonic principle, to apply for affiliation with another Lodge. The certificate without recommendation seems to be the ancient and original custom.

The recommendatory certificate was originally issued by vote of the Lodge as an honorarium to show that the holder had performed special Masonic services. If a brother could *demand* a recommendatory certificate, the honorarium would be without any special significance, and the simple form would answer as well for use of those who had performed unusual services.

The Grand Orator, Brother Charles D. Belden, delivered a well considered oration, showing research and familiarity with the sacred mysteries

of antiquity, a valuable contribution to masonic literature. Digressing from the main theme, he treats of a matter of great interest in our own country, from which we extract :

The traveler while passing over the New York Central railroad sees two monuments. One is at Utica and the other is at Batavia. The Utica monument is the Masonic Home, an asylum for the care of the fatherless and the homeless, an institution provided by the Freemasons of the State of New York, for the care of the needy and distressed of the families of their brethren. The Home is a public exponent of the brotherly love inculcated by the Order. The monument at Batavia is a shaft of granite erected to the memory of — Morgan, a man who in 1826 published a pretended exposé of Masonic secrets. He had been a Freemason, and chose to be a Judas. He was a self confessed traitor, who, for notoriety or money, bartered away his integrity and his soul. Read the story of the betrayal of Christ by Judas for the only parallel in the history of the world. They each betrayed the cause of truth, virtue, and humanity, well understanding them to be such, and each made away with himself when he realized the awfulness of his depravity. The Jews never cared to erect a monument to that prince of traitors, Judas; England always despised Benedict Arnold; and every people has detested the informer and betrayer. How the peaceful citizens of the orderly village of Batavia could be so far frenzied by the passing political disturbance of 1826-30 as to attempt to do honor to the faithless and to endeavor to perpetuate the memory of the traitor, passes human credence.

There stand two monuments representing arguments for and against Freemasonry. Which, think you, is ennobling? Which represents the sacred cause of humanity? By their works ye shall know them. The one is a spontaneous outpouring of the soul of benevolent man in charity and love to his fellow. The other is the boast of the bigot and the fanatic whose energy is spent in fury and display while he has naught left for charity.

There is no report on correspondence.

M. W. Wm. Francis Nichols, Wilcox, is Grand Master.

M. W. Brother George J. Roskruge, Tucson, is Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS, 1898.

November 15th, at the Masonic Temple, in the city of Little Rock, the Fifty-ninth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. J. B. Baker, Grand Master, with fourteen grand officers, fourteen district deputy grand masters, ten past masters, thirty-seven grand representatives and representatives from three hundred and sixty-eight of the four hundred and forty-eight subordinate lodges in attendance.

A glad welcome marked the opening paragraph of the Grand Master's annual address. He said to the brethren: "You have come here from every portion of our state as the representatives of more than 13,000 Masons." The Committee on Returns counted only 12,522. He further says: "We congratulate ourselves that, though the business interests of Arkansas have suffered by great depression during the past year, yet our fraternity has maintained its general prosperity." Figures again. Loss in membership, 144. But a little latitude must be given on such occasions.

The hand of death had not come nigh to touch the official membership of the Grand Lodge. He reported granting a great many special dispensations and had instituted six lodges U. D. Two corner-stones had been laid

and one new hall had been publicly dedicated. Decisions to the number of twenty-three he reported, all but three of which were approved after qualifying and modifying two or three.

Miss Maud Williams, the beneficiary of the Galloway College scholarship donated to the Grand Lodge, accompanied by a large number of the members of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, at the time in session in the city, was received, while the Grand Lodge was at refreshment, by the officers and many members of the Grand Lodge, conducted to the platform in the East, and, after a welcome, briefly addressed the members of the Grand Lodge with expressions of thanks for the favor they had extended to her, and her determination to do all in her power to show her appreciation of so great a benefit.

The Grand Orator, Brother Edgar E. Bryant, delivered an oration, in which the history of Freemasonry was very ably discussed, showing great research as well as a critical examination of many controverted questions. It is well worth a careful perusal.

Fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Sweden were by resolution established.

The following amendment to the constitution was adopted:

That section 1 of article 2 of the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows: The Grand Lodge shall hold biennial Communications until three annual sessions of the Grand Lodge have been omitted, then annual sessions shall be held again without further action of the Grand Lodge, at the seat of government of Arkansas, on the third Tuesday of November, at which time the Grand officers shall be elected and appointed as prescribed in this Constitution, and special Grand Lodges may be held at such times and places as the Grand Master may appoint.

Under which the next session of the Grand Lodge will be on November 20th, 1900.

Here is a most sensible decision:

2. Brother W. H. Washburn asks: What is the Masonic status of a Master Mason who is suspended for nonattendance. If he dies while under such suspension is he entitled to Masonic burial?

We answer, that he is in the attitude of a Mason deprived of Lodge privileges, but the Lodge in its discretion may bury him, if it desires to do so.

Brother Sam H. Davidson presents the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and seventy-two pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty sister Grand Lodges in an able and very entertaining manner.

He declares "that drunkenness and profanity are gross offenses against Masonry, and a Lodge failing to correct such vices among its members should have its charter arrested by the Grand Lodge, if in session; if not, by the Grand Master." He is emphatically against cipher rituals or rituals written or printed in any other style. He notes the difficulties constantly arising on account of the relaxation of the ancient rule on the question of physical qualifications, remarking that Grand Masters and Grand Lodges who break away from the ancient landmarks will continue to encounter difficulties until some uniform rule takes the place of the landmark.

No such uniform rule will take the place of the landmark. Aside from the direct acknowledgment, in every Grand Lodge constitution, of the binding force of the landmarks, there will be found on guard, defenders of the landmarks sufficient in number to prevent the very bulwarks of our institution from destruction. The inviolability of the ancient landmark is the distinguishing feature of Freemasonry, which insures its stability and the respect and admiration of thoughtful men. He approves the refusal of a Grand Master to authorize a lodge to appear in Masonic clothing at the funeral of a deceased brother, where a commandery of Knights Templar were to conduct the ceremony.

We like the following, when he was reviewing the decision of a Grand Master:

In answer to the question: "Would it be proper for a Masonic Lodge to indorse an applicant for political office?" he just said "no." He made no comment, he did not elaborate, he did not reprehend the propounder of the question, nor deliver a disquisition on the non-political character of Freemasonry. He just said "no." Why, we have in mind a Grand Master or two, who, in answer to such a question, in the language of the novitiate—the profane—would have just "caved," "cussed" and "cavorted." Gladly would they have answered such a question.

M.:W.:Robert M. Smith, Hot Springs, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Fay Hempstead, Little Rock, is Grand Secretary.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1899.

June 22nd, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Kamloops, the Twenty-eighth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:David Wilson, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, three district deputy grand masters, four past grand officers, eleven grand representatives and representatives from twenty-two of the twenty-four subordinate lodges in attendance.

A year of marked prosperity and growth throughout that grand jurisdiction, accompanied by the utmost peace and harmony, the Grand Master says, in opening his annual address, and he, therefore, with great pleasure, extended a cordial greeting to his brethren. To the families and friends of their deceased brethren, who had been called from their labors on earth, during the year, he extended fraternal sympathy.

In the discussion of foreign relations, he relates briefly the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru, in setting aside the action of Grand Master Dam, and restoring the Bible to its proper place in that grand jurisdiction. He is somewhat inclined to a friendly view of their neighbor, the Grand Lodge of Washington, although he does not approve of its action in 1898, in relation to the so-called negro masonry, but rather leans to the view, which Grand Master Upton presented, in pretending that the negro lodges involved had not been actually recognized. He reports two special communications of his grand lodge, for the purpose of laying corner-stones, one for a new Episcopal Church, and the other for a Masonic Temple in the city of New Westminster. On each occasion a handsome silver trowel was presented to the Grand Master, with which to spread the cement used in the ceremony.

He says, "At the time of my installation, I fully expected that it would be possible for me to visit nearly all the lodges, but, etc., etc."—the usual story, he did not. Nevertheless, he did perform a mass of work, required of a Grand Master, and there is abundance of evidence that he did it well. He issued dispensations for three new lodges.

Of the numerous special dispensations issued by him, we extract :

On April 8th, to Kamloops Lodge, No. 10, to confer the third degree on Bro. A. W. Bushell in less time than that fixed by the Constitution, on the ground that this brother resides seventy miles from Kamloops, and would thus be required to undertake another expensive journey, if the statutory interval were not lessened. I may add that this dispensation was granted only on condition that the candidate be made proficient in the work of the second degree.

And then indulges in discussion :

Among the powers of the Grand Master is that of "granting such dispensations as may be applied for in accordance with the law of the Grand Lodge." Now, I understand that among Masonic writers, the word "dispensation" is used in two sense. "In one sense, a dispensation is a permission to do an act which the law says shall not be done without permission. In the other it is a warrant importing to authorize the doing of an act which the law says shall not be done at all—in other words, a dispensing with the law."

It would thus appear that under our Constitution, Section 47 (part of which is quoted in the first sentence of the preceding paragraph), dispensations of the second class are unlawful in this Jurisdiction. That such dispensations are ever issued is undoubtedly due to the erroneous conception by a Grand Master that there is inherent in his office—independent of the Constitution—power to dispense with the law. Indeed, I fear that at the outset of my own career, a similar conception of my power led to the unintentional commission of an error, which was not, however, altogether without what might be regarded as good and sufficient reason for the action taken.

It is enough to say that "erroneous conceptions" abound. And it is pretty safe to say that in every Grand Jurisdiction, where it has been held by the Grand Lodge that the Grand Master does not possess the prerogative authority of "dispensing with the law," it will be found that such dispensations have been actually indulged in and sanctioned again and again. Not only that, but our constitutions and regulations are framed with a view to the possession of such power by the Grand Master. Every constitution expressly recognizes the landmarks. And the prerogatives of a Grand Master are, by the same solemn agreement made in 1717, including the dispensing power, are as binding as the recognized landmarks. In resigning sovereignty over the craft, these prerogatives were retained by the Grand Masters. Their inviolability gives a dignity, character and stability not possessed by any other organization created by man, by reason of which our institution is respected above any other society. Freemasonry is a law unto itself, but the tyro in our order does not comprehend it; like the squab, he appears biggest soon after birth.

From the reported decisions, we learn that one ballot elects to the three degrees, and if the examination for advancement shows proficiency and no objection is made, a ballot for advancement is not taken. To gain admis-

sion, a visitor must not only prove himself possessed of the secrets, but he must likewise have paper proof of his standing in some jurisdiction recognized, and in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

He discusses, in an able manner, Grand Lodge relief, for which they have an unusually large sum, when the numbers composing their membership are considered; foreign correspondence; literature and lack of interest; original Grand Lodge record, and the advantage of such, and concludes a very able paper that marks his ability to preside over the craft in his Grand Jurisdiction.

The Deputy Grand Master had made many official visits and reports them in a paper of considerable length. The District Deputies were not idle, as their reports show much work by them. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary each presented full reports, as did also the various standing committees.

Brother W. A. DeWolf-Smith presented the report on correspondence, covering two hundred and twenty-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-seven sister Grand Lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them.

We can do no better, perhaps, than note with approval, all the Grand Master said concerning it in his annual address, as follows:

I consider it incumbent upon me to refer to the work of W.: Bro. W. A. De Wolf-Smith in connection with foreign correspondence. Few will credit the amount of work, patience, and judgment required to prepare a report such as was published in our last Annual. As soon as copies of Foreign Proceedings are received, the task—but I think it is a labor of love with our brother—must be begun, and kept up almost from day to day during the year. If there is a fault that can be found with the report named, perhaps one might be justified in saying that Bro. Smith has done more than well. On the merit of his report there cannot be two opinions among those who read the interesting and useful Masonic information he has gathered with such good judgment from every available source, but without deprecating the value of his services, I think that a document of considerably less than one hundred and fifty pages would suffice for a numerically small Jurisdiction like ours.

M.: W.: R. Eden Walker, New Westminster, is Grand Master.

V.: W.: W. J. Quinlan, Nelson, is Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA, 1899.

October 10th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, the Fiftieth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: Frank M. Angellotti, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, twenty past grand officers, thirty-nine grand representatives, and representatives from two hundred and thirty-four of the two hundred and sixty-seven subordinate lodges in attendance.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master, speaking of the Grand Lodge, said:

Established in California only a few months before her admission into the Union, with its foundations laid broad and deep by zealous and devoted lovers of the Craft and its beneficent teachings, Masonry has fully kept pace with the State in her marvelous growth.

If we, who are in this day and generation responsible for its welfare, remain faithful to the trust committed to our care, Masonry is destined to exert a most potent influence for the good of mankind in the yet more marvelous future that, we confidently believe, exists for California.

It is fitting that we should pause to acknowledge our debt to those whose love for our Institution and devotion to its interests have placed in our hands this magnificent heritage.

The result of their work is a monument to the consummate wisdom, unflinching zeal and absolute fidelity of the founders and early builders of Masonry in California—more perfect and enduring than any memorial that might be erected by our hands.

Of those who participated in the formation of this Grand Lodge and in the proceedings of the first Annual Communication, but one survives, the M. W. JOHN A. TUTT, who, as the first Deputy Grand Master, presided at that Communication, and succeeded Brother STEVENSON as Grand Master.

He reported the granting of dispensations for four new lodges; the constituting of one lodge; the consolidation of two lodges into one in two cases; the holding of two special communications, each to lay a cornerstone, one for the college of physicians and surgeons at San Francisco, and one for a church at Redlands. He had issued twenty-nine special dispensations for the usual purposes.

From decisions reported, we extract the following:

1. The widow of a Mason, who was in good standing at the time of his death, is entitled to all necessary assistance so long as she remains his widow.

2. A Mason residing in this State who, within six months from the issuance of his dimit, makes application to some Lodge in the State for membership, accompanying his application with the affiliation fee, if any, required by the by-laws of the Lodge, is kept in standing for another six months by such application, although the same be rejected, and by a new application every six months he can keep himself in standing indefinitely, and it is only when he has allowed six months to elapse without an application that he loses his standing as a Mason under the provisions of Sec. 1, Art. II, Part V, of the Constitution, and is in need of the restoration provided for in Sec. 8, Art. V, Part VI, of the Constitution.

3. When the Grand Lodge restores an expelled brother to all the rights and privileges of Masonry, immediately upon the action of the Grand Lodge the brother becomes again, without any action on his part, a Mason in good standing, entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry except those which are incident to membership in a particular Lodge. He is, in effect, a non-affiliated Mason, in good standing, and can acquire the rights and privileges of membership in a Lodge only by affiliation therewith upon petition and election in the regular mode.

4. Where a Lodge requests another Lodge in this State to confer a degree or degrees *for it*, the conferring of the degree is an act of courtesy to the Lodge making the request, and is considered the act of the Lodge preferring the request. There is no fee contemplated by our law for such an act of courtesy on the part of one Lodge toward another Lodge. It would be only fair, however, that the Lodge making the request should reimburse the Lodge of which the request is made for any expense caused by the conferring of the degree. Where degrees are so conferred, the brother becomes a member of the Lodge making the request, which Lodge will return him as such member and will report the degrees as if conferred by it and pay the Grand Lodge fee therefor.

31. The daughter of a Master Mason is entitled to receive assistance from Masons, if she be in need, notwithstanding the fact that she is the widow of one who was not a Mason. The fact that she has been married

makes her no less the daughter of a Master Mason, and as such she is entitled to our consideration.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary each presented admirable reports, showing painstaking care of the material interests of the craft confided to their keeping.

The report of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, which was opened for reception of inmates on the first day of March, 1899, shows a total expenditure of \$139,500.85, of which the Grand Lodge furnished \$37,000.00; individual Masons and Masonic bodies and Eastern Star Chapters contributed the balance, \$102,500.85.

W. Brother Carrol Cook, Grand Orator, delivered a well considered oration, from which we extract:

The Masonry which is practiced to-day dates from A. D. 1717, at which time, in London, it was first reduced from a moral and religious *operative* and *working* society, or corporation, to what it now is—an exclusively moral and speculative, or philosophical institution. The Freemasonry of to-day is founded upon that of 1717, which was founded upon the *principles* of Masonry of A. D. 52, introduced into Britain by the societies of Roman builders attached to the armies of CÆSAR, who at that time conquered that country; and the charter of York, dated A. D. 926. These corporations, in turn, derived their origin from the colleges of Roman constructors, founded in Rome seven hundred and fifteen years before the birth of Christ, under the patronage of the Emperor NUMA POMPILIUS. These colleges were independent civil and religious institutions, to which were granted the exclusive privilege of erecting the public temples and monuments of Rome. And, in their turn, these colleges were based upon the Dionesian mysteries, about that time introduced into Rome by the learned priests and architects of Greece. The Dionesian mysteries, or Grecian Masonry, as it may be called, seems to have been derived from three general sources: the Egyptian initiations and learning taught by the hierophants or sages of that country, schooled in the hieroglyphic erudition of the Egyptians; the teachings of the gymnosophists or priest philosophers of India; and the Hebrew seers and kings and prophets. We, therefore, belong to an Order the age of which, we are told, is announced by the horologe of centuries, whose foundations have stood unmoved through the shocks of ages; whose superstructure has defied the ravages of time—an institution which has survived the ruins of empires and dynasties, monarchies and republics, and existed through ages of error, ignorance, superstition and barbarism, and the history of which is lost in legends, those legends blending with the myths of antiquity.

A per capita tax of eight and one-third cents per month was levied upon the subordinate lodges, to be due and payable to the Grand Lodge, the same as the annual Grand Lodge dues are paid, to be kept in a separate account, to be known as the "Widows' and Orphans' Home Fund," by resolution.

The recommendations of the Grand Master, and all subjects coming before the Grand Lodge, received consideration by committees, and action by the Grand Lodge.

The report on correspondence, covering one hundred and seventeen pages, is by Past Grand Master Wm. A. Davies, an accomplished reviewer. From his conclusion we extract:

The past year has not been prolific in the production of material for the consideration of Committee on Correspondence. The question of the adoption of a uniform limit of the effect of rejections; the important one presented by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin concerning a distressed Mason's right to relief whenever and wherever overtaken by misfortune, with the assurance that his benefactors will be reimbursed by his Mother Lodge; the many and varied remedies proposed for the evils of non-affiliation, with the general dissatisfaction at the use of a cipher in connection with the dissemination of the ritual—all these and many other grievances, expressed or implied, give way to the unlooked for departure voluntarily assumed and promulgated by the Grand Lodge of Washington.

The origin of the disturbance was caused by the inquiry of two clandestine Masons desiring the Grand Lodge of Washington to enlighten them as to their rights and privileges as Masons claiming descent from one PRINCE HALL, known as an irregular pretender in the early history of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Grand Lodge of Washington seized upon the opportunity afforded by the inquiry to "not see its way clear" to stand by the decision of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in the premises, but to express its dissent therefrom and to take action virtually sustaining the regularity of PRINCE HALL, Prince Hall Grand Lodge, "Hiram" Lodge, "African" Lodge and their descendants.

This Grand Lodge was without sufficient information as to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington to justify an expression of its opinion at its last Annual Session, as the journal of proceedings of that Grand Lodge had not, at the time of our meeting, been received; shortly thereafter the journal came to hand and has since been the subject of comment in the Masonic world.

We have no desire to add to the dissatisfaction engendered by the unlooked-for and unnecessary action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, for the reason that the brethren of that Grand Lodge, at their last Annual Communication, have, in accordance with the expressed wish and advice of their brethren of many sister Grand Lodges, reconsidered their former action, and resolved to abide by the will of the majority for the harmony of the whole body of the Craft. "Let us have peace."

M.:W.:Charles L. Patton, San Francisco, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:George Johnson, San Francisco, is Grand Secretary.

CANADA, 1899.

July 19th, in the city of Ottawa, the Forty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:E. T. Malone, Grand Master, the principal grand officers, nineteen district deputy grand masters, thirty-four grand representatives and representatives from two hundred and ninety-seven of the three hundred and sixty-one subordinate lodges in attendance. There were also present a large number of past grand officers.

The mayor of the city, not a member of the order, welcomed the Grand Lodge in eloquent speech in which he paid a high tribute to our institution, saying, among many other good things, that: "In its extent and ramifications it is world-wide, and in your membership you can justly claim a large representation of the noblest and best in every walk in life of the human race."

The list of distinguished visitors present is thus made up:

M. W. Bros. Benjamin Tooke, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec; T. B. Flint, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia; J. V. Ellis, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; D. C. Fraser, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and the Hon. John Yeo, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and V. W. Bros. Baird, P. G. S. B. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; W. H. Whyte, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and A. Howard, P. D. D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, were announced, introduced and welcomed with grand honors.

An address of welcome, on behalf of the Masters of the city of Ottawa, was also made a part of the preliminaries to the more serious business of the Grand Communication.

A hearty greeting marks the opening of the Grand Master's annual address; tidings of peace and prosperity from all parts of the jurisdiction he brought, saying: "Our lodges are in a flourishing condition; our craftsmen are engaged in works of love and charity; our financial returns show an increase over that of any previous year, and our Grand Lodge is in cordial and fraternal relations with every legitimate Grand Lodge in the World."

"In memorium," he pays loving tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead. He speaks words in high praise of the History of Freemasonry in Canada, recently completed, in two volumes, the work of the gifted J. Ross Robertson, Past Grand Master.

He reports a correspondence with Grand Master Upton upon the subject of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, in regard to Negro Masonry, in which he very frankly expressed his regrets that such action had been taken.

He had been unable to personally be present at several dedications during the year, of lodge rooms. He had issued only two special dispensations, although he had received many petitions for them. He had laid and caused to be laid many corner-stones of religious, educational and public buildings. He had visited largely, responding to every invitation to do so, except in two instances.

He had made a great many decisions, but reports only five, four of which we extract:

1. I decided that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to pass the ballot three times on the application of a candidate for initiation; also that it was improper for a Worshipful Master to allow members of the lodge to discuss the merits and qualifications of a candidate on whose petition the ballot had been taken. No discussion should be allowed, as thereby the secrecy of the ballot is violated. I censured a Worshipful Master for a violation of duty under above circumstances.

2. I decided that the practice, which for the first time has come to my notice, of initiating two or more candidates into Masonry at the same time, is decidedly improper, and directed the D. D. G. M. of the London District to put a stop to same.

4. I decided that the word "freeborn" in our ceremonies does not exclude "illegitimate persons;" that the expression should be confined to "slaves," as the benefits of Freemasonry were not intended to be extended to those who were so shackled as to be unable to exercise freedom and independence.

5. I decided that the loss of a thumb and first finger of left hand does not debar a person from becoming a Mason.

The reports of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer are painstaking in their make-up, showing a detailed statement of the matters involved. Two hundred and nineteen pages of the proceedings are taken up with reports from the nineteen District Deputy Grand Masters.

From the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address we extract:

The M. W. the Grand Master alludes in his address to the subject of the abuse of the ballot. This abuse is very much to be regretted, but it is an incident inseparable from the use of the ballot. Many brethren seem to think that the prosperity of a lodge is to be measured by the number of its initiations and the amount of fees which it takes in. Nemesis usually arrives in the case of such lodges in the form of brethren who have been, but never should have been, admitted, whose propensity for evil finds expression in indiscriminate blackballing. The board are of opinion that sufficient care is not exercised in the admission of candidates to lodges, and that prosperity in the form already alluded to may be too dearly purchased. Several remedies have been suggested to meet the evil of indiscriminate blackballing, particularly a relaxation of the restrictions now connected with the ballot. These suggestions, however, have not been favorably accepted by the craft, and it is evident that the present restrictions must continue. Care in the admission of candidates and the exercise of patience, forbearance and the spirit of brotherly love can alone cure this evil.

M. W.: Brother Henry Robertson writes the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and eleven pages, and reviewing the proceedings of all the American Grand Lodges, and others to the number, in all, of sixty-two. He selects with good taste, and his comments evince a knowledge of the subjects discussed.

M. W.: E. T. Malone, Toronto, is Grand Master.

R. W.: J. J. Mason, Hamilton, is Grand Secretary

COLORADO, 1899.

September 19th, in the Masonic Temple in the city of Denver, the Thirty-ninth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W.: Horace T. DeLong, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, eighteen past grand masters, forty-one grand representatives and representatives from eighty-nine of the ninety-one subordinate lodges in attendance.

Very appropriately, the Grand Master, before any of the business of the Grand Lodge was entered upon, called the representatives of sister Grand Lodges to the East, and they were fraternally welcomed, and received with the Grand Honors. To which M. W.: Henry M. Teller, one of their number, in a very fraternal and impressive manner responded.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master, with expressions of gratitude to the Supreme Grand Master, recalled the fact that during the thirty-eight years of the existence of their Grand Lodge "not a single Grand Lodge officer has been called to pass through the valley of the Shadow of Death while in the discharge of his official duties." His wel-

come to his brethren was fraternal and cordial, and his tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead was in words of loving remembrance. Of those who had gone to war, at the call of their country, he thus speaks:

Only one report has been received concerning members of our Subordinate Lodges who have enlisted and gone to war. It does seem that the data concerning this important part of our Masonic history ought to be gathered while everything is fresh in the memories of all.

On March 29, 1899, Pueblo No. 17 reported that Captain John S. Stewart, a Past Master of that Lodge, was killed in action, March 25, near Manila. No details concerning his life, history or death were given.

He reports that while certain of their lodges were having trouble, only one appeal had come to his notice. That in his visits he found a generally satisfactory condition, and the craft hungry for information. He had constituted one lodge; received one surrendered charter; authorized one lodge to contract debt; laid one corner-stone in person and one by proxy; dedicated one temple; issued two duplicate charters; issued three dispensations for new lodges; gave three permissions to attend divine services and issued nine special dispensations waiving requirements of law.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a healthy financial condition, with \$11,806.37 on hand.

R. W. Ed. C. Parmelee, Grand Secretary, made his thirty-third annual report, carefully prepared and detailing all the important matters transacted through his office during the year.

A committee of three, two of whom were Past Grand Masters, was appointed to visit W. Bro. Adna Adams Treat, a resident of Denver and in his one hundred and third year, and extend the fraternal greetings of the Grand Lodge on his long and useful life. The committee reported the performance of their duty, and that Bro. Treat seemed much pleased at the brotherly remembrance, and sent his blessing to the Grand Lodge and all the members thereof, and regretted that the infirmities of age prevented his returning thanks in person.

Brother James R. Killian, upon the subject of "the potency of Masonic ideals in the exaltation of character," delivered a very interesting and instructive oration. Our space forbids quoting as much as we would like to, but from it we extract:

What a joy to mankind is the gift of the Ideal! By reason of it men create new and brighter worlds. The roses that bloom in men's gardens are poor beside the roses that bloom in the fertile soil of the imagination. The sun never sets so splendidly and gorgeously before the eye as he does behind it. What a sparkling Heaven of things man has created by this power! Literature, art, religion. Man is like his Maker in this; he can create summer in the midst of winter; he can hew out the amethyst walls of the celestial city and breathe while on earth the very air of Heaven.

How great is his gift! Not only a joy, but a utility. It is by the influence of the Ideal that man continually progresses. The beaver is satisfied with his house; the bird is satisfied with her house; but man is never satisfied with his house. When he lived in a hut he saw something better and strove to realize it. The hut in time became a classic temple, the classic gave way to the Gothic, and the Gothic in time became supplanted by the glories of the Renaissance. The same holds good as to his dress, even his food, until at his dining table the animalism of eating is covered up under

cut glass and silver, and where music, flowers and cheerful conversation have become the triumphs of modern civilization. The foregoing illustrations are but the lower forms of the manifestation of its power.

It takes hold upon the family, the church and the state. It has given us the modern household, which, with its triple bond of father, mother and little child, is like the new Jerusalem, "Descended out of the very Heaven of God."

It has given us the modern church which is nearer the people than ever before; an asylum, aye even a haven for the sin-burdened, the weak, the weary everywhere.

By it has been evolved the principle of self-government which even in its rudiments and imperfect beginnings possessed a virtue so exalted that it could triumph over the Pharos as did the Jewish tribes; over Darius and Cyrus, as did the Greek republics, spreading through all history Ideals that have crystalized in the course of time, and have not only transmitted to us intellectual and aesthetic culture like that of the Greeks, and moral principles, like those which flowed down from lightning-clothed Sinai, but have given us the modern state, in which, for the first time in all history, the rights of man as man, even the lowliest, have come to be the object of human government.

Whatever Ideals do for the family, the church, the state, for Freemasonry, or any other institution, depends upon what they do for the individual, as sure as the light kisses the East upon the ascending of the King of Day, or his departure in the West dips the world in a stream of golden twilight.

Three new lodges were chartered. A suitable monument was ordered placed upon the grave of their deceased Past Grand Master, Brother John M. Chivington.

It was this Grand Lodge that first proposed the ceremonial observance at Mt. Vernon, of the centennial of the death of Washington, and at this communication appropriated an additional \$1000 to assist in the expenses at Mt. Vernon, and in addition thereto a sum sufficient to pay the expenses of a special committee of Past Grand Masters, not including Past Grand Master Henry M. Teller, who was invited to go as the special delegate of the Grand Lodge.

M.:W.:Brother Lawrence N. Greenleaf presented the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and sixty-seven pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-six Grand Lodges, five of which were each for two years. Nebraska, 1898, received fraternal and kindly notice. We note with interest and approval what he says in favor of the view that Speculative Freemasonry comes from antiquity, as against the contention of Brother Kuykendall of Wyoming, who insists that it had its birth in 1717, notwithstanding that to maintain such view he repudiates authentic records and discredits the statements of those illustrious men who founded the present system of Grand Lodge government.

That Speculative Freemasonry is linked through successive centuries with societies preserving secrets, back to and including the sacred mysteries, where from the dawn of civilization the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man has been recognized, is established by unanswerable logic.

The report is a valuable contribution to Masonic literature, made more

so because of the research, made by its author, whose positions are, as a rule, based upon painstaking investigation of the questions discussed.

M.:W.:Alphonse A. Burnand, Leadville, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver, is Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT, 1900.

January 17th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Hartford, the One Hundred and Twelfth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:George G. McNulty, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, fifteen past grand officers, twenty-seven grand representatives and representatives from all but one of the one hundred and nine subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address the Grand Master assures us that the year had been one of marked prosperity, not only in a material increase in membership, but in the quality of the material composing it, and that increasing care in the election of candidates is noticeable. He also expresses a commendable pride in their Masonic Home which is receiving generous support. Among the honored dead, he reports the passing away of two Past Grand Masters, a former Grand Treasurer and a brother who served many years as Grand Tyler. Past Grand Master Dwight Phelps died at his home in Winsted, September 9th, 1899, at the age of sixty-five. He was Grand Master in 1870. Past Grand Master Henry Welsh died at his home in Danbury, in his sixty-ninth year. He was Grand Master in 1896.

Of the seven district deputies, one made report of visiting seventeen of the lodges out of the twenty-five in his district, another visited all in his district, another visited eleven out of twelve and the others did good work and all report good conditions prevailing. The Grand Master did considerable visiting and speaks approvingly of the excellent work on the degrees which he witnessed. He granted several special dispensations; was not called upon for many decisions, and only reports three. Two emergent communications of the Grand Lodge had been holden, one to dedicate a new masonic hall and the other to lay the corner-stone of a public building.

Accompanied by Past Grand Master L. A. Lockwood he attended the Washington centennial celebration at Mt. Vernon.

The Grand Secretary's report contains a carefully prepared statement of the affairs of the office and shows a performance of all important duties pertaining to that office. From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted, we extract:

A candidate when obligated becomes a brother Mason, and in the opinion of your Committee, the ground of objection to advancement should be lack of sufficient proficiency in the preceding degrees or if made upon ground of moral unfitness, or un-Masonic conduct such objections should only be used temporarily until proper charges can be brought against the brother seeking advancement and he can be heard in his defense.

With us, the ballot for advancement is for proficiency and for the degree. An objection by a member of the lodge stops further action, and the objector is in no case required to state the grounds of his objection, nor to prefer charges.

By an amendment of law no procession of Masons can be held except for the burial of a brother or to attend divine worship on St. John's Day or Sunday nearest to it without a dispensation from the Grand Master.

M. W. Brother John H. Barlow presents the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and seventy-three pages and reviewing the proceedings of sixty-four sister grand lodges. We note with sorrow his sad bereavement in the loss of his life's companion.

In Alabama, a majority vote may waive jurisdiction over a rejected candidate; Bro. Barlow thinks a unanimous vote should be required. The latter view prevails in our state, and has been decided to be the law. Again, in Alabama dues accrue during suspension. Brother Barlow agrees with Brother Coxe, of Iowa, that such a rule "is wrong in principle and indefensible in equity."

We have known Brother Barlow as a reviewer for his Grand Chapter R. A. M. and have always read with interest his reports and find the one under review up to the good standard of all his work.

M. W. John O. Rowland, is Grand Master.

M. W. Brother John H. Barlow, Hartford, is Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE, 1899.

October 4th, in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Wilmington, the Ninety-third Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. J. Harmer Rile, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, seven past grand masters, twenty-one grand representatives and representatives from all the subordinate lodges, in attendance.

God's blessings bestowed upon our Nation, its marvelous growth, the developments in the arts and sciences and the extension of the blessings of liberty, mark the opening paragraphs of the Grand Master's annual address. He reports harmony, peace and prosperity in his jurisdiction; pays tribute to the fraternal dead and proceeds to a faithful account of his official acts.

He decided that a native of Germany who does not claim any state as his home, but who is a soldier, stationed at a point within the jurisdiction of one of the lodges, where he has been for more than a year, is eligible as a candidate for the degrees.

He granted one special dispensation to confer the second and third degrees upon a candidate, without waiting the usual time, the candidate being a sea-faring man, and about to leave this jurisdiction for an indefinite period.

He had visited every lodge in his jurisdiction, and enjoyed cordial greetings and a hospitality, both masonic and "Delawaren." He had also visited by special invitation, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at the communication when the Grand Officers of that jurisdiction were installed, and pays a tribute to the memory of the late Judge Williams, who lived less than a month after being installed Grand Master.

He reported a special meeting of his Grand Lodge when he laid the corner-stone of a Methodist Episcopal Church at Houston. Lodges of in-

struction have greatly facilitated the uniformity of work throughout the state. He discussed at some length the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing Negro Masonry and reported having issued an edict suspending fraternal relations between his subordinate lodges and their members and the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members. All of which was approved by the Grand Lodge, which ordered that said edict remain in force until the Grand Lodge of Washington shall annul her said action.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary are full and make a good showing of the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Jurisprudence and the Grand Lodge did not approve a decision of the Grand Master, where he held that a lodge could not bury a suicide unless the question of sanity had previously been determined by legal process, and the suicide had been under restraint either privately or in a public institution for the insane.

Brother L. H. Jackson, writes the report on correspondence, covering eighty-one pages and reviewing the proceedings of forty-seven American, five British-American, three European, and five English Colonial Grand Lodges, sixty in all. Nebraska, 1898, is fraternally noticed.

We are not in full accord with the spirit of what he says in regard to the Gran Dieta Symbolica of Mexico, of which we speak elsewhere, he says :

Is not the Dieta an anomaly, as a supreme body over the Grand Lodges of the State of Mexico? Has not Mexican Masonry put itself outside the pale of genuine Masonry by the use of Book of Constitutions instead of the Great Light, the Bible? And the initiation of women, and warranting of women's lodges? Have those evils been remedied? Can they be remedied? Are persons obligated on a Book of Constitutions Masons at all? How can Mexico be the rightful possessor of the true work? All these are questions we would like to have answered satisfactorily before we could dream of recognition.

M.:W.:William W. Black, Jr., Laurel, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Benjamin F. Bartram, Wilmington, is Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, 1899.

November 8th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Washington, the Eighty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:John H. Small, Jr., Grand Master, with all the grand officers, fifteen past grand masters, Milton J. Hull, formerly of Nebraska, among them, twenty-six grand representatives, a large number of past masters, and representatives from all but one of the twenty-six subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master said:

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE: The close of the present Masonic year marks nearly the end of the nineteenth century and almost the centennial of the existence of this Grand Lodge. The century has witnessed marvels in the progress of art and science, embracing within their scope discoveries and inventions of inestimable value to mankind, and civilization has advanced with orderly but gigantic strides. The same steady

progress and healthy growth enjoyed by us as a nation may be noted in our craft at large; and in our own jurisdiction we have kept pace with it all. It is, therefore, with no ordinary degree of pleasure that I submit to the Grand Lodge my report of the operations of the past year, which has brought large accessions to our membership and general prosperity to our craft. Our usefulness has not been lessened by dissensions or shortcomings; nor has death invaded our ranks to any considerable extent. We render thanks to Almighty God that the called have been so few; that the shadows which bring loneliness and tears have not darkened many homes.

From his decisions, approved by the Grand Lodge, we extract the following:

October 5, 1899, I received a letter from Worshipful Bro. J. Claude Keiper, Master of Columbia Lodge, No. 3, requesting my decision in the case of Bro. Thomas L. Todd.

The facts as presented are these: Oriental Lodge, No. 20, of Matthews, Va., conferred the Entered Apprentice's and Fellow Craft's degrees upon the brother. That lodge then surrendered jurisdiction, and the Master Mason's degree was conferred by Columbia Lodge, No. 3, of this jurisdiction. On receiving the Master Mason's degree, Brother Todd did not declare himself a member of Columbia Lodge, under a misapprehension of his standing in Oriental Lodge. He afterwards desired to affiliate with Columbia Lodge, but was unable to comply with that part of the Constitution which requires every application for affiliation to be accompanied by a dimit. It was held by Oriental Lodge that it had no claim upon him as a member. I was asked whether, in view of these facts, Columbia Lodge could receive the application for affiliation without the formal dimit.

The article of the Constitution alluded to can only be made to apply to those unaffiliates who have been members of a lodge, and who have dimitted from the lodge or otherwise lost their membership therein, and cannot be construed to apply to one recently made a master Mason, but who had not yet become a member of any lodge, as in the case under consideration. In this case it was manifestly impossible for the brother to accompany his application for membership in the lodge which had recently made him a Master Mason with a "formal dimit" from another lodge, inasmuch as he had never held membership in any lodge, and never was eligible to such membership until after he had received the Master Mason's degree.

My decision in the case was that Columbia Lodge was authorized to receive and act upon the application for membership of Bro. Thomas L. Todd "without the formal dimit."

From his special dispensations, we extract the following:

June 21, 1899, I granted dispensation to Harmony Lodge, No. 17, to receive the petition of Mr. Raymond W. Moulton for the degrees at a special communication on June 21, called for another purpose.

In granting this dispensation, I did not believe that it conflicted with the by-law which says that no business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that for which the meeting is called. The simple receiving of a petition *for future action and ballot*, of which every member of the lodge was to have due notice, did not, in my judgment, constitute the prohibited business contemplated by the by-laws. The extreme urgency of the case—that of an applicant connected with the Army of the United States, who had been ordered to a distant land to fight for our flag—gave additional weight to the petition of the lodge.

He reported the laying of the corner-stone for a church in the city of Washington, and the use of the historic Washington gavel in performing the ceremony.

He had visited, during the year, every lodge in his grand jurisdiction, and he is convinced, he says, that such visits serve a wise and beneficent purpose, and he hopes to see them continued.

Contributions, and money raised at a fair and exposition for the purpose, amount to about \$5,000 toward the erection of a new Masonic Temple.

This is what he did:

On October 21, 1899, by virtue of the power vested in me as Grand Master of Masons of the District of Columbia, I conferred the degrees of Masonry, at sight, upon Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, the Admiral being at that time under orders to proceed to take charge of the South Atlantic Squadron, and he having expressed a great desire to become a Mason prior to his leaving this country.

In exercising the right vested in me, I deemed it a great pleasure to be able to confer the degrees, with the assistance of Benjamin B. French Lodge, No. 15, upon so distinguished an American citizen.

The Grand Lodge acted as follows on the proposition to found a Masonic Home:

BE IT RESOLVED, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Grand Lodge to take into consideration the necessity and advisability of providing a Masonic Home for indigent Masons, and the widows and orphans of Masons in the District of Columbia, and that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, the Grand Commandery, K. of T., and the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star be and are hereby requested to appoint similar Committees to confer with the said Committee of the Grand Lodge.

The total amount in the hands of the subordinate lodges, as shown by returns, is \$63,367.35; expended during the year \$43,869.78, leaving a balance of \$19,497.57.

One hundred and one pages, appended to the proceedings, are devoted to the report on correspondence, by Brother Wm. R. Singleton, a veteran reviewer, who, in this instance, reviews the proceedings of forty-eight Grand Lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them. We note with sorrow his conclusion:

The printer requests us to write the conclusion. This we now do by saying that from a sick bed we have arisen to write this, which will be our conclusion of the present report:

"May our Father who is in Heaven, have you all in His holy keeping. Amen."

WM. R. SINGLETON,
Chairman.

Under Washington, regarding Negro Masonry, we find him saying:

We are rejoiced that the members of the Grand Lodge of Washington have seen the error into which mere "abstract reasoning" of some of the members, carried to a fatal conclusion, upon certain original principles of Masonry had precipitated them; just as in all similar cases, abstract reasoning has invariably led to egregious errors and blunders when reduced

to concrete form. Hence, we have had in the intellectual world innumerable philosophemes "which come and go like shadows upon the water." But we will now "*return to our mutton.*"

We have read a good many of his reports for the Grand Chapter R. A. M. and regard him as among the best of Masonic writers of the day.

M.:W.: William G. Henderson, Washington, is Grand Master.

R.:W.: William R. Singleton, Washington, is Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND, 1899-1900.

June 7th, 1899, at Freemasons Hall, London, a Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge was holden with M.:W.: The Right Honorable the Earl of Amherst, Pro Grand Master, on the throne. There were also present a large number of grand and past grand officers, the master, past masters, and wardens of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and the masters, past masters and wardens of many other lodges.

The minutes of the preceding Quarterly Communication, including the restoration of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru, were approved after many expressions of gratification that our brethren in the South American Grand Lodge had so promptly responded to the sentiment of the Grand Lodges throughout the world upon the question of maintaining the Great Light of Masonry on its altars.

The appointment of the President of the Board of General Purposes and the Grand Lodge Auditor, as also ten members of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, took place at this Communication.

It is gratifying to note that the Board of Benevolence recommended and the Grand Lodge relieved to the extent of disbursing for three months the sum of 2230£.

There was also appointed and elected a new Board of General Purposes, a board having authority to hear and determine all subjects of Masonic complaints, or irregularity respecting lodges or individual masons, when regularly brought before it, and generally to take cognizance of all matters relating to the craft.

An idea of the revenues of the Grand Lodge may be gained from the contributions received between January 1st and March 31st, 1899, inclusive, which amounts, for benevolence, to 5068£, 4s, 0d; for register fees and certificates, to 3422£, 4s, 0d.

Among the presentations made to their library and museum, we note three Masonic medals by that great American Mason, Gen. John C. Smith, Past Grand Master of Illinois.

The power vested in the Board of General Purposes came up for consideration at the Quarterly Communication held in September, 1899, where it had considered certain grave irregularities committed by a lodge in Australia. There were mitigating circumstances; the lodge had no master, past master, or warden when it resumed its meetings, pending the question whether it should remain a lodge on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, or be required to cast in its lot with the United Grand Lodge

of New South Wales, and claimed that they acted under a great and pressing emergency in electing one or more past masters as joining members, electing one of these as Master of the lodge and having him installed in a board of installed masters, after which they proceeded as a regular lodge. The Board of General Purposes, recognizing the plea of great emergency, acknowledged the acts of the lodge as valid and confirmed in their respective rank and past rank all such masters and officers and reported its action.

The Grand Lodge held that as there was no appeal from the action of the Board of General Purposes, it had no authority to pass upon the board's action, and that the only proceeding proper was to receive its report and enter it upon the record.

The contributions for the last three months reported at this Communication were, for benevolence, 2832£, 17s, 6d; register fees and certificates, 3130£, 13s, 6d.

The proceedings of the December quarterly have not been received by your committee.

At the Quarterly Communication, March 7th, 1900, a message from the Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, suggesting relief for brethren in South Africa, was received and read. There are in South Africa five District Grand Lodges, and to relieve all loyal brethren and the widows and orphans of such who have suffered because of the war in that distant part of the world, it was decided to take subscriptions, the Grand Lodge appropriating the sum of one thousand guineas with which to commence the work of relief.

Brother George Richards, District Grand Master of the Transvaal, headed the subscription with one hundred guineas, and there is no doubt that funds in large amounts will be subscribed and judiciously expended.

At this Communication the Prince of Wales was again elected Grand Master.

In reading the proceedings of the United Grand Lodge of England, one can but be impressed with the dignified courtesy observed by all taking part in the discussions and the business transacted. Men of highest rank in the realm take great pride and pleasure in being enrolled on the membership records of Freemasonry.

FLORIDA, 1900.

January 16th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Jacksonville, the Seventy-first Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Silas B. Wright, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, twelve district deputy grand masters, six past grand masters, thirty-two grand representatives and representatives from one hundred and forty of the one hundred and forty-seven subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A most cordial and fraternal welcome and greeting to his brethren marks the opening paragraph of the Grand Master's annual address. He reports the joyous fact that prosperity abounds in his state and among

the fraternity therein. Appropriate mention and tribute is paid to the memory of the fraternal dead.

He recommended the restoration of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington, notwithstanding the really unsatisfactory language used by the latter in its repeal of its 1898 Negro-Masonry legislation, on which he comments.

Under the head of "Foreign Relations," he discusses Mexico, recommending reference of the matter to the incoming Grand Master. Cuba receives encouraging words. Wyoming's proposition to erect a Supreme Grand Lodge gets "the cold shoulder," and he advised further investigation before any action be taken. He issued dispensations for three new lodges; one lodge surrendered its charter. The restoration of the charter to one dormant lodge, he reports.

He makes a quite familiar argument against the power to issue special dispensations; refused to do so in several cases, and then granted some just such dispensations. Comment is unnecessary.

A new Masonic Temple for one of the subordinate lodges had been dedicated at a special communication of the Grand Lodge, held at Pensacola, and a full account of the interesting ceremony is recorded.

He is to be commended for visiting twenty-two of his lodges, and he attended the Washington memorial services at Mt. Vernon and gives an interesting account thereof.

A very satisfactory showing of the finances connected with the debt on the Temple is made by the trustees of that enterprise.

The several reports of the grand officers and the stated committees show a careful attention to business, and the matters coming before the Grand Lodge were disposed of in a businesslike manner.

An excellent oration by the grand orator, M. W. Brother W. E. Anderson, is printed with the proceedings. In his opening paragraphs he gives his idea of what such an oration should be. It is so good that we give it place.

I am to speak to you to-day, as it has been my great privilege in past years, upon the interests of Freemasonry. As your spokesman, I delight to magnify my office. Its duties, as I view them, are twofold in their character. The first of which is to remind my brethren of the distinctive principles for which we stand, as witnesses for Masonic character and duty. And the second is, as a sentinel upon the outer wall, to note the passage of events bearing upon our order, in a more or less world-wide view.

Our Grand Master has presented a thorough and precise statement of the circumstances, condition and result of our local work in the jurisdiction. The Orator, in his subordinate capacity, is to speak of Masonry in its status, as it was and is and ought to be. The Oration goes upon the records of this Grand Lodge, with its indorsement of approval; therefore, it should not be so much in the form of a holiday or festive address, as in the calm and well considered expression of worthy precept and helpful exemplification of advanced moral influence, on the modern civilization, in the midst of which we move, live and work.

M. W. Silas B. Wright, DeLand, is Grand Master.

R. W. Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville, is Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA, 1899.

October 30th, in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Macon, the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Wm. A. Davis, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, seven past grand officers, thirty-nine grand representatives, and representatives from four hundred and sixteen of the four hundred and thirty subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address the Grand Master "waxes eloquent" in the discussion of the influence of Masonry on the destiny of man and the history of the world, and in that connection says:

Time was when nations waged war for oppression, conquest and revenge. But a revolution in the hearts and minds of men has come to pass. It is the grand climateric of the progress of mankind. Nations are coming heart to heart, doors are opening as hands are opening. An unwritten but imperative fiat has gone forth that no longer can war be waged for conquest alone. The one accepted cause of war to-day is the cause of humanity. America raised the sword, after long forbearance, to strike down the oppressor of a suffering isle. Spain ignored the warning, the sword fell, and Cuba was free. No other impulse moved us than that of fraternity. We had no original quarrel with Spain, but as men of sympathy, conscience and kindness, we could not endure the spectacle of persecution that spread its horrors at our very threshold. The enlightened opinion of mankind justifies us. Reckless indeed must be that nation, which in this day and generation, thrusts aside considerations of fraternity, and ignores the Gospel of love, and plunges vengefully into the horrors of war.

He reports several visitations and their interesting incidents, the granting of seventy-eight dispensations of all kinds, and twenty-five decisions. We wish that Freemasons could fully comprehend the importance of the following, found among his decisions:

4. No member of a Lodge, not even the Worshipful Master, can inquire the reason of a member for casting a black ball. It is un-Masonic to ask, and equally as un-Masonic for any member to give the manner in which he voted, or the reason therefor. The secrecy of the ballot is sacred, and its sanctity must be maintained, under all circumstances.

The following is interesting:

20. Our Masonic law says that in a Masonic trial, "near relatives of the accused," cannot vote. Please define the term "near relatives." Having no law, by which to be governed, and finding no Masonic authority covering the case, we know of no better way by which it can be settled, than by the application of the common law of our land. It is therefore held, that a brother related to the accused, to the Fourth Degree, either by consanguinity or affinity, is barred from sitting in his case.

He records kind approval of the efficiency of his associate officers, and especially commends the faithful performance of duty on the part of R. W. W. A. Wolihin, their model Grand Secretary.

The fraternal dead are remembered in well chosen words of fraternal tribute, and eloquent discourse upon the ever present subject of death. Special committees upon their illustrious dead, and eulogies pronounced by eloquent orators, constitute an important feature of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

We regret to record that the report of the Committee on Returns does not contain the usual table of statistics.

A committee, of one from each congressional district in the state, was authorized to formulate some plan for the erection and maintenance of a Masonic Home.

The report of the finance committee shows an excellent condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge.

The harsh judgment of expulsion, for non-payment of dues, was entered against quite a large number of unfortunate brethren. We wonder that such extreme measures are deemed expedient.

Brother W. S. Ramsey presents the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and eighteen pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-seven sister grand lodges. In it "the cream of the proceedings" of the Grand Lodges reviewed is surely found, for our brother is a most painstaking reporter, condensing more than we like to see done. He comments briefly, approving such matters as he can, but, in reviewing British Columbia, he finds something that he cannot approve. In speaking of the Grand Master's visiting a certain lodge, he says:

His experience at his visit to one of the Lodges was peculiar. He was obliged to appear before a "Board of Trial," to be examined as to whether he should be admitted or not.

Mirabile dictu! He passed.

All of which seems to us to be very ridiculous, that the Grand Master, on an official visit, should be subjected to an *examination*, when he already has vouchers by scores. It might in rare instances be necessary to identify himself as Grand Master, but it would be an anomaly if he should be excluded from a Lodge because he could not "pass."

He is in accord with Bro. Greenleaf, of Colorado, in his advocacy of milder methods in dealing with the non-payment of dues.

Under Indiana, he explains Georgia's treatment of their delinquents, expelled for non-payment of dues, of which we have above said it is "harsh." He says:

It does seem so; but it is only those who are dead to Masonry and irclaimable, that are recommended for expulsion. Those who are unable to pay are never expelled, but those only who are able but unwilling. They are first suspended and given an opportunity to return, but if after a long time for reflection, they by reason of covetousness, choose to shun their part of the burdens of Masonry, they are cut off as dead branches.

Of reports on correspondence, he says, and we think justly, the topical plan may be best for the critique or preservation in our libraries, but for the general reader seeking general information, and by comparison forming his estimate of the *status* of Masonry in the several jurisdictions under review, he prefers the old plan.

M. W.: William A. Davis, Macon, is Grand Master.

R. W.: W. A. Wolihin, Macon, is Grand Secretary.

IDAHO, 1899.

September 12th, in Masonic Hall, in the city of Boise, the Thirty second Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by

M. W. George H. Storer, Grand Master, with all but one of his grand officers, eleven past grand officers, fourteen past masters, eighteen grand representatives, and representatives from most of the twenty-nine subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address, the Grand Master declares that it gives him much pleasure to report that their relations with sister grand lodges were of the most amicable character, and that spirit of courtesy so necessary for the promotion and preservation of harmony between bodies co-equal in their rights and powers within their several jurisdictions exists to a gratifying extent. Nothing, he declares, has arisen during the past year to disturb the general peace, harmony and prosperity, which prevailed throughout the jurisdiction at the close of his esteemed predecessor's administration.

No doubt, have we, that peace and harmony prevails in Idaho, but when it comes to that spirit of courtesy between grand bodies co-equal in their rights, etc., during the then "past year" we, in connection with many others who have spoken and written, thought that the peace and harmony among grand lodges had been most grievously disturbed, by Idaho's next door neighbor, and that too, in a most unjustifiable manner. It is certainly a happy frame of mind, that enables one to be so oblivious to what is going on in one's neighborhood.

He pays well deserved tribute to Brother Edward McConville, who fell while leading the second battalion of Idaho Volunteers in a charge against the Fillipinos near Manila, February 5th, 1899. He was appointed Major, and breveted Brigadier-General for bravery when dying on the field of battle.

The Grand Master had done a commendable work in visiting a large number of the lodges; a limited number, only, of dispensations had he granted.

His decisions are reported with specified statements, they seem to be in accord with well understood masonic law, and they were all approved by the Grand Lodge.

The report on correspondence covering eighty-seven pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-four sister grand lodges, is the work of Past Grand Master Fred G. Mock. He condenses admirably, and quotes with exquisite taste and good judgment, but his selection for singing we do not approve. His choice, "All Coons look alike to me," doesn't fit the case, Washington, 1898. To be accurate one should say "All clandestine lodges and clandestine made masons are to be treated alike." There is no law in our grand lodges, with one exception, that prevents an African, because he is an African, being made a mason in any regular lodge of freemasons.

Washington's offense, and it was a grave one, did not consist in any laudable desire to extend the benefits of legitimate freemasonry to colored men, but in recognizing a brood of clandestine negro lodges, and their members. To retract fully her error, was her duty. She has only partially performed that duty, but the lesson taught is one that will not be forgotten. Freemasonry is a potent factor in extending the bounds of civil and religious freedom, and the time never was when its influence was so far-reaching as it is at the present day. Such an infraction of its polity as

was exhibited by the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, and that by the Grand Lodge of Peru in 1897, placing each, for a time, outside of the pale of Masonry, will hardly occur again. Mexico is another example; to be recognized, she is making commendable effort to place herself in accord with well understood principles of masonic law, and in due time she will, doubtless, receive her reward.

Under West Virginia we find him saying :

This Jurisdiction holds fast to the "perfect youth" doctrine, or some thing of that sort, for a man who has lost a hair's breadth of a finger or toe nail, is minus a heel-tap from his left shoe and has a hole in his right sock, need not apply. What rot! Does the loss of a finger or toe prevent a man from doing good deeds and living a noble, upright life? Look at the applicant's heart, and if it beats for the good of humanity extend him the right hand of fellowship and bid him welcome into our great brotherhood. A man who lives for the good of others, though minus a finger or two, is worth a dozen physically perfect numsculls who are crippled morally, even to the loss of arms, legs and gray matter. But so long as the laws of a Jurisdiction are such, the Grand Master must uphold them. It's their laws that are wrong.

Now there is something of error and something of truth in what he says, but the looseness of statement, not to mention a more glaring feature, is, we are sorry to say, of too prevalent occurrence, and we must protest that our brother's otherwise excellent review, should not thus be marred.

M. W.: John C. Muerman, Moscow, is Grand Master.

R. W.: Theophilus W. Randall, Boise, is Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS, 1899.

October 3rd, at Central Music Hall, in the city of Chicago, the Sixtieth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W.: Edward Cook, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, seven past grand masters, twenty-eight district deputy grand masters, thirty-nine grand representatives, and representatives from seven hundred and nine of the seven hundred and twenty-three subordinate lodges, in attendance.

Patriotic utterances mark the opening sentences of the annual address of the Grand Master. He pays eloquent tribute to the memory of the illustrious dead of his own jurisdiction and appropriate mention of those of sister grand jurisdictions.

He reported the constituting of two new lodges, both in Chicago and both under his personal supervision. He had also instituted one new lodge under dispensation, at Hamburg, Illinois. He had issued duplicate charters to three lodges, each of which had lost theirs by fire, dedicated one hall and laid corner-stones for several public buildings, a hospital, two high school buildings, a city hall, a church, and a Masonic Home.

Several aggravating grievances are reported, but the careful and painstaking investigation in each case, made by the Grand Master and his deputies, rendered their consideration in Grand Lodge comparatively an easy task. He had made some sixty visits to subordinate lodges during the year and reports many an enjoyable occasion.

He comments upon rotation in office:

The custom which formerly prevailed in many lodges of retaining the same brother as Worshipful Master for a dozen years or more, has been followed in many cases, and especially in our larger cities, by the opposite extreme of electing a new master every year. When one extreme is thus followed by another, it is usually true that both are bad, and the case under consideration forms no exception to this maxim.

The custom first referred to, produced a condition of monotony and lethargy, if not of deterioration and dry rot, which was destructive to growth and discouraging to zeal, ambition, and effort. It was natural and proper that the doctrine of rotation in office and the laudable desire to give the young men a chance should bring about a reaction, but unhappily this reaction has been carried so far as in turn to call for correction.

And upon the matter of a yearly change says:

One of the detrimental effects of this custom is that it tends to impress upon those in line the idea that the ability to repeat the ritual and to go through the regular routine is all that is necessary to qualify them for the highest honor in the gift of the lodge, and the practical result is that every Master becomes a Past Master just when he begins to get a true conception of the duties of his station. The office of Worshipful Master of a Masonic lodge is a position of trust and honor. To discharge its duties properly should be the laudable ambition of every brother who has been chosen to the place. The ability and experience to perform these duties adequately can come only through study and effort and after the lapse of more time than the custom here criticized permits. To prove this proposition nothing further is needed than the evidence of the Past Masters who have become such through the operation of this rule.

It is to be hoped that the golden mean which will prevent monotonous service on the one hand and break the rule of annual rotation on the other, can be reached by our lodges through a more general exercise of that freedom of ballot which impels every member to vote for the one he honestly thinks best fitted for the place.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary show a careful attention on the part of those officers to the details of their important duties.

R.:W.: Brother Frank Crane, formerly of Omaha, Grand Orator, delivered an eloquent oration and received the plaudits of his large audience.

A donation of \$5000 to the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home was made, as also one of \$1000 to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home at Macon, Illinois.

The report on correspondence, covering two hundred and twelve pages, is by M.:W.: Brother Joseph Robbins. It is written upon the topical plan, and so thoroughly has he compiled the views on each subject contained in the proceedings and reports reviewed, that the result is a valuable contribution made to our literature. He devotes eighty pages to the presentation of the subject of Negro Masonry, compiling the action taken in nearly all of the American Grand Lodges, and the comments of Grand Masters and Committees. His own views seem warped by sentiments quite in sympathy with the spirit animating the Grand Lodge of Washington. It is gratifying to know that the conservatism so essential to the perpetuity of our institution, evidenced by the consensus of opinion, exists so generally

that a repetition of the folly indulged by the Grand Lodge of Washington, will not be likely to ever appear again to interrupt the peace and harmony of American Freemasonry.

Twenty-eight pages are given to "Mexican Masonry," and his symposium on the topic is laden with arguments, suggestions and views which smack of the advocate, as distinguished from the impartial historian. We would suggest to him the remark of their Grand Orator, applied to the lawyer, he "is not busy seeking facts, he is seeking to convince the judge and jury how to look at the facts."

Other topics reviewed are "Necrology," "As Others See Us," "Form of Report," under which the topical form is discussed with numerous opinions quoted, and the interesting subject of "Masonic Homes."

M.:W.:Charles F. Hitchcock, Peoria, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:J. H. C. Dill, Bloomington, is Grand Secretary.

INDIANA, 1899.

May 23rd, in Grand Lodge Hall, in the city of Indianapolis, the Eighty-second Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Simeon S. Johnson, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, sixteen past grand masters, and representatives from four hundred and eighty-four of the four hundred and eighty-eight subordinate lodges present.

Appropriate patriotic reference to our nation's conflict with Spain and the heroism of our citizen soldiers marked the opening sentences of the Grand Master's annual address, followed by eloquent tribute, interspersed with apt quotations from our ritual, to the memory of the fraternal dead. Death had not touched any grand officer, present or past, yet among the lodges it had gathered in four hundred and eighty-eight craftsmen.

He reported granting five dispensations for new lodges; the taking up of two surrendered charters; the issuing of three duplicate charters to as many lodges that had lost the originals by fire; the constituting of five new lodges; the dedication of three new halls; the restoration of one charter; the consolidation of two lodges into one at West Lebanon, and like action with reference to two lodges at Banesville, and the issuing of several special dispensations for the usual purposes.

He reported a large number of decisions, all of which were approved, but the chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence dissented as to one, where it was held that a candidate can be elected the day before he was twenty-one years old, and receive the degrees upon arriving at the age of twenty-one. We have noticed holdings elsewhere that a lodge cannot receive the petition of a candidate until he has arrived at full age, because until then he cannot act of his own free will and accord, but we acknowledge that the distinction is too fine spun to carry very great weight, were we called upon to act in such a case.

R.:W.:Wm. H. Smythe submitted his twenty-first annual report as Grand Secretary, showing a carefully prepared statement of the receipts and disbursements of the year, and a balance on hand of \$17,968.69.

Halfway Lodge got less than halfway along in conferring the degrees upon a candidate when, *horror of horrors!* it was discovered and reported to the Grand Master that the halfway institution had really made a mason of a man, two of whose fingers had been more or less mutilated, but they will not do so any more. A special deputy was dispatched to investigate. He investigated, reported and the Committee on Jurisprudence, with M. W. Brother Long at its head, all declared that they were astounded. To them it was a gross and flagrant violation of justice, and the Grand Lodge agreed with them and ordered "that the incoming Grand Master be directed to suspend the functions of said Lodge, investigate its past action and the prospects, if there be any, of its future return to the course of law and order, and if such investigation does not reveal a fair probability of reformation and radical improvement, to arrest its charter absolutely and report his doings herein at the next annual meeting of this Grand Lodge." Oh, dear! what will become of them? and the trouble not halfway over.

A large amount of business came from the committees in elaborate reports and was disposed of and recorded in the well-arranged volume of proceedings. An extended and able report was made and adopted, condemning the Negro Masonry action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and fraternal relations therewith severed.

M. W. Brother Nicholas R. Ruckle presents an excellent report on correspondence, covering two hundred and thirty-nine pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-four sister Grand Lodges. He has a very correct idea of what a report should be and expresses it in the following:

It has been the custom of the Committee on Correspondence in this Grand Jurisdiction to prepare a review by States in order to show the business transacted in a narrative or historical form, without neglecting the important matters dealt with in the Address or the interesting subjects discussed in Orations and Reports on Correspondence.

Correspondents of other Grand Bodies have diverged from this plan by preparing a review by topics, taking up under particular subject-heads instead of the headings of Grand Jurisdictions the matters thought to be of such importance as to deserve special mention. This bringing together for comparison the opinions of Grand Masters, Chairmen of Committees and writers of Correspondence Reports as a rule makes a very interesting review, but suppresses to a great extent any account of the legislation in each Grand Lodge, which, in our opinion, is the vital object of the Review.

He devotes eighty pages to the subject of Negro Masonry, the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, and the actions of Grand Masters and Grand Lodges relative to the subject and the deplorable action of the Washington Grand Lodge. It is a very able and exhaustive review, and a valuable contribution to the history of freemasonry in this country.

He discusses at some length the question of the recognition of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, recognizing that it would be desirable and that the rulers of freemasonry in Mexico sincerely desire to bring their system into accord with that of the United States. To overcome the obstacles in the way, he thinks is not an insurmountable difficulty, and suggests ways and means to that end. He says:

The Grand Lodge of Texas has been the premier advocate of Mexican Masonic recognition, and is conservative as well as sympathetic. No body is better entitled to represent the Grand Lodges of the United States. If there are no particular Lodges in Mexico of such undoubted origin as to please the most exacting, let some one or more of the Lodges which contain the greatest numbers of Masons made in the United States, by agreement with the Mexican Masonic authority, surrender its charter, and take a new charter from the Grand Lodge of Texas, in the name of those members who are indisputably regular Masons. Let those who may be irregular or clandestine, according to the most strict construction, be healed or re-made, as the circumstances may require in such case. When enough Lodges have been thus re-created, take steps to organize a Grand Lodge, with Constitutions and Regulations conformable to those of the Grand Lodges of the United States, thus settling in advance all objections to form of government. Dispensations and charters may then be issued by the new Grand Lodge to regular petitioners. Those members of old Lodges who may for any reason be deemed to be irregularly or clandestinely made may, upon petition, be healed or re-made in order to qualify themselves as petitioners for warrants. By this means the regularity of all would be assured, and the smell of the smoke not be left upon anyone.

M. W. William Geake, Fort Wayne, is Grand Master.

R. W. William H. Smythe, Indianapolis, is Grand Secretary.

INDIAN TERRITORY, 1899.

August 8th, at Wynnewood, Chickasaw Nation, the Twenty-sixth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Henry Clay Nash, Grand Master, with all the grand masters, four past grand masters, three district deputies, three custodians of the work, and representatives of seventy-nine of the ninety-one subordinate lodges, in attendance.

With fraternal pleasure the Grand Master, in his annual address, greeted his brethren, recounting briefly the great events in the year made memorable by them. With pardonable pride he speaks of the many illustrious patriots who, in our country, have been identified with freemasonry.

The sprig of acacia, with loving tributes, he casts into the graves of the fraternal dead.

He reported thirteen decisions; all seem to be decided upon principles familiar, and to have been approved.

He granted dispensations for three new lodges, and special dispensations on several occasions for the usual purposes, one of which was to authorize the conferring of the M. M. degree out of time.

The prospect of an Orphans' Home in that jurisdiction may be gathered from the following, extracted from the report of the Grand Secretary:

Only one contribution has been sent to me this year for the Orphans' Home. This was from St. John's Lodge at Wagoner, \$27.50. Last year, through the zeal and earnest exertions of Grand Master Scott, \$374.00 were collected by him, sent to me and paid by me into the Bank of Muskogee for the Home. The Grand Lodge last year passed an act ordering that ten per cent. of the gross income should be paid annually to the funds of the Orphans' Home. The Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were appointed a Board of Trustees, with "authority to loan out this Home fund from year to year, thereby securing interest thereon." The Grand

Master and Grand Treasurer decided that the action of the Grand Lodge last year was not intended to apply to the funds sent in at that meeting. Nothing was done. Monies have been lying in the Bank at Muskogee for years without drawing a cent of interest. For fifteen years we have been pretending to prepare, to begin, to get ready, at some time or other, in the course of human events, to found a Home for poor and needy orphan children of our deceased brethren. After so many years of hard work and active agitation of the matter we have the enormous sum of \$413.00 in bank. In the meantime many poor and worthy orphans have been growing up in neglect, ignorance and, possibly, in crime. During the last ten years we have paid out over five thousand dollars in teaching our secret work to the Lodges, and the Grand Lecturers say there are not more than a dozen men in the jurisdiction who have learned the adopted work absolutely correct. I have no intention or wish to detract from the value of a beautiful and uniform ritualistic work, but is it more important that our Lodges should be able to put an "a" or "an" or "the" in the proper place in our ritual than that the true principles of Masonry, charity, brotherly love, relief and other cardinal virtues should be emphasized and exemplified by this Grand Body? Is ceremony more important than life? To their credit be it said that some of our Lodges have aided a few of the orphan children in our midst, but who can point to any money actually expended by this Grand Lodge toward the training or education of a single orphan?

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has made a liberal appropriation to aid in this work. Our sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star have been ready for years with hand and heart to help rescue these perishing orphans.

My brethren, if we are sincere and honest in this effort let us manifest it by action. The necessities of poor and worthy orphan children appeal to the hearts of all people as do few other appeals. If our brethren could see something tangible, some business methods employed, and some enthusiasm about this matter they would contribute liberally, and the present shameful and disgraceful indifference and neglect would be removed. It seems to me that a special and distinct Board of Trustees consisting of five or seven brethren, whose hearts are in this work, should be appointed to take charge of this Orphans' Home business, its funds, etc. Brethren, let us either push it or quit it.

The Grand Lodge awoke to its duty, took up the matter and provided ways to accumulate means and, for a small jurisdiction, seems well on the way of providing the Home.

The various committees submitted carefully prepared reports and much business of local importance was transacted.

There is no report on correspondence.

M.:W.:Peter B. Arthur, Leon, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:Brother Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, is Grand Secretary.

IOWA, 1899.

June 6th, at Mason City, the Fifty-sixth Annual Communication assembled. Escorted by Antioch Commandery, welcomed by the mayor, entertained with music by the band, and the singing of "One Hour with You," by a quintette, and an opening ode in which all joined, constituted the preliminaries to the opening of the Grand Lodge by M.:W.:Crom. Bowen, Grand Master, assisted by his officers, with six past grand masters, seventeen other past grand officers, and representatives from four hundred and forty-four of the five hundred and fifty-nine subordinate lodges present.

Patriotic utterances and comments upon the stirring events of the War with Spain, and "the bringing of a semi-barbarous people within the beneficent influences of our own country," mark the opening of the Grand Master's annual address. Of conditions he says:

I am happy to say that no disturbing elements, such as would endanger or even cripple the Order, have arisen; peace and harmony prevail, and a slight numerical increase in membership is reported. Much work has been done by many of the lodges, and some show a surprisingly large increase of membership arising from new material. On the other hand, many of the lodges are doing little or no work, and in some there has been a net loss—occasioned by a large number of demits.

Of a matter often overlooked, we are glad to find him saying:

I am not insensible to the advantages of the social side of our Order. We ought, as lodges, to make it more and more prominent both in our meetings, by having more sociability among its members, and also by making more of our Masonic festive days. These should, however, be conducted purely for the benefit and enjoyment of our membership, and not as a means of advertising for new members.

He reported having issued an edict restoring fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru. The death of Past Grand Treasurer, Brother S. C. Dunn, is reported, with a brief history of his Masonic life and a tribute to his memory.

The Washington memorial observances, amendments to the code and military lodges, are subjects discussed in the address.

Three dispensations for new lodges he granted, but "with some apprehensions that I [he] was not doing altogether the right thing." Two lodges he had constituted under charters granted at the last preceding annual communication of the grand lodge.

Four corner-stones had been laid under his supervision and one lodge hall had been dedicated by him.

The veteran Grand Secretary, M. W. Brother T. S. Parvin, in his annual report, discusses: additions to the library; Grand Lodge of South Dakota; letters answered; proceedings to public libraries and individuals; bound volumes of proceedings of sister jurisdictions; amendments to by-laws; certificates to members of defunct lodges; new code, 1898; halls burned—duplicate charters issued; dispensations; continued; dispensations granted new lodges; cases remanded back to lodges for re-trial; expulsions; crowded condition of library building; quarterly bulletin; Washington centennial observance; memoranda blanks; Masonic duty; notable deaths; grand secretaries; Ermilio G. Canton, Grand Secretary of Gran Dieta of Mexico; Past Grand Secretaries, Wilder of South Dakota and Pratt of Michigan and personal. He pays high tribute to the memory of our deceased Brother Bowen, among other things saying:

We do not have at hand the material for a sketch of his career as a civilian and Mason. We personally knew him as an officer of pleasing address, interesting worker upon the Temple, and a most successful officer, who had, by his untiring efforts, given to the world the Proceedings of the several Grand Bodies (for he was Secretary of them all) in a style that at once placed the several bodies in a favorable light before the Masonic public.

He was the author of several important measures of reform at home and in the National bodies that stamped his character as a progressive Mason, holding fast to the "ancient landmarks." We may cite one, and the most important—that of making membership in the lodge essential to the holding of membership in the Chapter and Commandery, and so checking the inordinate greed and indiscreet haste to rush up the ladder of the higher degrees.

His untimely death has left a vacancy in the Southeast hard to fill, and a place in the National bodies where he will be greatly missed. The most impressive service of the Knights of Kadosh, of the Scottish Rite, were held in honor of the fragrance of his memory.

His report, as grand secretary, with that as librarian, is of great interest to every intelligent Freemason to whom they come.

The reports of the standing and special committees, and their consideration in the grand lodge, evidence a painstaking and careful attention to all the interests of Freemasonry in that truly grand jurisdiction. Of special interest is the proposition, submitted by the trustees of the library building, to erect a memorial building in connection with the present building, large enough for an audience hall for the grand lodge, and to secure an endowment for the same, which was adopted.

One hundred and thirty-two pages are devoted to the record of the report on correspondence, by Brother J. C. W. Coxe. In discussing what he terms "the burning question," he says:

Seventh. We record our conviction that the Grand Lodge of Washington made a serious mistake in promulgating its views on issues quite beyond any query addressed to them, and which involved the honor of other Grand Lodges. The primary question is one of courtesy to sister jurisdictions, and the rights of courtesy, we think, have been invaded by the far-reaching conclusions promulgated by the Grand Lodge of Washington, and all without any real justification. The alleged "rights" of Bailey and Rideout are no nearer concession now than they were a twelve-month ago, if, indeed, their case and that of those whom they represent has not been damaged by this Washington action. We deprecate the severe language which has been dealt out to our brethren of Washington by some jurisdictions; we endorse the firm yet fraternal utterances of the jurisdictions most directly interested in the original question; and we sincerely hope that our brethren of the Chinook jurisdiction will see their way clear, without fear or favor, with no compromise of self-respect, but with fraternal regard for the peace and harmony of the craft at large, to reconsider their action, and thus restore the friendly relations which have been interrupted by this unfortunate episode.

We cannot agree with his views in opposition to the recognition of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, and are surprised at his questioning the veracity of some of the favorable statements heretofore made on behalf of that body. Brother Parvin's testimony in favor of Freemasonry in Mexico, under the Gran Dieta, has been quite convincing to many and has satisfied this writer upon some of the very questions which Brother Coxe raises as obstacles in the way. It is well known that the late grand secretary of the Gran Dieta, Bro. Ermilio G. Canton, figured most prominently in securing recognition of the Gran Dieta by our American grand lodges. From Brother Parvin's report in the grand lodge proceedings under review, we extract the following tribute to the memory of Brother Canton:

He died during our visit to Mexico, January 9th, 1899, after a brief illness. Brother Canton was, without doubt, the most prominent Mason in our sister republic; the most useful and the most honored of the craft, and the worse abused and most lied about, by a few at home and many abroad, of any Mason of the present day. He had committed a grievous fault, for which he made every atonement in his power, and that has been treasured against him by those whose practices in Masonry give the lie daily to its teachings.

Personally, he was a man of great influence and wide-spread popularity. He was Clerk of the Supreme Court of the District. The Court honored itself in honoring its faithful servant, and all the lodges, Mexican and American, vied with each other in doing homage to his memory in the various "Lodges of Sorrow" held during our visit to that country.

The justice denied him while living will yet be rendered his memory by the Masons of the United States and the world.

M. W. Thomas Lambert, Sabula, is Grand Master.

M. W. Brother Theodore S. Parvin, Cedar Rapids, is Grand Secretary.

KANSAS, 1900.

February 21st, in Representative Hall, in the city of Topeka, the Forty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Henry C. Loomis, Grand Master, with all of the grand officers, except junior deacon and tyler, nine past grand masters, thirty-seven grand representatives, one hundred and fifty-four past masters, and representatives from the lodges not above named, to the number of three hundred and ninety-eight present.

A hearty welcome, with comments upon the prosperity accompanying the abundant crops harvested from the rich fields of his state, and a commendable pride in the patriotism of its citizens, constitute the opening paragraphs of the annual address of the Grand Master.

The Washington memorial observance, in which he participated, is made the subject of extended remarks, constituting, he says, the Masonic event of the century. He reports the holding of three schools of instruction; the constituting of two new lodges; the instituting of three lodges U. D.; the laying of five corner-stones; the granting of special dispensations for the usual purposes, including the conferring of degrees waiving the statutory time and the appointment of a board of inspection. He had been compelled to give considerable attention to Masonic relief cases, begging circulars and to illegal suspensions.

He reports a revival of the old custom of observing and celebration of St. John the Baptist's day, and approves the observance of the same.

Of their Masonic Home, he says:

We rejoice that the efforts of the masonic fraternity (with the assistance of those sweet messengers of charity, the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of Masons, as members of the Order of the Eastern Star) in the establishment of our Home have met with such marked success. The Home is the pride of Kansas Masonry, and is deeply and firmly rooted in the hearts of Masons. It is the exponent of our profession, and the true exemplification of pure beneficence. It is the manifestation of the Divine Love through the human agency of the fraternity. The verification of this truth may be made by a personal visit to the Home, where thirty-five

people, old and young, dwell together as one family, in the peaceful and comfortable enjoyments emanating from the true spirit of brotherhood. The Endowment Fund should receive the attention of all benevolently disposed persons. The foundation of this fund has been well and truly laid by the generous gift of a devoted woman, and is open for bequests and contributions by Masons collectively, as the result of appropriations or of Masonic entertainments and celebrations, or individually, in commemoration of departed friends or brethren. An effort on the part of the Masons in this jurisdiction would soon accumulate an Endowment Fund, the interest on which would make the Home self-supporting. To this end let us earnestly and diligently work.

He reports no decision because he had not been called upon to render an opinion, he says, as to the construction to be placed upon any section of their law, worthy to be dignified as a decision.

Brother T. W. Jeffrey, Grand Orator, delivered a good oration, and from it we quote:

One character is sufficient to illustrate the influence of Masonry upon national life. Without this one character the world might not have been all that it is to-day. He came when liberty was prostrate. Holland, the first advocate of civil liberty, had dropped to third rank among nations; England, which had a theoretical notion of liberty was in great danger of the encroachment of the throne; the French government was despotic and corrupt, world without end, and Spain was a proud autocracy. From all outward appearances the world was about to be plunged into an eternal night of despotism. It was then that the torch of liberty was lighted in these ends of the earth by the American Republic, presided over by GEORGE WASHINGTON, the peer of any man who has lived since Jesus CHRIST. And please God, this torch shall never go out, for the splendid patriotism of WASHINGTON has been bequeathed to millions of Americans, lovers of the flag. Morally, the influence of WASHINGTON'S Republic has been felt in the establishment of the first French Republic, in the British franchise reform, in the awaking of Japan to a modern state, and in the creation of the federal Republic of Australia. Thus you see how he changed the destiny of men and nations.

Masonry had something to do in the formation of his character. He builded upon faith in God, remembering how poor, helpless and blind he was without this divine aid. He learned at a Masonic altar that God, is interested in the affairs of men and hears their appeals. He here learned the value of moral courage also until he shrank from no obligation, but put his shoulder beneath it and bore it as a pleasure. I am American enough to believe that the country in which he was born—broad, grand, majestic, with mountains reaching to the sky and with rivers sweeping across it, and with two great oceans beating out their music upon its blasted rocks and golden sands—made WASHINGTON in a large measure what he was. But I believe I am student enough to see the influence of Masonry in every great act of his life. A grateful country worships at his sacred shrine and builds a stately shaft to gather the lightnings upon its head, but WASHINGTON lives among the altitudes and receives the acclaim of liberty-lovers for all time. Masons revere him more than all others, for to them he is not only patriot and hero, but brother, bound to them by ties stronger than steel. All hail, mighty chieftain!

Voluminous reports and careful consideration of business submitted, make up the business of the Grand Lodge, which was principally confined to matters of local interest only.

M.:W.:Brother John C. Postlethwaite writes the report on correspondence, covering two hundred and thirty pages. It is his third and is a

valuable contribution to the literature of freemasonry. Nebraska, 1899, receives generous space and consideration. He quotes from the address of Grand Master Young, extracts from the oration of our Brother Summers, notes the adoption by our Grand Lodge of the infant son of our deceased Grand Secretary Bowen and speaks of our topical report, but gets two i's into the written surname, who never made use of one, and drops an e which we had always regarded as necessary.

From his opening we are glad to extract what he so loyally says of his own state:

The Grand Jurisdiction of Kansas is indeed a favored land. Blessings innumerable have been bestowed upon us with a lavish hand, the enjoyment of which has produced an exuberance of peace, happiness and plenty, and well may the Kansas Mason rejoice that he is permitted to dwell in this favored jurisdiction, enjoying the benefits of its social, fraternal, scholastic and religious privileges. The vast products of the mines of coal, zinc, lead, iron, gypsum, salt and gold; the great oil fields pouring forth their wealth of petroleum; the prairies, hills and dales abounding in vast herds of stock; the fields teeming with large yields of grain and fruit in every department of agriculture and horticulture, can not fail to excite the admiration of the Kansan as he meditates upon the wonderful resources of his State, while enjoying the luxuries of his Kansas home, warmed and lighted by the flow of natural gas from mother earth, or to cause his heart to burst forth in—

“Praise GOD, from whom all blessings flow.”

M.:W.:Charles J. Webb, Topeka, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Albert K. Wilson, Topeka, is Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY, 1899.

October 17th, in Masonic Temple, in the city of Louisville, the One-hundredth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:James E. Wilhelm, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, a large number of permanent members, and a great many representatives from the four hundred and sixty-eight subordinate lodges, in attendance.

Well chosen words of greeting, and allusion to historic events mark the opening of the Grand Master's annual address. He reports prosperity in the lodges and has high hopes for freemasonry in the state he loves so well.

He reports forty-six decisions all of which were approved, with modification in two or three cases. He held in one, No. 8, that honorary members are not invested with any of the rights and privileges of the active members. The Committee on Jurisprudence reported, and the Grand Lodge adopted :

With reference to the eighth decision, we think it is a little too broadly stated. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge does not recognize honorary members, and in contemplation of that instrument the decision is correct. Nevertheless, the Grand Lodge, in Regulations 482 and 483, recognizes, without condemnation, the practice prevalent in subordinate lodges of creating honorary members. What constitutes an honorary member is not stated in the Regulations, but it is said that in making one the lodge acts on its own responsibility, without petition or request from the person so honored. It is also said that the lodge has no penal jurisdiction over an honorary member. We think that it is well to define what an honorary member is. In our contemplation an honorary member is an affiliated

member of another lodge, whom some lodge honors as such, under a by-law framed for that purpose and approved, and that the honorary member acquires by his election all the rights that a subordinate lodge can by a by-law confer on a member of another lodge. We do not think that a lodge can confer on an honorary member any right that conflicts with that of any regular member of a lodge under the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge. Hence it cannot confer upon him the right to sit in any lodge when objection is made to his presence by any member. An unaffiliated Mason, not being a member of another lodge, can not be made an honorary member of any lodge. The lodge may give an honorary member the privilege of the floor, but only when there is no objection to his presence by a regular member. As we see no reason why an honorary member may not be permitted to address the chair, when there is no objection, we think that decision might be misunderstood, but with this qualification we give it approval.

He had refused permission to several lodges to circulate petitions for aid. He had laid corner-stones for two new Masonic Halls.

Two or three aggravating cases, necessitating the suspension of the master of the lodge, because of gross violations of law, he reports fully with his prompt and vigorous action, and the Grand Lodge approved.

The resolutions of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, because of the latter's recognition of clandestine Negro lodges, were repealed, owing to recent retraction on the part of the Washington Grand Lodge. But the committee in speaking of the paper announcing the later action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, says :

On reading this paper we find reason to regret that the Grand Lodge of Washington felt impelled to make grave, but vague, charges against its alleged enemies, to couple its formal action with declarations of rather uncertain tenor, and generally to recede from its former action in a rather ungracious way. These, however, are matters of taste. The fact remains that the two objectionable resolutions recognizing clandestine negro lodges and Grand Lodges were expressly repealed, and we therefore, move the adoption of this resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members, adopted at the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in 1898, be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary and the Committee on the Masonic Home, are full, and show a gratifying condition in all that pertains to necessary means to carry on the affairs of the Grand Lodge and its great work of charity.

Past Grand Master M. W. Brother James W. Staton, an old-time reviewer, who has been off duty for six years as a reporter on correspondence, takes his place again at the round-table, and with expressions of pleasure at being called to the work. His report covers one hundred and forty-nine pages and reviews the proceedings of all of the American Grand Lodges except Maine, North Carolina, Rhode Island and South Dakota.

Under Nebraska he says :

It is with unfeigned sorrow that we announce the death of our dearly beloved Brother William R. Bowen, who departed this life in the early part of the month of May last. Through information furnished by a mutual friend of Brother Bowen and this writer we learned that while labor-

ing under a temporary disordered brain he took his own life. We have known Brother Bowen since 1880, and have found him to be a gentleman of the first order, an intelligent man and Mason, and one of the best Grand Secretaries in the whole land. He had served as the secretaries of the Masonic Grand Bodies of Nebraska for a quarter of a century or more, and was an Emeritus member of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction. Peace to his ashes.

Under Arkansas, and in reply to Brother Davidson, he says :

The Report on Correspondence is the excellent work of Brother Sam H. Davidson, embracing one hundred and seventy pages, in which Kentucky Proceedings for 1897 is accorded four full pages of most fraternal review. Grand Master Peak's address is complimented and carefully reviewed, most of which is heartily approved and commended. He thinks the regulation requiring children to be discharged from the Home at the age of sixteen is a dangerous one, unless the management secures good homes for them. For the information of Brother Davidson we will give him an outline of the plans and management of the Home as relates to the reception and discharge of children : None are received under three years old and over thirteen. Each lodge pledges itself that when the child arrives at sixteen it will receive it back and make provision for a home until such time as it is able to take care of itself. Where the children are selected by parties desiring to give them homes or adoption, the applicant must be a Mason in good standing, and take a pledge that the child shall be cared for in a becoming manner and treated as though it was their own flesh and blood. The authorities of the Home never lose sight of such a child, and in case the pledge given is not faithfully kept the child is taken from them. When the child is returned to the lodge at the age of sixteen the lodge is required to give it oversight until such time as it is able to care for itself. It is hard to do better than this, because the constant demand is so great for admission that we are compelled to fix a time of discharge as early as possible. By the plan adopted it compels the lodge to assume some of the care of the child.

M. W. John A. Ramsey, Owingsville, is Grand Master.

R. W. James Allie Hodges, Louisville, is Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA, 1900.

February 12th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of New Orleans, the Eighty-eighth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. A. — C. Allen, Grand Master; twelve of his seventeen associate grand officers, five past grand masters, twenty-three grand representatives, and representatives from sixty-five of the one hundred and twenty-nine subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master pays eloquent tribute to "the principles of our hallowed science," recounting to the Grand Lodge faithfully all his official acts, with implicit faith in the wisdom and knowledge of his brethren, submitting the same for consideration and approval. A brief quotation will suffice to show the estimate he places upon Masonry :

It has never taken part in those mighty polemic convulsions which, ever and anon in the world's history, have rolled backward the wheels of progress and enlightenment, but has always exerted a conservative and potential influence in behalf of harmony, liberty, equality and justice in every department of thought and action.

It has, does, and will continue to maintain a school of higher education,

which seeks to so train its votaries that their passions may become the ready slave of their will. While full of force and energy, yet whose desires are always the obedient servants of a well-disciplined intelligence—who are taught to be the “servants of a tender conscience that has learned to love all beauty” and symmetry whether of art or morals—to hate all meanness—to respect others as themselves—and to appreciate fully that this great world of ours is large enough, fruitful enough for the full and equal enjoyment, according to their kind, of all God’s creatures.

In his preceding annual address he had confidently predicted a brighter era for freemasonry in Louisiana, and now he says :

The “brighter era,” then devoutly wished for, is dawning; the relief has come, and, I believe, come to stay, brought about by the individual efforts and sacrifice of the Craftsmen of this jurisdiction alone. The numerical strength of the Order has increased remarkably over that of the year 1898; the bonded debt of this Grand Body has decreased far beyond our expectations; the subordinate Lodges have been active and vigorous in their work, and the spirit of Masonry among us has been given a new impetus indicative of larger and broader results for the future.

He pays tribute, in words of high commendation, to the memory of R. W. Arthur W. Hyatt, their deceased Grand Treasurer, and speaks in loving memory of the fraternal dead of his grand jurisdiction.

He thus discusses the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington regarding Negro Masonry:

Also at the last Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge the following resolution was adopted :

“Resolved, That the representative of this Grand Lodge, near that of the Grand Lodge of Washington, be withdrawn, and our constituent Lodges are hereby forbidden to receive any Mason hailing from a Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of Washington. This edict to remain in full force and effect until such Grand Lodge cease to recognize clandestine-made Masons.”

Since the adoption of that resolution, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge at Washington, at their last Grand Communication, proclaimed to the Masonic world a prolix declaration of principles, which, for its obscurity and evident disingenuousness is, to say the least against it, remarkably unique. That Grand Body had previously subscribed to the following doctrine: That constituent Lodges in its jurisdiction are permitted to recognize, as brother Masons, negroes who can trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge No. 459.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had years before declared that that Lodge, *ab initio*, was a clandestine body.

This Grand Lodge, recognizing the universally accepted doctrine of exclusive regular jurisdiction, refused to countenance the strange departure of our sister jurisdiction from that accepted Masonic principle. Such is the verdict of regularly organized Masonry everywhere; that clandestine Masons are denounced, not on account of their color or race, but because they are not Masons—they are imposters, seeking to enjoy the privileges of Masonry by virtue of a violation and defiance of its fixed laws and principles. Washington, two years ago, expressed an antagonism to that accepted doctrine. It was natural, therefore, that she should be met with serious remonstrance.

Her last declaration, when fully analyzed and stripped of its beclouding verbiage, shows that the Grand Lodge of Washington has not yet receded from her untenable position, but rather that she has taken an advanced stand in its support.

She has, it is true, specially repealed the resolution recognizing spurious Masons who trace their origin to Prince Hall Lodge No. 459. Yet, in the same breath, she arrogates to herself, as I understand it, and to her subordinate Lodges the right alone to receive and fraternize with persons claiming to be Masons emanating from spurious Lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions. Her words are conclusive of this construction: "Nor can this Grand Lodge consent to tolerate the idea that her Lodges do not possess the plenary rights to determine for themselves—but for no one else—subject to review by nobody but herself, the status of all persons, claiming to be Masons, who knock at their doors, either for the purpose of visiting or as applicants for affiliation."

The physical right to do this by the Grand Lodge of Washington cannot be questioned. She is a sovereign body. But when she declares to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana that a spurious Mason emanating from this State—who is no Mason here—may be admitted to fraternal relations with the Masons of Washington at the mere dictum of her subordinate Lodges, this Grand Lodge, in the exercise of that same sovereign power, should, in behalf of regular Masonry, and constituted authority, maintain the edict of non-intercourse.

Your resolution commands the continuance of the edict "as long as the Grand Lodge of Washington recognizes spurious Masons." Her recent declaration gives the plenary right of judgment to her subordinate Lodges. For these reasons I have refused to attempt to re-open fraternal relations with that Grand Body.

With this view the Grand Lodge, acting upon his suggestion, agreed; and resolved, "That the opinion of the M. W. Grand Master that the time has not yet come for the resumption of fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington be adopted as that of this Grand Lodge."

All the business of the Grand Lodge received careful attention, and was dispatched with harmonious action. There is no review by the Committee on Correspondence.

M. W. Robert H. Gage, New Orleans, is Grand Master.

R. W. Richard Lambert, New Orleans, is Grand Secretary.

MAINE, 1899.

May 2nd, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Portland, the Eightieth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Joseph H. Locke, Grand Master, with all but one of the grand officers, thirty-seven past grand masters and grand wardens, forty-two grand representatives and representatives from one hundred and eighty-one of the one hundred and ninety-five subordinate lodges, present.

Opening his annual address, the Grand Master extended a glad welcome to his brethren, commenting upon the happy recurrence of the annual communications, when brethren come together "with hearts overflowing with kindness and good will," and the delight with which he had enjoyed many such occasions. He spoke of renewed prosperity and of momentous events which had transpired during the year past.

Death had not come nigh to touch the permanent membership of the Grand Lodge, but it had, nevertheless, been abroad in the land, and appropriate mention is made of the illustrious dead of sister grand jurisdictions, and loving words in memory of the fraternal dead in his own jurisdiction. Dispensations to elect and install officers, to appear in public to attend

divine services on St. John's Day, and to confer degrees in less than the usual time, he had granted. He had constituted three new lodges; dedicated three new halls and publicly installed the officers in several lodges. Conventions for instruction in masonic work had been held and the condition of the craft is reported as good.

He had decided that every candidate who receives the third degree in a lodge, thereby becomes a member of that lodge, under their constitution, notwithstanding the degree is conferred at the request of another lodge upon one made a Mason in the lodge making the request. That the P. M. degree is a part of the installation service of a Master and ought to be conferred at or before the time of installation, yet it may be conferred afterwards.

Reference is made to clandestine lodges in Ohio, the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru with reference to the Holy Bible on the altar, and the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington on Negro Masonry, with wise recommendations in each matter.

The Grand Lodge, on the recommendation of the Committee on Jurisprudence, Brother Drummond reporting, restored fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

The temper of the Grand Lodge, upon the question of Negro Masonry, is evidenced by the following most wise and just resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Maine again re-affirms the doctrine that every regular Grand Lodge has, *by inherent right*, exclusive jurisdiction within its own territory, and especially that no lawful lodge can be created or exist, and that no person can be made a regular mason in that territory save under its authority.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Washington, in adopting resolutions allowing its subordinates and the members of its obedience to recognize as regular masons, parties made in lodges in another jurisdiction held by the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction to be irregular and clandestine, has infringed upon a law held by all other English-speaking Grand Lodges to be binding upon *all* Grand Lodges.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge fraternally but most earnestly, requests the Grand Lodge of Washington to rescind those resolutions, to the end that the peace of the craft may be restored and the interests of legitimate Masonry subserved.

The following proposed amendment to the constitution goes over to the next annual communication:

A brother suspended from membership for non-payment of dues will be restored by the payment or remission of the amount due at the time of his suspension, at any time within five years thereafter: but after that time he can be restored only upon his application and a two-thirds vote of the lodge, after payment or remission of the amount in arrears.

The twenty-five district deputy grand masters had all been at work, and each presents a report of his labors.

The report on correspondence, covering two hundred and eighty-eight pages, is the work of M. W. Brother Drummond, whose untiring zeal has wrought so much for freemasonry in this country. The length of this report and review, an admirable one, is thus accounted for by its author:

Again, our report is longer than we had intended: but the action of the Grand Lodges of Peru and Washington has made it necessary to give "line upon line and precept upon precept" to prevent a threatened departure from the old ways and the abandonment of fundamental principles which have made our Institution what it is, and which are as necessary for its existence in the future as it has been in the past.

Under Nebraska, we extract this tribute:

Returning from a somewhat protracted absence from town and taking up the work of completing our report, we are almost overwhelmed to learn for the first time, as we commence the work of the review of the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge, that during our absence notice was received of the sudden death of our most dearly beloved brother, WILLIAM R. BOWEN, Grand Secretary, on the sixth of May last. We have known him pretty intimately for a good many years, although we have met him personally but a few times. But our personal intercourse with him strengthened our previously conceived opinion as to his ability and his devotion to Masonry. His death is an immense loss to the craft in his own jurisdiction as well as to the craft universal. We have not time to pay the tribute to his memory that his high character and his service for Masonry demand, and we can only note the fact of his death with the assurance to our Nebraska brethren, that the craft in Maine lament his death as earnestly as if he had been one of us.

In discussing the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing clandestine Negro Lodges and Grand Lodges as regular, he states many rules of masonic jurisprudence which are of so much importance that, notwithstanding the subsequent repealing of the obnoxious action by the Washington Grand Lodge, they are worthy of place and should be studied by all who take part in conducting the affairs of our Grand Lodges, and we quote a few paragraphs, hoping that our readers will obtain a careful perusal of Brother Drummond's entire discussion of the subject. He says:

We regret, beyond the power of words to express, that, while the bonds of fraternity the world over have generally been drawing closer and closer, a disturbance of the harmony of the craft, causeless and wicked, has been created by the Grand Lodge of Washington. This disturbance, however, is not likely to divide the craft elsewhere, but is in danger of dividing the craft in that State from the regular masons elsewhere throughout the world.

The disturbance has been caused by the formal denial by that Grand Lodge of the doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction and the recognition of lodges and Grand Lodges, situated in the territory of other Grand Lodges, as lawful lodges and Grand Lodges, and the members of the obedience of those lodges and Grand Lodges as regular masons, despite the decision of the recognized Grand Lodges in each case, that such lodges and Grand Lodges are irregular and unlawful and the members of their obedience clandestine masons, masonic intercourse with whom is forbidden by the landmarks of Masonry.

* * * * *

Savages, *and only savages*, hold to the law of force, and that they owe no duties to others save what they voluntarily agree to perform, to be evidenced as to other tribes only by compact or treaty. Civilized peoples, who believe in God, the Father and Supreme Ruler of the Universe, concede that the laws of God are binding on them as individuals and as nations: that under the law of God, man owes duties to his brother man;

and nations owe duties to other nations; this law the old writers on International Law termed "The Necessary Laws of Nations," in contradistinction to those laws made by treaty or compact. The laws first described, nations do not *make*, but *recognize*. If a nation refuses to recognize these laws, it merely puts itself outside the pale of civilized nations and into the company of savages and is treated accordingly; other nations have no intercourse with it, but enforce their rights against it "at the cannon's mouth."

That masons in their relation to others are governed by these laws, it ought not to be necessary to state: and it is incredible that any mason would hold that masonic Grand Lodges, governing masonic nations, are not bound in their relations with each other, to recognize the inherent rights of each to at least as great an extent as civil nations in their relations to each other.

These principles and rules of superior law are rarely *expressly* recognized until an occasion for their practical application arises. The condition of masonic affairs throughout the masonic world was such, that no occasion for the express recognition of these principles arose till after the American Revolution, when the creation of a comparatively large number of new Grand Lodges soon raised the question of their relations to each other. It is true that the Grand Lodge of England had tacitly, but practically, recognized the law of exclusive territorial jurisdiction in the appointment of Provincial Grand Masters and the creation of Provincial Grand Lodges, by giving them certain territory and limiting the exercise of their powers to that territory, thus giving to each exclusive jurisdiction within its limits.

* * * * *

The principle in question was affirmed in the reply of the English Ancient Grand Lodge in 1792, to the communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, announcing its formation with exclusive masonic jurisdiction in that Commonwealth.

Soon after the union of the two Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts again expressly affirmed the inherent right of every Grand Lodge to jurisdiction over all lodges and masons in its territory, and forbade masons of its obedience from holding masonic communication with any others. This declaration was communicated to other Grand Lodges and the correctness of the declaration affirmed by several of them.

From that time forward this doctrine was recognized by all English-speaking masons and masons practicing the York Rite. The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland recognized and enforced the doctrine, each claiming exclusive jurisdiction in those respective countries, and jurisdiction, concurrent among themselves but exclusive as to all others, in the Dependencies of the British Crown, in which no independent Grand Lodge exists. This was recently illustrated, when the Grand Lodge of Manitoba undertook to create a lodge in Gibraltar: the Grand Lodge of England objected and declined to recognize the new lodge; and the Grand Lodge of Manitoba receded from its position.

In a word: for more than a century the Grand Lodges of the York Rite have stood together in recognizing the exclusive jurisdiction of every Grand Lodge in its own territory.

* * * * *

The same doctrine has recently been stated *as the law of masonry*, in the Grand Lodge of England, by the Grand Registrar, who also compared it to the International Law recognized by all *civilized* nations as binding upon them.

It follows that Grand Lodges are not "Sovereign" in the sense in which some, at the present day, hold them to be; there are, at least, three kinds of limitations upon their lawful powers:

I. Masonry expressly recognizes the laws of God as superior to all other

laws, and the duties growing out of those laws as superior to all other duties; and Grand Lodges have no power to repeal or modify those laws or to relieve masons from the performance of those duties.

II. Every Grand Lodge is bound to respect the rights of every other Grand Lodge: and one of those rights is jurisdiction over all lodges and masons in its territory.

III. The powers of Grand Lodges are limited by "the immutable landmarks of the craft."

The violation of any of these limitations by any Grand Lodge puts it outside the pale of regular Grand Lodges and deprives the members of its obedience of the right to masonic recognition.

* * * * *

For more than hundred years every Master of a lodge in this country has, as a condition precedent to his installation, been required to promise, and has promised, on his honor as a mason, that he admits that

"No new lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge; and that no countenance be given to any irregular lodge or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the order.

"That no visitors shall be received into your lodge without due examination and producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular lodge."

Moreover, every Grand Lodge is the exclusive and final judge of the regularity of any body, claiming to be a lodge of masons situate within its territory: from its decision there is no appeal: by its determination of the case every Grand Lodge, every lodge and every mason *in the world* is absolutely bound. No greater insult to a Grand Lodge can be offered than to disregard knowingly such a decision.

The application of these principles to the case which gives rise to this discussion shows that the Grand Lodge of Washington has violated two important masonic laws and given just grave offence to sister Grand Lodges, which it is impossible for them to overlook, until the gross wrong, which it has done, shall have been undone.

1. It has gone to the length of deciding that a body situated in a sister jurisdiction is a regular lodge of masons, although the Grand Lodge of that jurisdiction has decided that it is irregular and clandestine.

2. It has recognized as regular Grand Lodges, Bodies situated within the territory of sister Grand Lodges, and thus given to them the greatest possible insult.

But the author of that report, as his superficial knowledge usually lets him do, adds a ludicrous feature. In many of the states there have been, and in some of them there now are, two Colored Grand Lodges, each claiming to be the regular one and denouncing the other as irregular: for they too hold to the doctrine that there can be but one regular Colored Grand Lodge in any state: now which of the two does the Grand Lodge of Washington recognize? Or does it recognize both? And thus afford the unique spectacle of a Grand Lodge recognizing and trying to fraternize with *three* Grand Lodges in a single state, each of which declares the other to be clandestine, unless possibly each of the Colored Grand Lodges recognizes the White Grand Lodges as regular!

We would like to quote further, but our space forbids.

M.:W.:Winfield S. Choat, Augusta, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Stephen Berry, Portland, is Grand Secretary.

MANITOBA, 1899.

June 14th, in Masonic Hall, at the town of Regina, in the district of Assiniboia, the Twenty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the

Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:George B. Murphy, Grand Master, with most of the grand officers, fourteen past grand officers, fifteen grand representatives and forty-six past masters present.

In his annual address the Grand Master pays earnest words of tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead; notes his appointment of grand representatives; the granting of dispensations for four new lodges; the granting of many special dispensations; the approval of by-laws; the holding of lodges of instruction; the continuance of harmonious foreign relations; the official visits made to a few, only, of the subordinate lodges; the establishing of a lodge in the Yukon district, and a correspondence with the Grand Master of British Columbia relating to the respective jurisdictions of their Grand Lodges in the frozen North.

He reports the following as among the more important of his decisions:

1. That an applicant for the degrees of Masonry is not debarred from admission to the Craft through having lost his left hand.
2. That an applicant for the Degrees of Masonry is debarred admission to the Craft through having lost a foot.
3. That a Worshipful Master of a Lodge, when absent, cannot delegate powers and authority to another. Section 221 of the Constitution provides that "in the absence of the Master the Senior Warden (and in his absence also, the Junior Warden) shall succeed to and be charged with all the powers and duties of the Master, except conferring degrees."
4. That a Lodge cannot confer the E. A. degree on more than one candidate at the same time.
5. That Lodge By-Laws have no force or effect until approved by the Grand Master.

From the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations we find the committee, under the head of "The Grand Lodge of Washington and Negro Masonry," saying:

While in no manner or degree recognizing any "color line" in Freemasonry, your Committee cannot but feel that in this matter the Grand Lodge of Washington has done serious wrong.

Nineteen amendments to the constitution were adopted, and much important business was transacted.

All of the reports of committees show careful attention to duty and the interests of all concerned seem to be conserved by well considered action.

There is no report on correspondence.

M.:W.:John Leslie, Winnipeg, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Wm. G. Scott, Winnipeg, is Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND, 1899.

November 21st, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Baltimore, the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:John A. Russell, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, twenty-three past grand officers, thirty-two grand representatives, and representatives from ninety-nine of the subordinate lodges, in attendance.

With pleasure, the Grand Master in opening his annual address, greeted his brethren, reported harmony as prevailing and a degree of prosperity in

his grand jurisdiction never excelled. That the Grand Lodge of Washington had rescinded its Negro Masonry resolutions, and in doing so expressly declared that its action was in response to the fraternal suggestion of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, was a matter of great satisfaction to him. He reported the laying of the corner-stone of the state normal school at Frostburg upon the invitation of the governor of Maryland, Brother Lloyd Lowndes, which was made the occasion for a most enjoyable gathering of a large concourse of people, the procession being headed by the school children of the county. The Washington centennial observance, he mentions as an occasion of great interest and importance to the fraternity.

To the memory of the fraternal dead he devotes appropriate fraternal tribute. He had granted many special dispensations, doubtless for the best interests of the brethren, at least he does not, as some grand masters have done, make excuses for doing his plain duty in the matter.

The Grand Lodge extended fraternal recognition to the Grand Orient of Belgium, and requested the Grand Master to enter into fraternal correspondence therewith and to exchange grand representatives.

A form of by-laws for subordinate lodges was adopted.

The following is extracted to show the trend in the right direction:

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of Friendship Lodge, No. 84, A. F. and A. M., for permission to apply to the General Assembly of 1900, to amend the Charter granted by the Act of January 31, 1844, by changing the amount of property it is authorized to hold from \$4,000 to \$40,000, respectfully report that they have considered the same in all its bearings; that they deprecate the obtaining of civil charters, or the amendment of any existing charters, by subordinate Lodges.

That they recommend to all subordinate Lodges having civil charters the wisdom of surrendering the same, and the holding of their property through trustees.

That they recommend the passing of the following resolutions by the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland:

Resolved. That permission is hereby granted to Friendship Lodge, No. 84, A. F. and A. M., to apply to the General Assembly of 1900 for the amendment of the Act of 1844, as follows, by inserting in the name of said corporation the word "ancient;" by striking out of the last line of the first section the word "four" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "forty," and adding to said section certain provisions.

Resolved. That said amendments shall be only to the first section of said Act of 1844, by the insertion of the word "ancient" in the name, the word "forty" instead of "four" in the last line and adding to said section the following words: "And that this corporation and body politic shall at all times be subject to the direction and control of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland."

The report accepted and resolution and recommendation adopted.

R. W. Brother Edward T. Schultz, the veteran reviewer, writes the report on correspondence. From his introductory remarks we extract:

I confidently expected, owing to the entire loss of my eyesight, that the report I had the honor to submit to you at the last Annual Communication would be the last I should ever prepare, but my repeated resignations were so kindly and flatteringly declined by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and his action being unanimously endorsed by the Grand Lodge, I felt I should not further insist upon my resignation, and concluded that I would

continue to spend and be spent in the service of the Fraternity that I love so well, as long as the brethren desire my services and kind Providence vouchsafes to me health and capacity for the work.

I have, therefore, with the aid of a reader and amanuensis, examined the various Grand Lodge proceedings received from the Grand Secretary and have endeavored to comment upon them as heretofore.

My last Report being in the nature of a farewell, I took occasion to give some of my experiences and observations as a Reporter on Correspondence, and to repeat under topical headings my views on some of the prominent questions agitating the Fraternity for years past. This mode of treating Masonic questions under topical headings was introduced some years since by the late Bro. John Q. A. Fellows, of Louisiana; it has been followed by a few correspondents, but it seems not to have met with general favor.

Such reports are valuable and interesting as essays upon the subjects treated, but, in my opinion, they do not fulfill the object of the appointment of Committees on Correspondence, whose duty, as I understand it, is to *review* the transactions of other Grand Lodges and commend such as in their opinion are conformable with the ancient regulations, landmarks, usages and customs of the Fraternity, and criticise such legislation as may be deemed at variance therewith.

The report occupies one hundred and fifteen pages, and reviews the proceedings of fifty-six grand lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them. He says:

We are pained to announce that since the close of the Grand Lodge Brother Bowen died suddenly, May 6th, 1899. We have known him for many years, having met him at the Triennial meetings of the General Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment. He was an active, earnest and zealous Mason. His loss will be greatly felt, not only by the brethren of his own jurisdiction, but by those throughout the country.

The report is an admirable production and will be read with interest by all his brother reviewers and with profit to every freemason seeking correct views of our loved institution.

M.:W.:Thomas J. Shryock, Baltimore, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Jacob H. Medairy, Baltimore, is Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1890.

Your committee have received, of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, only the pamphlet, recording the proceedings of the quarterly communication, held March 9th, two special communications held April 19th and 25th, as also, a pamphlet issued from the office of the recording grand secretary, of date March 15th, 1899, setting forth a history of Negro "Masonry," so-called, or rather, an account of the position taken by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, upon the several occasions when that troublesome question has been before it for action. The dignified position of that grand lodge upon the question has commanded the earnest and unqualified approval of every grand lodge in the United States that has spoken upon the subject, except only that of Washington, in its annual communication of 1898. Massachusetts' position is one that will doubtless always be approved throughout the country, by the masonic fraternity. The action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, at its 1899 annual communication, in

hedging about the alleged repeal of its obnoxious resolutions of 1898, is an exhibition that its friends can hardly justify or approve. It certainly was not marked by that frankness and sincerity expected of a grand lodge in its deliberate action upon a matter of so grave a nature. The offence in the apology is scarcely less than the original ill-advised action.

It is certain that the position of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in at all times holding the Prince Hall Negro lodges as clandestine, is unassailable, and in no discussion of the question which we have seen, is that conclusion more thoroughly maintained than in this pamphlet.

At the quarterly communication, of date March 8th, M.:W.: Charles C. Hutchinson, Grand Master, presided, with nearly a full attendance of the grand officers, many past grand officers and a very large attendance of the representatives of the subordinate lodges. Business relating to the interest of the fraternity in Massachusetts was transacted. A memorial of R.:W.: Edwin Wright, who departed this life January 21, 1899, at the ripe age of seventy-eight years, was presented, setting forth, not only his masonic services, but as well his services to the state as a wise judge, and ordered spread upon the records. A report of the architects having in charge the work on the new temple was also submitted and considered, as was also the authorization of an additional loan to carry on the work. Fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru were resumed.

The special communication of April 19th was held in the town of Ayer, and the new masonic hall there was duly dedicated. That of April 25th was held at Midway, and the laying of a corner-stone of Christ Church Parish House in that town was laid.

Turning to the stated communication of December 27th, 1898, at which the installation of the grand officers, now in office, was had, we find a record of their annual feast, a social occasion. It is regretted by many that more such are not indulged by our fraternity in these later days, and as we are without the details of the proceedings of an annual communication, we seize the opportunity to inject some of the spice of the feast:

THE GRAND MASTER.—My Brothers, it is my first duty, as well as pleasure, to welcome you most heartily to our annual Feast. It is an occasion when we can forget care, and, with mirth and jollity, enjoy for the time happy and social intercourse.

You will remember that last year I reported to you, so far as was proper, the doings of the Grand Officers while assisting in the celebration of centennials of Lodges. Perhaps I may be permitted to make a supplemental report this evening.

You will remember, also, that last year we were chasing the ghost of Paul Revere from one end of the Commonwealth to the other. It seemed that, like the ghost of Banquo—it would never down; but finally it was “downed” at Natick. No sooner, however, was this accomplished than a new apparition appeared at Arlington,—that of Josiah Bartlett; and during the past year we have been trying to appease that one. The task has not been so very difficult—I mean comparatively difficult—because it was not so lively a ghost as was that of Paul Revere. We hope, however, that during the coming year that ghost also will be appeased and disappear.

The Grand Officers, I may say, have been diligent, dignified, courteous, most abstemious, and it is with a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction that I am able to return them to you this evening, in all their strength of manhood and pride of beauty.

We have observed this—nothing unusual among the Masons of Massachusetts—that an honest devotion to our Order, a loving interest in its prosperity and success, animate the hearts of all the Brethren. They realize that its harmony and prosperity depend upon a faithful discharge of duty, and that the renown and distinction of Masonry are due to personal, individual effort and example. I think, also, that in traveling about the Commonwealth, we have observed this—and this is nothing new either—that our Institution is in harmony with the character of the period in which we live. Its devotion to art and science, which constituted its attraction in the Middle Ages, and its interest in every measure instituted for the development, mentally and morally, of mankind, have kept it in touch with the educational tendencies of the time, with the great achievements of science, so that I think we have reason to claim for our Institution a front rank in the agency of the wonderful advancement of this nineteenth century.

But, my Brothers, amid all these waves of progress which have swept over the world, our Institution has never lost sight of its great underlying principles. It has always presented them most acceptably and most impressively before all who have come within their influence. So that the ineffable spirit of wisdom and love which pervades all nature and all space and time, and is the source of all intelligence, has ever been kept before it. And not only this, but, although factions and sects and isms, by whatever name, may arise and strive to lead man astray from the path of duty and shut out from his soul the hope of immortality, yet Hope, Faith and Love always find a sanctuary in the temples of our Fraternity. Social features have been engrafted upon it from time to time to gratify and satisfy man's nature, as a means of rest and refreshment, and as incidents in a life of earnest activity. We regard them simply as appurtenant functions, or, perhaps, as vines, flowering vines, clambering over the walls of our Temple, in no way marring or destroying the strength, solidity and beauty of its architecture.

So, Brothers, this Grand Lodge, for more than forty years, for more than forty consecutive years, has celebrated with mirth and song the Feast of the Beloved Apostle, whose Christian virtues, gentleness of spirit and beauty of character have made him an example to all mankind. I invite you to join in the first regular toast: "To the memory of the Holy Saint John."

The toast was duly honored, after which the following stanza was sung by the Quartet:

"Blest are the pure whose hearts are clean
From the defiling power of sin;
With endless pleasure they shall see
A God of spotless purity."

THE GRAND MASTER.—My Brothers, a king was once asked how he expected to protect his unwall'd cities from assault. He replied, pointing to his army, "These are my walls, and every soldier is a stone." I want to introduce to you, my Brothers, a perfect ashler in the great Masonic army, Right Worshipful Brother Gallagher.

RESPONSE OF BROTHER GALLAGHER.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN: With visions of our friend the Judge from Lawrence, who, I supposed, was the Stone pointed at, with Masonic tradition telling me that the next regular toast generally is "To the memory of George Washington," ("I cannot tell a lie"), I had no idea that I would be the next Brother called upon; although I believe it is provided in the Grand Constitutions that the Deputy Grand Master shall follow and stand by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, shall accompany him when he wishes his Deputy's presence, and be with him at

such ceremonials as he may designate; so it is perhaps only natural that a lesser light should immediately follow the graceful oratory of the chief.

There is an advantage in the suggestion, however, in the introduction, to a modest man, since it may be construed to mean that, although I am a stone "taken from the quarry, in its rude and natural state," to be "made ready by the hands of the workmen, to be adjusted by the working-tools of the Fellow-Craft," still it leaves me free from the danger of the imputation that I am "the only pebble on the beach."

The requirement that the Deputy shall accompany the Grand Master on ceremonials, at the centennial celebration of Lodges, laying of Corner-stones, etc., during the coming year, in various parts of the State, troubles me somewhat, living, as I do, in the woods bordering on Franklin Park in this city, while he resides in that humming city of spindles, Lowell; I fear we may have difficulty in getting together and keeping in line. We may have to practice signals in order to play the game correctly.

I hope we shall succeed better than the two Milesian gentlemen of whom I read in one of the comic periodicals, who, in going on a journey together, were to meet at a street corner. One of them said, "I'll not wait for you. You are always late. I'll go on and if you find I've gone, then you can come on after me and mate me at the place where we are going." "Yes," said the other, "but how will I know that you have been to the corner? and I'll be kept waiting there." "Oh," said the first, "that is aisy enough. You'll know whether I be come, or whether I be gone, for I'll make a mark with a piece of chalk on the curbstone if I get there first." "All right," said the other, "that's all right; and if I get there first I'll rub the mark out."

This afternoon, when the Most Worshipful Grand Master usurped the duties of the Deputy Grand Master under the Constitutions, (for it is provided that all the appointed officers shall be installed by the Deputy), and installed the Corresponding Grand Secretary, Dr. Richardson, he made jocosé allusion to the possibilities that may develop during the coming year as the result of territorial expansion, which we will not discuss here. It recalled to my mind the epithet applied to me by one of the Grand Chaplains when I was coming through the hallway to-day, arm in arm with our Senior Grand Warden, Brother Dunton; for he called us "imperialists," at least he stepped aside and saluted, saying we are an imperial looking pair of gentlemen. I felt proud of course to get the benefit of that respectability which comes from associating with Brother Dunton and being spoken to by Brother Horton, even at the chance of being classed with those Western hoosiers who want "to lengthen out, and grow, and expand;" but I forgive Brother Horton; he never says or does anything but the loveliest, to or for anybody, and we all love him for it. You know whom I mean by Brother Dunton, the new Senior Grand Warden, of magnificent and robust presence, who this afternoon was "the cause of that disturbance in the West" when he undertook to put on the apron of the genial but slight built Brother Kaan, whom he succeeded in office.

The thought of the possibility that, as the result of imperialism and expansion, the Corresponding Grand Secretary during the coming year may have to read and answer communications in a foreign tongue, and, if present and requested so to do by the Grand Master, he shall, under his direction, read to the Grand Lodge such communications and answers, leads one naturally to thinking of the Lodges of foreign lands and in the antipodes, of which we have recently been reading descriptions.

There never has been much Masonry in Spain. The Order has always been under the ban of the Jesuits, who have ruled with few exceptions continuously year by year for a century or more. The present Prime Minister Sagasta, I believe, has been Grand Master of the Orient in Spain, but the open work of the Order has as far as possible been suppressed in Cuba and Porto Rico; many brave men, however, like the late General Garcia, who died a few days since at Washington and who was a Com-

mander of the Cuban revolutionists, being one of our Fraternity. There has been a kind of semi-barbaric Masonry in the Philippines, used mostly for the purpose of secret meetings and plottings against Spanish and priestly rule.

I have thus far referred to native Lodges; in India and the far East where England has control and where Masonry follows the commerce of that great nation into her colonies, as surely as her army and her laws, many Lodges and independent jurisdictions have been created in the military and civil colonies of England that have grown up, and into these the worthy brethren of other tongues have been received, and from them in some instances have been obtained mysteries that have confirmed the truth of the antiquity of our Order. At the early part of this century considerable objection arose to the admission in India of a distinguished Mohammedan, the son of a Nabob, and the matter was appealed to England and there summarily disposed of; for the Grand Master of Bengal deposed that the Mohammedan applicant affirmed his belief in the Deity.

The curiosities of the Craft in the East are well described in verse by Bro. Kipling in his "Seven Seas;" and the combination of names may furnish a suggestion of what our Corresponding Grand Secretary may have to meet during his term. The poet describes his experience, whether real or imaginary I do not know, as "Junior Deacon in the Mother Lodge, out there," and gives the names of some of its members, in the following:

"There was Rundle. Station Master,
An' Beazeley of the Rail,
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
An' Blake, Conductor-Sargent,
Our Master twice was 'e,
With 'im that kept the Europe-shop,
Old Framjee Eduljee.

"We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,
An' Saul, the Aden Jew,
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman
Of the Survey Office too;
There was Babu Chuckerbutty,
An' Amir Singh the Sikh,
An' Castro from the fittin-sheds,
The Roman Catholick."

Then he goes on to describe how they held their meetings and what they did, and the difficulties that beset them, by reason of the different castes among Hindoos and of classes among soldiers and civilians; there were officers and private soldiers, there were lordships and laborers meeting in the lodge on common ground, for all had passed the test. But when they met together at refreshment it was only to smoke and chat, for they could not all join in the same banquet and partake of meat together without losing caste. Whether this is intended as a poetical satire on the Order I cannot say. Outside of the Lodge things went on as usual and there were distinctions; inside the Lodge, however, all distinctions save those of merit were set aside. 'T was

"Outside—'Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
Inside—'Brother,' an' it does n't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother Lodge, out there."

During one of these smoke-talks he tells how they discussed whose God was the best,—“Mo’ammed, God or Shiva.” of the Hindoo, and they would go home, as he says, with these various Deities “changin’ pickets in their heads.” Still with all their peculiarities he says:

“ We ’adn’t good regalia,
 An’ our Lodge was old an’ bare.
 But we knew the ancient Landmarks,
 An’ we kep’ ’em to a hair.”

So that the language in the foreign communications of Bro. Richardson, written under the direction of Grand Master Hutchinson, open up infinite possibilities, and will undoubtedly furnish most interesting matter for those of us who hear them read in the Grand Lodge, and a pleasant exercise for these two Brethren who prepare and conduct the correspondence.

Well, Most Worshipful Grand Master, there is a long list of speakers to-night, and my eyes rest naturally on Brother Horton as one who is going to entertain us, and I feel as though I were stealing when I am taking his time. And that reminds me that while one Grand Chaplain called me names, the Senior said that I was cheating the Grand Chaplains out of their business by quoting Scripture when I installed some of the Grand Officers. All I did was to quote from Paul’s 1st Epistle to Timothy his admonition to “deacons;” and the only cheating was that I left out his excellent advice to the “clergy.” Of course I didn’t expect to do this as well as the Reverend Chaplains, but it isn’t Masonically charitable to show that one is sensitive about such things. But they have an advantage, for they can say things about a fellow after he has got through and when he can’t reply, but then they always say nice things. Still I am willing to agree now that I never will be a candidate for Grand Chaplain, so if I usurp the work I won’t expect the cloth.

Seriously, however, whatever may be done by the Government at Washington, however the change in our policy may be described, or wheresoever may be the advance of imperialism or the enlargement of our territorial domains, (and I am neither an imperialist nor an expansionist), this will surely be true, that with our commerce, our officials, our army and our fleets, will go Masonry, hand in hand with whatever is best and highest in the advancement of our civilization; and whether it be the coming year, or the years that follow, they will, by reason of the work that has been done, and by reason of the commercial and religious relations that must necessarily be opened up between this country and our newly-acquired territory at the antipodes, in the adjacent islands of the Atlantic, and the far-away islands of the Pacific, be carried to those islands the magnificent examples of high character and honor that are always found among men to whom the teachings and the practice of the principles of Masonry are as necessary to prosperity and advancement as are good laws; for we know that the soldier, sailor or civilian who takes with him the principles and teachings of Masonry as the advance-guard of civilization will practice and inculcate our tenets, “friendship, morality and brotherly love,” and the cardinal virtues of our profession; thus will the world be better for having known of us, and in return the world will shed added lustre on the Institution to which we belong.

But it is time I closed. I had intended to pay a tribute to the grand work that has been done by the building committee of our Board of Directors; those three grand Masonic pillars—Brothers Hutchinson, Holmes and Dwinell—have completed the exterior of the monument to them and for us, which stands across the street. No one outside of the Board can ever know the work, the detail, the patience, and care they have shown; an evening might be given to expressing appreciation of their work, and an

appreciative Fraternity will fail of its duty if their names are not inscribed on the monument they have reared for others.

But I am trespassing too far. I will close by suggesting a text from the Book of Job, that our Reverend Chaplain may use appropriately at some occasion, and of which some of us will think to-morrow morning: "When I lie down I say, When shall I arise and the night be gone? and I am full of tossings to and fro unto the dawning of the day."

THE GRAND MASTER.—The Reverend Clergy have been commented upon, or rather it is said that the Reverend Clergy have commented upon something which the Deputy Grand Master did or said, or that he ought not to have done or ought not to have said. I will ask our Reverend Brother Horton to say a word to us.

RESPONSE OF BROTHER HORTON.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN: It is the other fellow who went off who made those remarks. I did not make any remarks about Deputy Grand Masters. I have not had a chance so far—at least about this particular one.

When you alluded, sir, to the old Grecian ruler, I was reminded of another version of that story. You were correct, but, then, I have this version. Some one visited his domain, and saw no walls—and this is often told to prove that what is slang to-day was classic some time ago. That I know to be true. He saw no walls. He commented on the fact. The next day the ruler marshalled his troops and said, "These are my walls, and every one is a brick." The Deputy Grand Master is "a brick!" The truth of it is, he is several bricks, and some of them come shying my way occasionally. He says he can't tell a lie. Brother Gallagher is one of the most versatile, accomplished, able—individuals in the city of Boston; and I think that that joke which he says appeared in one of the papers, but which I had not seen or heard before, must have proceeded from some transaction in Brother Gallagher's versatile life. The definition of a lie, as friend Gallagher would put it, originated in a Sunday school, where a boy got mixed up. The question having been put, "What is a lie?" he proceeded, this youth, to define it in Biblical fashion, and it was in this way: "A lie is an abomination unto the Lord, but a very present help in time of trouble."

I thought, sir, when the Deputy Grand Master was depicting Kipling in such vivid colors that Kipling was out-Kiplinged; I thought, when he said how they had kept everything out there, even to a hair, how some people, rather bald, would have liked to be there.

I enjoy everything that Brother Gallagher does, very much for the reason illustrated by this little incident: Some one sent brandied peaches to an invalid, who was asked afterwards how he liked them. "Well," he said, "I don't know as I could eat the fruit exactly, but I appreciated the spirit in which it was sent."

Now, the truth is that whenever Gallagher and myself get a. each other a little it is all right in the spirit; we understand one another; but I am told that the Brethren sometimes wonder whether there is anything out between us. Not a thing! A good deal of this is rehearsed, but not all of it.

I would like to tell, before I have one brief serious word, something which has come to my attention in the past experiences. I wish to throw, in a parenthesis here,—clergymen have a great facility for making people believe that they know a great deal more than they do, and for appearing wise when they are mighty ignorant.

Now, I do not want to apply that exactly to my friend here, the stenographer, but he kept that pen a-going all the time that the Deputy Grand Master was rattling off those Hindoo names, just as though he had written

down every one of them. I want to say that in my experiences, especially at Natick, it seemed to me that a great many in that melting, dissolving audience, where collars went down by the dozen, and shoes were flooded with waves of perspiration—I know about it, for I shared in all that—this story might have been pertinent, for I, the great sinner, was somewhat elongated in my address.

In England two ministers exchanged—did I tell this story last year?

BROTHER GALLAGHER.—No, sir; "I cannot tell a lie!"

BROTHER HORTON.—He is so good that he will smile at this even if he has heard it from me a dozen times. Two ministers exchanged and the one in this particular pulpit was so brief that he seemed to think that it was necessary to apologize; so he went to the warden in the study afterwards, and said in a most modest and apologetic mein, "My sermon was short, my dear sir, but I had a dog, and he went into the church and chewed away several of the leaves of my sermon." To the minister's amazement, the warden's face lighted up with expectant joy, and he said, "Now don't you think you could give our minister a pup?" I have an idea that that is the way that listeners often feel when the Grand Chaplains go around making addresses. But you are all so very kind, so very forgiving, your mantles of charity are so very large, that we come out at the end of the year feeling that we have said something worth listening to, and for all this I render you my gratitude.

Now, seriously, my Brethren, at times like this I experience that happy feeling which seems to possess even the unreleased champagne when it bursts the confines of its corked domain and leaps up for joy. I feel that we ought to go away deeply impressed with what has been said here to-night,—which on these occasions is always set forth with singular accuracy,—I feel that, as a Body, as an organization, as a mass of individuals, we have something that communicates itself with aptness and with force to uplift humanity in its struggles to cope with the conditions of the day.

I have spoken before—I think I spoke at the last annual meeting, if I recollect correctly—of that which we, as Masons, may contribute to the coming civilization of the twentieth century. Every day, through the power and influence of religious convictions, that influence which corrects and re-adjusts, we are being brought into more direct relationship, and into closer touch with those things which concern every department of daily life about us. For instance, to be specific, take education in the school house.

As I look around this Hall to-night, beneath all this festivity and merry-making, I see that through you, as the exponents of the principles of Freemasonry, will come all those rectifying influences which will make for the greater happiness and comfort of humanity. What are the difficulties with regard to the question of the complex education of to-day? Wherein is the school house rendered indictable for offences against the civilization of this last decade, as it stands arrayed even in all its multitudinous appliances before the common sense of the people? It stands responsible for a certain lack of effort to instil, to thoroughly ingrain, into the youths of to-day, the rudiments of a common-sense application of the essentials of every-day life, a failure to teach them how to get a grip on the elements of existence. I say this because of analysis: I say it because of inspection.

I am one who admires what is called common-school education. Its object and principles are good. But go with experts and examine carefully, and you will find that there is lacking the instilling into the youths of to-day, of that level-headed clear insight into the ungloried life of the people; there is an unwillingness to carve the way through the drudgery of toil to the fundamental necessities of life. Embellishments, adornments—have I not paid for too many of them out of my own pocket?—are they not too much the staple of life?

Freemasonry, by its triumphant exaltation in the fulfillment of the

aims of practical life, by its recognition of the importance of ability to work as the road to happiness, by the prominence it attaches to the laying of strong and true foundations for the structure of character,—Freemasonry, I say, contributes more to uplift and solidify and strengthen struggling humanity than all the varnish and veneer which constitute so large a share of the education of to-day.

Survey with your observant vision the society of to-day, the society which, in this country, is ample, inviting and rejoicing, and you will agree with me, Most Worshipful Grand Master, that there is not yet a realization of that hearty equality, member with member. There are those who are flung aside; there are those who are chilled by the frozen look; there are those who cannot enjoy the delights of true companionship; there are those who thrust too much the lance of snobbery, instead of the plowshare of help, through our social organizations. But Freemasonry sends out into society men who are proud to take a man for what he is, and to welcome him on his merits.

You, Most Worshipful Grand Master, have already alluded to the bounteous benefaction which Freemasonry has given to organized religion. Irrespective of all sects and faiths, what is wanted in the churches to-day is reality,—that touch, sir, to which you have referred, of immortal confidence in the dignity of human nature, in the gracious benignity of a Universal Being who has carved through the rocks of trouble a highway along which humanity may tread. The minister in the pulpit—I care not what denomination I am talking to—should endeavor to make the hearts of his congregation throb more to the service of humanity, and to the making of patriotic self-sacrifice. This is what Freemasonry does. But, whether Freemasonry has it or not, we ought to have it symbolized and glorified, a lamp of this great universe, a guide to individual lives, beckoning their humblest soul along the starry vistas to perfected life. Freemasonry kindles that confidence and relumes the lamp when it begins flicker in the dusk of life.

So there may be many other things, that we might mention, that Freemasonry deposits to-day in the National Bank of Faith and Hope and Progress, and it is because of that that I come rejoicing hither, and go hence reconsecrated unto the watchwords and principles of this grand historic organization.

Dear Brethren, the year is dying, the chimes are sounding, and I pray that every one of you may bear into the unknown paths of the coming months the good-will, the hearty smile, the genuine hand-clasp, which are an essential part of our noble Brotherhood. I trust that when that Temple is dedicated by impressive Brother Holmes, truly dignified in his simplicity, this community and this whole Commonwealth will see everything that appertains to a better citizenship, everything that tends to lift up the standards of civilization, everything that broadens the ends of a noble charity, everything that stimulates the individual to an honorable career in this life, everything that opens the dark sky and lets in the light of the God of Heaven, restored and reconsecrated at this great shrine of Freemasonry; and so may it be forever in the years to come!

M. W. Charles C. Hutchinson, Boston, is Grand Master.

R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson, Boston, is Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN, 1900.

January 23rd, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Detroit, the Fifty-sixth Annual Communication assembled and at high twelve the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Frank T. Lodge, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, seventeen past grand masters, thirty grand representatives and

representatives from three hundred and eighty-four of the three hundred and eighty-six subordinate lodges, present.

In opening his annual address the Grand Master presents, in speaking of Detroit, a matter of historic interest:

No more suitable place within the lordly domains of the Peninsular State could have been chosen for the deliberations of a Masonic body. Few cities of this country are more replete with stirring historic Masonic associations. One hundred and thirty-six years ago—only thirty-one years after Free Masonry began its beneficent mission in the New World—a small band of British officers, cut off by their military duties from the refining influences of civilized life, began to realize that, even more than in their old homes, they needed here the solace of fraternal ties; and, in the wilderness, surrounded by howling savage foes, they erected an altar at Fort Detroit and kindled upon it a new Masonic fire, which, like the eternal altar-fires of the Jews, has never since been quenched.

Detroit was the home of the first military Masonic Lodge. It was the birthplace of old Mother Zion, the first regularly chartered Masonic Lodge in this State, which, hoary with years, yet lusty with youthful vigor, the fifth largest Lodge in the United States, is still a conspicuous exemplar, of the lofty principles of our beloved fraternity.

He dwells upon the duty of delegates to attend all sessions of the grand lodge, shows that while the year had not been a record-breaker, yet progress and excellent conditions prevail.

To the memory of the fraternal dead he pays appropriate tribute; reports the instituting of two new lodges; the consolidation of two lodges under the name of one of them; discusses the duty of each lodge to preserve copies of the proceedings of the grand lodge and to read the same, as required by their regulations, in their lodges.

He reports the granting of five dispensations to elect officers and install them after the usual time, and thirteen to confer the third degree within less than a lunar month.

He refused to grant dispensation for lodges to participate in parades and receptions given to returning Michigan Volunteers in the Spanish-Cuban War, as also to join with other organizations in celebrating Decoration Day.

The corner-stone for a new court house, another for a Masonic Temple and one for a state school for the deaf, he reports having laid, and he had dedicated seventeen new halls. He also reports having caused the dedication of a very large number of old halls, not before dedicated. He did much visiting, indeed, all he could do without neglecting other official duties to the craft.

He discusses at length the subject of the system of grand representatives and says:

I have, this year, directed our Grand Secretary to send a notice of our Annual Communication to each Grand Representative and to notify him to be present. I have also written a personal letter to each of them asking him to attend and to tell us, in a short two minutes' talk, the main facts as to the present condition of the Grand Lodge which he represents. I am glad to say that many of these distinguished brethren are in attendance to-day. I shall, with your permission, call upon each of them; and I know that you will not regret the small amount of time required to hear

from them, and that you will go back to your respective homes cheered and encouraged, with broader views of the fraternity at large which you will receive from the reports of these distinguished Representatives.

He discusses eloquently "sweet charity:"

Not all of the charity we may dispense is the giving of money. Our smiling in our brother's face is charity; our setting the feet of an erring brother in the right path is equal to alms giving, and none of us can measure the good which may come from these simple, brotherly acts. A fond, ignorant old woman supplied inspiration to Gambetta. The gift of a testament started Henry Wilson. A handkerchief spread over the face of William Wirt as he lay, dead drunk, on the sidewalk changed his entire life and made him one of the greatest advocates of his time. A simple, cordial hand clasp and cheery "God bless you" rescued John B. Gough from the gutter and made him the moral giant for good he afterwards became. All around us, in every Lodge, are troubled hearts, who need our human sympathy, and our charity may well begin at home.

And in this connection gives some interesting figures:

In two years, under the vigorous and enthusiastic administration of Grand Master Lawrence, the Masons of New York paid a debt of \$750,000 on their Masonic Temple in New York City, and besides raised \$100,000 towards the erection of a Home for aged Masons, which has already a surplus fund of \$198,000. During that time their Lodges paid two dollars per capita to the Grand Lodge.

Many Grand Lodges in this Union maintain handsomely furnished Homes for aged Masons, their widows and orphans. The Masons of England contribute £500, or \$2,500 a day toward charitable purposes, maintaining, among other institutions, a Home for aged Masons, a Home for Masons' widows, a Home for Masons' boys, and a Home for Masons' girls. A number of the Grand Lodges maintain a large charity fund.

He reports sixty-three decisions, discussing each at some length, covering thirty-four pages upon the several matters decided. We quote the first in full. It was approved:

(1.) Question.—I want to publish and sell a Masonic Directory containing a list of all the Masons in the city, their occupations, business and house addresses, home and business telephone numbers, a classified business directory and advertising cards of Masons, charging a reasonable price therefor. Can I legally and properly do so?

Answer.—Masonry is distinctively and purely a social and charitable organization. Its members state, in their written petitions for admission, that they are, "Unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives," being prompted to join the fraternity by, "A desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to be serviceable to their fellow creatures." Our tenets inculcate freedom from selfish considerations and induce us to look at our brethren, not with the eyes of speculators, "sizing them up" to see how much we can make them worth to us, but as unselfish friends and brothers, striving to see in what manner we may be of most service to them.

So far as our legislation applies to this subject, we have discouraged the growing practice of making merchandise out of Masonry. Section 48, Grand Lodge By-laws, prohibits the use of Masonic emblems by Masons as business signs and cards, and also forbids the use of the word "Mason," "Masonic," "Free and Accepted Masons" and the letters "F. & A. M." in connection with any private business enterprise, and makes a Master Mason who solicits business for any one violating the provisions of the By-law equally guilty with his principal.

The curse of our later day Masonry is, that it is being systematically

"worked" by too many individuals, who, without any conception of the noble purposes of the fraternity, seek admission to it for the pecuniary good they can get out of it.

I believe that the time has come to stop this sort of Masonry and put an extinguisher upon this sort of Masons, although it may cause us some trouble to do it. A foul atmosphere is never cleared, however, except by a thunder storm and the crash of the elements; but, if we ever get it done, our fraternity will be much stronger than it is now.

I believe that the present membership of Grand Lodge think as I do in this matter. Whether they do or not, I am glad that this question has been presented, for it gives Grand Lodge an opportunity to place itself upon record one way or the other upon this important question. The directory proposed is gotten up for private gain. Indeed, the brother who asked me the question admitted as much. He proposes to make money out of the directory—and out of the business cards he wishes to insert in it. The advertisers pay for having their business cards inserted in the hope of making a profit out of their investment by securing the trade of Masons, to be attracted to them as Masons because their business cards are published under Masonic auspices. I decide that this is mercenary Masonry, and that it is not proper. It may be that there is no express law prohibiting it. If not, the time has come to make such law, either by approving this decision or by express legislative enactment. If it is a proper practice, the disapproval of this decision will say as much to the craft at large.

The address covers one hundred and thirteen pages and discusses at length many matters of general interest and is worthy of careful perusal by masonic students.

The Grand Lodge, by resolution recognized the Grand Orient of Belgium, but refused to do the same by the Gran Dieta Symbolica of Mexico. In the latter, reasoning that because the Bible had been excluded from the altar in some of the Mexican lodges, notwithstanding its restoration in 1896, the irregularity should exclude entering into fraternal relations. But in 1899, Michigan restored fraternal relations with Peru, notwithstanding the fact that for a whole year the Bible had been wholly banished from all the masonic altars in Peru, and every man made a mason in that grand jurisdiction was therefore irregularly made. We think that both in Peru and in Mexico the irregularity has been healed.

R. W. Brother Jefferson S. Conover, Grand Secretary, writes the report on correspondence. We have read his reviews for years in another branch of masonry and we know he is an able reviewer, but the Grand Lodge had ordered that the report be restricted to one hundred pages, he cut it down to fifty-two, and says:

My task is finished and I am glad of it. I do not think this report is worth the paper upon which it is written, but it complies, in all respects, with the instructions given me, and such as it is, it is.

Nebraska, 1899, however, is very favorably and liberally treated, our loss in the deaths of Past Grand Master Jordan and our late Grand Secretary Bowen is fraternally mentioned, our decisions for the year digested, mention of our brief topical review made and a handsome compliment to our M. W. Brother Wheeler, their grand representative, is paid for his report as such to our Grand Lodge.

M. W. Lucien E. Wood, Niles, is Grand Master.

R. W. Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater, is Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA, 1899.

January 11th, in Masonic hall, in the city of St. Paul, the Forty-sixth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Alonzo T. Stebbins, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, nine past grand masters, nineteen grand representatives and representatives from one hundred and ninety-eight of the two hundred and five subordinate lodges, in attendance.

With pleasure the Grand Master said, in opening his annual address, he welcomed and greeted his brethren. The people, he said, of his grand jurisdiction were enjoying health and prosperity. The glorious achievements won on land and sea by our patriotic citizens in the late War with Spain, called from him words of congratulation and of pride in our nation's marvelous strength. Appropriate mention and eulogy is paid to the memory of the fraternal dead. He reports having constituted two new lodges and the instituting of three U. D. S., but he had refused, after careful consideration, to grant dispensation for an army lodge, petitioned for by brethren in the thirteenth Minnesota regiment at San Francisco, on their way to Manila. A quite large number of special dispensations, for the usual purposes, he had granted.

He reports three decisions, all of which were approved, two of which are as follows:

Question: Lodge No. 1 prefers charges against Brother A, who is a member of Lodge No. 2, in this state, but in another city. Brother A objects to the jurisdiction of Lodge No. 1, claiming that he should be tried in his own lodge, and the question arises. What effect would a verdict of guilty and the imposition of a sentence of expulsion or suspension by Lodge No. 1 have upon Brother A's standing in Lodge No. 2?

Answer: Lodge No. 1 is responsible for the conduct of all Masons residing within its jurisdiction, whether they be members of Lodge No. 1 or any other lodge. If there be a Mason residing within the jurisdiction of Lodge No. 1 who is a member of any lodge, and who is guilty of unmasonic conduct, it is the duty of Lodge No. 1 to take notice thereof, and prefer charges against him. If Lodge No. 1, after due trial, finds said member guilty, and said lodge pronounces a verdict of suspension or expulsion, such a verdict implies a termination, not only of his masonic intercourse and connection with the body inflicting it, but from the masonic fraternity.

Question: A resident of our jurisdiction has been twice rejected by our lodge. A lodge in an adjoining jurisdiction now requests that we waive jurisdiction in his case. Can we waive jurisdiction in such a case?

Answer: No.

In our jurisdiction, and we think generally, lodge 1 would report the matter to lodge 2, and not proceed until after a refusal to do so on the part of lodge 2. The second decision is undoubtedly the law as generally understood.

From the report—an excellent one—of the Grand Secretary, R. W. Thos. Montgomery, we are pleased to quote:

In presenting my tenth annual report as your Grand Secretary, I am pleased to inform you that Masonry has made a steady advance during the past year throughout our jurisdiction, the work done exceeding either of the last two years. The correspondence of the office has been more ex-

tensive than for any previous year, but, as a rule, every letter was promptly answered on the day of its receipt.

And again:

Brethren, I entered this Grand Lodge just thirty years ago, as Junior Warden of my lodge—Nicollet, No. 54, St. Peter. This was after the fire, at the first Grand Lodge meeting held in the new hall corner Third and Wabasha, this city. I have been a regular attendant since, and for the past twenty-two years have done duty at the Grand Secretary's table, twelve years of that period as assistant to the lamented Pierson. Masonry has kept pace with the growth of our beloved state, our membership having quadrupled since then, and ranks as high in Minnesota as in any part of the world. The friendships formed with my brethren since 1869, both within and without the state, have been numerous, and as the years roll by these fraternal ties become strengthened and the circle of my masonic acquaintances greatly extended. Alas! many have fallen by the way, whose memory is as precious incense. I feel honored in being permitted to come into personal and official contact with the brightest masonic intellects of our state and country, and seek to utilize this privilege for the benefit of the entire craft in Minnesota. My relations with the Grand Master and brethren generally for the past year have been most cordial and pleasant, and in closing another year of arduous labor I desire to heartily thank all the brethren with whom I have had official business for their uniform kindness and courtesy.

Brother Henry R. Adams, Grand Orator, delivered an entertaining, instructive, and eloquent oration, his subject being "Love." From it we cull a particularly sparkling gem:

The earth is carpeted with green, interspersed with clinging vines, with daisies' silver and with cowslips' gold. It has mountains, valleys, placid lakes, rippling rills and rivers that flow forever on; oaks that rise like giants from the bosom of the plain; pines that fling their green banners to the winds; roses and magnolias that give their aroma to the air; violets that spread their bosoms to the day; water lilies that open their petals of silver to display their hearts of gold; bees that wander away over vast fields of clover; eagles that scale with unwearied wing the depths and heights of air; katydids that chirp in the meadow their evening hymn; birds that carol their sweet songs of joy, children, with their peals of happy laughter; and men and women, with their earnest voices,—all proclaiming the goodness and love of God.

The work of the third degree was exemplified before the grand lodge by Minnesota Lodge, U. D. of Minneapolis, in a correct and masterly manner, we are told in the record.

The committees presented good work and were sustained in their recommendations, and another orderly annual communication closed, "peace and harmony prevailing."

A report on correspondence, covering one hundred pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-six sister grand lodges, is the work of Brother Irving Todd, well performed. In answer to Bro. Blatt, of South Dakota, upon the subject of masonic trials, he says:

For the thirty-third and last time we would remark that masonic trials with us are held before a committee, at which the accused, his counsel, and his witnesses may be present and heard. There is no distinction between master masons, fellow crafts, or entered apprentices in this particu-

lar. They are all regarded as masons, and their masonic rights are equally sacred.

And here is what he says about the use of a certain word:

While admitting that the term order has been long and frequently employed by masonic writers in referring to the fraternity, and that it is a favorite expression with grand masters and grand orators in rounding up their grandiloquent periods, yet we deny that this careless or ignorant usage has created any new definition of a word that is manifestly improper and ought never to have been so applied. We would just as soon write pretty for quite or rather, a still more common error.

M.:W.:Alonzo T. Stebbins. Rochester. is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul, is Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI, 1899.

February 8th, the Eighty-first Annual Communication assembled in the city of Vicksburg, and Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:John M. Stone, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, excepting the Grand Sword Bearer and the Grand Tyler who were sick, twenty-seven past grand officers, eight district deputy grand masters, four custodians of the work, four trustees of the Masonic Home, twenty-two grand representatives, thirty-six past masters, and representatives from two hundred and eighteen of the two hundred and sixty-five subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A most hearty and fraternal welcome and greeting marks the opening sentences of the Grand Master's annual address, followed by wise words of council to his brethren, upon the fact that to the younger members the work of annual communications will soon come. Noting the absence of the faces of many who had borne the burden in former days, he said: "While thanksgivings to our Heavenly Father ascend, as they should, from every heart for the blessings which a bounteous heaven has bestowed upon us during the year just closed, there is a tenderness so clearly defined, as our thoughts turn to our fraternal dead." Elequent tribute, he pays to the illustrious dead of his own jurisdiction and appropriate mention of those in sister grand jurisdictions.

He reported having afforded relief to the yellow-fever sufferers during the preceding September.

He reports the following decisions:

August 20. I decided that the Grand Master could not restore a charter which had been declared forfeited by the Grand Lodge.

November 22. That every corner-stone laid with Masonic ceremonies must be placed in the northeast corner of the building.

January 6. That a non-affiliate is not entitled to any of the benefits of Masonry unless he pays dues to some Lodge within the State, but that he may elect to what Lodge he will pay dues. There is an apparent conflict between sections 29 and 45 of the By-Laws on this question, but it seems but just that, if a non-affiliated Mason has a right to elect what Lodge he will petition for membership, regardless of his place of residence, provided it is within the State, he should have the same right to select the Lodge to which to pay dues.

He had granted nine special dispensations to receive petitions, ballot on candidates and confer degrees, without reference to time, one of which was to do all this at a special meeting of the lodge, and this was all done, notwithstanding all that has been said in that grand jurisdiction about the limited power of a Grand Master. Dispensations for three new lodges, he had granted. Corner-stones for a church, a masonic building, and for four public school houses had been laid during the year.

He regrets having been unable to do much visiting among the lodges.

R. W. J. L. Power, for thirty years Grand Secretary, made a most excellent report, not only of the duties of his office, but as well, a review of the past thirty years, with many valuable groupings of facts and statistics, accompanied with appropriate remarks, comments and recommendations. A valuable precedent it furnishes, as well as being a paper of historical worth.

The following resolution, which was adopted, explains itself:

Your Special Committee, to which was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to the Masonic Home, beg leave to report that this committee most heartily endorses the views expressed by our Grand Master in his excellent and able address touching the founding of the Masonic Home at this time. Your committee does not regard the founding of such a Home at this time as practicable or advisable. We do not, however, recommend that the funds collected for this Home be diverted to any other purpose or institution. We believe that within a few years this fund will be large enough to insure the ultimate success of this enterprise.

The Home fund now amounts to \$21,727.91.

Charters to eight lodges U. D. were granted.

An exhaustive report on jurisprudence, covering sixteen closely printed pages, answering the questions submitted, was made by Past Grand Master Frederick Speed, which was adopted. From it we extract with hearty approval:

QUESTION 2. Can a Fellow Craft, who loses one of his legs prior to advancement be raised?

ANSWER. But for the decisions, 12-1875, and 55-1883, an affirmative answer would have been returned to the question, but while they stand, only a negative reply could be made, it being the province of this Committee to follow the law and not to make it. We are wholly unable to see the distinction, in principle, between the loss of a leg and arm, the latter not disqualifying for advancement (40-1894, 34-1895), while the former does. The question of physical qualifications has received exhaustive examination by able committees of this Grand Lodge in former years, and we believe that nothing can be added to what has been well said on the subject by those brethren who were some of the best informed Masons which have written upon it in this or any other Grand Lodge. These reports (76-1867, 52-1871) meet with our hearty concurrence, but we think that there have been decisions rendered from time to time which are not in harmony with principles therein laid down, and that these ought to be swept away as tending to confusion and uncertainty. The language of many of our decisions is applicable only to a certain state of facts, which was under consideration at the time, and the frequent use of such expressions as a "candidate for the degrees," and "candidate for Masonry," when it would be more exact and less confusing to have said "a candidate for initiation," or "a candidate for advancement," is to be regretted, and

especially so when speaking of physical qualifications, for it is not always quite certain whether the decision applies to candidates for initiation or those for advancement, a distinction which it is obvious should be drawn, as they stand upon an entirely different footing in their relations to the Craft. For instance, the loss of a leg or arm, or even portions thereof, would disqualify a candidate for initiation, when such a loss, occurring after initiation, would not disqualify for advancement. We think that the correct rule was laid down by Brothers Gray, Springer and Parker in their report in 1867. Speaking of advancement, these learned brethren said: "If, after initiation, a candidate becomes maimed by the loss of a foot, or any other part that can be supplied by mechanical art, to such a degree as to enable him to conform to all the requisites of the degree in advancing, it is not right or just to doom him to the condition of a bearer of burdens for which he is incapable; but he should be assigned the lighter task of squaring or working the ashler, or superintending or overseeing the workmen, for which he may, by advancement, become well qualified. We discover no restrictions to advancement in the old Landmarks, and it is perfectly competent in Lodges to confer the degrees of Fellowcraft and Master Mason on candidates for advancement, provided they can physically conform to the requisitions of the various ceremonies." (77-1867.)

We recommend that every decision in conflict with the rule as laid down by this report be abrogated, and the rule as stated in said report be reaffirmed, viz: If, after initiation, a candidate becomes maimed by the loss of a foot, or any other part that can be supplied by mechanical art, to such a degree as to enable him to conform to all the requisites of the degrees, he may be advanced.

QUESTION 3. Is a candidate for initiation, who has lost the first joint of the index and middle finger of the right hand, eligible?

ANSWER. We do not think that the deformity is such that he cannot be instructed in the modes of recognition, which is the test in all such cases in this jurisdiction, 303-1845, and therefore that he is eligible for initiation.

The report on correspondence covering ninety-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of forty-eight sister grand lodges, is presented by M.:W.: Brother Andrew H. Barkley. It is made up mostly of extracts from the proceedings reviewed, but so well selected that it makes a very excellent review.

M.:W.: William Starling, Greenville, is Grand Master.

R.:W.: John L. Power, Jackson, is Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI, 1899.

October 17th, at the Academy of Music, in Kansas City, the Seventy-ninth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: E. F. Allen Grand Master, with all the grand officers, fourteen past grand masters, nine grand representatives, one hundred and forty past masters and representatives from three hundred and fifty of the five hundred and fifty-six subordinate lodges, in attendance.

There were also present nine of the past grand officers, two past grand masters and one past grand custodian of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, who were duly welcomed by the Grand Master and conducted to seats in the East.

With pardonable pride, perhaps, the Grand Master, in opening his annual address, indulged in the following flight of oratory:

We live in the midst of the most brilliant civilization of the world. Our State, which is at the very heart's center of the garden-land of the universe

(through the efforts of human genius, and the blessings of God, regardless of destruction by the ruthless hand of ignorance, and devastation by war), has been gradually changing from an Eden of beauty into a garden of industry with even additional beauty and grandeur; our fields of harvest, our mines with their varied products, the wealth of our forests and streams, the exuberance of our climate, through the agencies of the mart, the factory, the railway, and the boat, serve industrious mankind with a bountiful supply of "the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy." Almost coeval with the first settlements on Missouri soil were the lights placed upon the altars of Masonry, and from then until now it has carried its humanizing influences, its charities, its social pleasures, its craft ambitions, in the advance guard of our civilization. The perfume from the altars of Masonry has permeated the lives of many thousands of our citizens. It has entered the home and gladdened the hearts of those about the fireside; it has been continually upon the highway, in the office and place of business or occupation, in the factory, upon the farm, at the mine, in the courts of justice and halls of legislation; Freemasonry has established more lasting friendships than any known institution of the world.

Thus in the twilight of the nineteenth century, as we glance backward along the great highway of Masonry and set a mile-stone at the end of another year's happy and prosperous journey, we cannot but acknowledge the mercy and goodness of the Supreme Grand Master whose watchfulness and care has ever been over us—and guided us in all our undertakings.

He reports granting quite a number of special dispensations; four duplicate charters; the arresting of the charters of four delinquent lodges, and a continued contest between two of the subordinate lodges.

He had granted a dispensation for one new lodge; had looked after the holding of lodges of instruction and reports progress in uniformity of work. Eight corner-stones had been laid by deputies appointed for that purpose, and he had personally presided in laying the corner-stone of the new masonic temple in St. Louis.

He mentions with approval their new masonic home, and the great assistance rendered it by the ladies of the Eastern Star.

The lame, and the halt, can be made masons in Missouri, but woe to the poor aspirant who has lost a thumb. Witness the following decisions:

1. An applicant for the mysteries of Freemasonry has left leg amputated below the knee, using an artificial leg, of which he seems to have very good use. He can kneel without much trouble on both knees. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

2. An aspirant for the degrees in Masonry has a partially stiff knee, and is unable to kneel closer than twelve inches to the floor. In other respects a sound man physically. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

3. A candidate for Masonry has one leg off above the knee, but has an artificial limb which he uses continually; he walks about at pleasure, and can kneel upon both knees. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

4. A candidate for the Mysteries of Freemasonry has lost one foot, but has an artificial one. He is energetic and active, and walks without cane or other assistance. Is he eligible? *Answer*—Yes.

8. A candidate for the degrees has lost the thumb of his right hand, he has no artificial substitute. Is he eligible? *Answer*—No.

A special committee reported:

The undersigned special committee, to whom was referred the propriety of the recognition, by this Grand Lodge, of the Gran Dieta of Mexico, would respectfully beg leave to report,

That we have carefully investigated the subject, and from the information now at hand do not feel that in the present disturbed condition of Masonry in Mexico it is expedient to extend recognition to the Gran Dieta.

Your Committee express the hope that the chaotic condition of Masonry in Mexico will soon terminate, so that this Grand Body may recognize the Lodges of our great Sister Republic, united as it is in destiny with our own glorious country in the march of progress, liberty and happiness.

Reports covering ten pages, made by the different officers of the masonic home, show an excellent condition of that institution and that it is receiving hearty support, especially by the members of the order and their ladies in the city of St. Louis where it is situated.

The card system of registering all members of lodges in the jurisdiction, was adopted and an appropriation to carry this important work into effect. Our own Grand Lodge has adopted the same system which, by aid of our former perfect register, is easily carried into effect.

M. W. Brother John D. Vincil, presents the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and fifty-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty sister grand lodges, in a very able manner. It is such reports that give value to reviews and afford so much valuable information. Just such information as is needed by the young masters of lodges. If his reports were carefully read by every master of a lodge in Missouri it would be of inestimable value to freemasonry in that state.

In regard to the action of the Grand Lodge in re Negro Masonry since its repeal, he justly says:

A report on this dark subject was presented, read and adopted, with "only two dissenting votes." Whatever construction may be placed upon the terms employed, and whatever string may be in the hands of the authorities in adopting the paper, it is to be accepted as an end to the controversy started by that Grand Lodge, and the subject must be declared out of court. I hope that the Brethren in Washington may profit by the lessons of the passing hour. I have not discussed the question raised, and have only given a synopsis of the opinions of the jurisdictions reviewed. One fact has been made manifest, owing to the disturbance caused by the perpetrators of a great blunder, if not a crime against Masonry: the Fraternity in the United States does not believe in any foolishness, and will not tolerate such innovations as were attempted by the Craft on the Western coast. Masonry in this country is a unit, and has as little use for would-be reformers as it has for the agitating spirit at the bottom of the sudden upheaval he expected to produce by his iconoclastic eruptions.

And in regard to the masonic homes, we are glad to record his testimony:

The work of establishing and maintaining Masonic Homes goes on with most encouraging progress. Masonry is thus demonstrating its true mission and right to a place among the great and good institutions of our advancing civilization. Never in its history has the Fraternity presented such credentials to the confidence and approbation of the general public. The hearts of many thousands have been touched by the princely deeds of our Masonic sanctuaries in many of the Grand Lodges of the country. These are truly Asylums of Love. A Divine Angel, CHARITY, presides in these creations of Masonic hearts. Our Missouri Home has never been so well grounded in the affections and faith of the Craft. As a representative of this blessed sanctuary, I send greetings to all Sister jurisdictions where

similar institutions exist. God speed the day when the lonely widows and helpless children of our fallen Brethren may all find rest, peace and comfort in these abodes of practical Masonic benevolence.

M.:W.:C. H. Briggs, Fayette, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:John D. Vincil, St. Louis, is Grand Secretary.

MONTANA, 1899.

September 20th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Helena, the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Charles W. Pomeroy, Grand Master, with all the principal grand officers, nine past grand masters, twenty grand representatives and representatives from forty-three of the forty-six subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address, the Grand Master greets his brethren and congratulates them upon the harmony and good feeling existing in their grand jurisdiction. The fraternal dead receive appropriate mention. Montana's Regiment in the Philippines, its heroic conduct in several engagements, and its members of our order, are mentioned in expression of patriotic ardor. Recommendation to send representative to the Washington centennial observance, mention of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, clandestine lodges in Ohio, and the appointment of grand representatives is made with appropriate remarks upon each matter.

The laying of the corner-stone of the state capitol building at Helena, on July 4th, 1899, according to the ancient ceremonies of the craft, when an eloquent address by Past Grand Master W. F. Sanders, was delivered, is reported, as also the laying of the corner-stone of a church at Butte, and the constituting of four newly-chartered lodges.

He urges steps towards the erection of a masonic home, and says that the ladies of the order of the Eastern Star in Montana, have made a noble beginning, and that there is a strong desire for its early establishment.

M.:W.:Brother Cornelius Hedges presented his twenty-seventh annual report. A proof of his efficiency is found in the statement that every lodge in the jurisdiction had made returns and paid its dues before the opening of the communication, that is, he had succeeded in procuring the same, for it goes without saying that no such promptness would ever exist but for the energy of the Grand Secretary. He reports "fair progress" in building up their library, which he has so earnestly fostered in the past.

The Grand Master decided that one who had his left leg amputated below the knee, and supplies the defect with an artificial foot, is not within the requirements of our craft to receive the degrees.

But the Committee on Jurisprudence refused to approve and the Grand Lodge adopted the committee's report. It says: "A candidate for the degree of Entered Apprentice should be able, physically as well as intellectually, to receive and impart all the essentials of Masonic recognition, and this the lodge may determine."

In Nebraska it has been held that, where the petitioner had lost a limb, as in the Montana case, which was supplied by the best artificial limb procurable, he was not eligible, because of the landmark requiring soundness

in body. If there is such a law binding the craft of to-day and there would seem to be no doubt that there is, the Montana Grand Lodge is wrong. In the case stated the fact, controlling is fully shown, and the Grand Master was right. If only there was some physical defect in the limb, which might, or might not interfere with the candidate's conforming to the attitudes required in the ceremonies of the degree, then it would perhaps be a question for the lodge to determine, but the case stated, is one that would result in the lodge—if it decided to proceed, doing an act forbidden by law. If the law of physical perfection is a landmark, liberally construed as it now is, it is not in the power of any man or body of men to alter or change it. No discretion exists in a lodge to violate it.

The authority relied upon by the Montana Grand Lodge, ignoring its own made in 1896, was the report of the jurisprudence committee in the Grand Lodge of Ohio in 1896, sustaining their Grand Master's plea for a disregard of the ancient charges, which Ohio, by express provision, recognize, but declare as Nebraska holds, that they apply only to making masons, i. e., to the E. A. degree. Ohio's decision, in the case followed by Montana, was clearly in violation of the express provisions of the law of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The exact question, in exactly the same language, was before the Grand Lodge of Montana in 1896, and was decided exactly the other way. In 1898 the Grand Master reported having granted a special dispensation to confer the degrees upon one with exactly the same defect, the loss of the "left leg below the knee," supplied by an artificial foot, but the lodge in balloting rejected the candidate. We wonder if the candidate is not the identical person in each instance? The worst feature in the matter is that the Grand Master's decision was in strict accord with the action of the grand lodge in 1896, and binding upon him, and this decision discredits his act without an explanation of the change about of the Grand Lodge itself, a not unheard of thing in the history of grand lodge action.

M. W. Brother Cornelius Hedges, whose reports for the Grand Chapter of Montana we have read with pleasure for years, presents the report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of fifty-seven sister grand lodges, and covering one hundred and sixty-four pages. It is a valuable contribution to the literature of freemasonry. Its opening pages were written in midwinter, "with the beginning of a new secular year." We cannot resist our desire to copy from it:

The sheeted earth is shivering under a temperature several degrees below zero, and the ominous sun-dogs indicate no relenting. It is a good time for fire-side employment. God pity the hungry and shelterless!

One year ago our peace-loving country was nearing the verge of war; how near we little knew, and perhaps but for the cowardly destruction of the Maine, would never have known. Our complete unreadiness for war is the best evidence that it was not premeditated or desired. A fatal madness seemed to have driven Spain to destruction, her cup of retribution was full to overflowing and our country was the agent commissioned by Providence for her chastisement and humiliation. Within four short months fell the heavy, well-directed blows that laid Spain prostrate and despoiled of what remained of her colonial possessions, once the envy and admiration of the world. Our flag now floats not only over Cuba and Porto Rico, the last

relies of a western empire, but over an insular empire in the far East nearly equal in area and richer in resources than Japan.

This means much not only for our country, but for Masonry as well. Under the cruel and bigoted rule of Spain, men were tortured and shot in Cuba and the Philippines for being Free-masons. Under a very clear dispensation of Providence, Masonry will flourish wherever the flag of our own country floats, and it will be Free-masonry that worships and serves one only living and true God, and regards men of all races as His children and deserving of brotherly consideration.

To show how men disagree, we quote, first, what Brother Hedges says of Brother Upton of Washington, in reference to the question of Negro Masonry:

Brother William H. Upton, the author of the report on Negro Masonry, was elected Grand Master, and if any one can maintain the position taken on this question, he can, for there is no better informed and more fully equipped champion of any cause which he may espouse.

And now, secondly, Brother Drummond says of Brother Upton:

The mistake of the Grand Lodge of Washington is all the more remarkable, as it is the result of the antics of one man, not yet ten years a mason, for whom the utmost that masonic charity can say, is that while he has scarcely a superficial knowledge of the principles, laws and usages of masonry, *he really thinks he knows them all*, and holds that the founders of Masonry in America and of our system of Grand Lodges and their successors in the past, such as Moore, Mackey, Lewis, Millen, Vaux, Fellows and others, went to their graves not only in ignorance, but with false views of the laws and usages of Masonry, and especially those regulating the relations of Grand Lodges to the whole body of the craft and to each other. We doubt whether there can be found in history another so signal illustration of the truth, that "a little learning is a dangerous thing."

M.:W.:Anthony Barret, Butte, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:Cornelius Hedges, Helena, is Grand Secretary.

NEVADA, 1899.

June 13th at Masonic Hall, in Virginia City, the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: Matthew Kyle, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, seven past grand officers and representatives from sixteen of the twenty subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address the Grand Master reports that:

A review of the returns from the various Constituent Lodges shows a slight decrease in numbers, but Masonry is not measured by numbers. It is the innate strength of the individual Mason, his work in the community, and his standing as a man, that measures the worth of our glorious Fraternity. My observation of the ever constant influence of Masonry has convinced me that when a man becomes a Mason he becomes a better man, and if I have any injunction to give the Brethren it is to exhort them to conform with earnestness to the teachings of Masonry. A faithful reliance upon its precepts will aid us in every battle and encourage us in our struggle for higher ideals.

That the officers and members of all the Lodges in our Jurisdiction are endowed with the true spirit of Masonic fellowship, I am more than convinced by my travels among them.

The mission of the Mason is to help his Brother in all laudable undertakings, and not to let private pique interfere with his judgment; and such, I am happy to say, has been the distinguishing trait of a vast majority of our members.

He had exchanged grand representatives, thirty of whom from sister grand lodges, near their own, were, during subsequent proceedings, introduced and received.

He reviewed at length the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington with reference to Negro Masonry, but as that subject is sufficiently noted elsewhere in this report further discussion is not here necessary further than to say that the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Nevada are in accord with all the Grand Masters and grand lodges in the United States outside of Washington.

The members enjoyed it, and :

On motion of M. W. M. A. Murphy, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to Argenta Chapter No. 156, O. E. S., for the entertainment and banquet tendered to the members of the Grand Lodge last evening, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to so notify the Worthy Matron, Mrs. L. B. Talbot.

W. Brother A. D. Bird presents the report on correspondence, covering ninety-five pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-nine sister grand lodges. Nebraska, 1898, receives generous fraternal notice.

He was sadly mixed on the Washington Negro Masonry problem and his troubles can be no better described than in his own language :

The Committee on the Negro Masonry question gave their report and the resolutions as proposed were adopted. This Report we give in another part of our Review.

A re-consideration of the adoption was lost. Brother Upton has given a Report which to those like the writer, not acquainted with Masonic History, not versed in its laws and traditions, seems overwhelmingly convincing, and we are praising our talented Brother for having righted a great wrong done the colored people.

Recently in the writer's immediate vicinity a case was called in the Justice of Peace Court and a trial juror being questioned as to qualifications as a juror, replied to the question, "Do you think you would be a suitable juror to try this case?" "No, sir." "For what reason do you think you would not be suitable." "Because I don't know a blamed thing about it."

We are in the same boat. We didn't know anything about it. We read Brother Upton's Report. In our own mind we praised and accepted it. We then read the other Reports touching the question, the history of the question, all we have to hand. From this study we believe Brother Upton has erred in his conclusions and deductions.

We believe he is honest in his convictions, but we believe if the results of the research and light of other great and noted Masonic writers was properly presented to the Grand Lodge of Washington they would see the matter in a different light. As Americans we all swear by the flag. As Masons I've no doubt that Maine swears by Drummond, Maryland by Schultz and Washington by Upton, and so on. Had I been a member of the Grand Lodge of Washington when that Report was adopted, my vote would surely have been aye. I believe in the giving of friendly advice and the counseling of the danger that lies ahead, should our sister Jurisdiction still continue to believe that Brother Upton's convictions are the only true and just ones.

The Grand Lodge of Nevada passed resolutions upon the subject, which have the true Masonic ring of pure metal in them, and by a vote lacking only *one* of being unanimous.

M.:W.:John M. McCormack, Reno, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Chauncey N. Noteware, Carson City, is Grand Secretary.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 1899.

August 22nd, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Saint John, the Thirty-second Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Thomas Walker, Grand Master, with all the grand officers except the senior grand deacon, three past grand masters, twenty-seven grand representatives, and representatives from twenty of the thirty-two subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A cordial greeting and warm welcome opens the annual address of the Grand Master. The fraternal dead are remembered, and of them words of kind eulogy are recorded. His glowing account of visits to his lodges evidences a zeal and earnestness in the performance of duty that must have wrought good to the craft wherever he went. A visit to the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and a discussion of the proposition to unite the two grand lodges is recorded, but without a direct recommendation to that end. The appointment of grand representatives and the adjustment of relations with sister grand lodges had been carefully attended to. He gives an account of attendance upon divine service, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge, where the craft of the city, escorted by a commandery of knight templars, gathered at St. Paul's Church, Saint John, Sunday, June 25th, it being the Sunday nearest the Feast of St. John the Baptist.

From the report of the board of general purposes, we extract :

It is undoubtedly true that the suspension of members for non-payment of dues occasions a decreased membership, and is a matter that very seriously affects the welfare of the Craft, but the Board are convinced that a more regular and faithful performance of duties by Secretaries of Lodges would largely overcome the difficulty. Members are too often allowed to fall several years in arrears, and then their payment is a matter which they are constrained to avoid.

As to the question of demitting and demitted members, we know this branch of the subject has engaged the serious attention of other Grand Bodies, and is admitted to be an exceedingly difficult matter to successfully grapple with.

It has been the experience of the members of the Board that as a rule Past Masters do not lose their interest in their Mother Lodges. Whenever official visitations have been made to the various Lodges, Past Masters have been found to be some of the most active and energetic of their members. In addition to this the Board emphasize the fact that the average attendance of our Grand Lodge compares exceedingly favorably with that of other Grand Lodges, and our returns show that nearly eighty-five per cent. of the members in attendance were Past Masters.

An effort is being made to unite the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, known as, the Maritime Provinces, and a committee, to confer with like committees from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, was recommended and appointed.

There is no report on correspondence.

M.:W.:James Gordon Forbes, St. John, is Grand Master.

V.:W.:J. Twining Hart, St. John, is Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1899.

May 17th at Freemasons Hall, in the city of Concord, the One Hundred and Tenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:John McLane with all the principal grand officers, twenty-seven past grand officers, twenty-three grand representatives and representatives from forty-five of the seventy-eight subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A Semi-annual Communication had been held on December 28th, preceding, at Freemasons Hall in the city of Manchester, at which the work of conferring the degrees was rendered by three subordinate lodges, at which all of the grand officers, twenty-four past grand officers, twenty-four grand representatives and representatives from fifty-nine of the subordinate lodges, were in attendance.

At the Annual Communication the Grand Master, in his annual address extended a cordial welcome and a hearty greeting, congratulating his brethren upon the strong and prosperous condition of freemasonry and its increasing power in his grand jurisdiction, predicting "still greater progress in moral and spiritual growth." Generous tribute, he paid, to the memory of the illustrious dead of his jurisdiction.

He had granted special dispensations to confer degrees in less than the constitutional time; to hold meetings in a hall which had not been dedicated to freemasonry; to appear in public with masonic clothing at the dedication of a masonic temple; to attend centennial celebration; to thirteen lodges to publicly install their officers and to five lodges to attend church services in masonic clothing.

He dedicated, he says, with appropriate ceremonies, a beautiful new masonic temple, no single lodge in the state having one as elegant and beautiful in design or as rich and costly in workmanship, the gift of a past master of the lodge, Hon. David A. Gregg, of Nashua, a native of Willon, where it is situated. He constituted one new lodge and reports two interesting decisions:

Question: Can Kane Lodge, No. 64, now confer the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, notwithstanding the fact that they had given permission for Evening Star Lodge to confer them? *

Answer: Kane Lodge, No. 64, can confer the degrees if they so desire.

A Lodge at a stated communication voted to grant a dimit to a brother who had made application therefor. Before the Lodge had closed it was discovered that the charter was not in the Lodge-room. Some year or two after the contention was made that the charter not being present in the Lodge-room when the dimit was granted the dimit was illegal and void, and that the brother was still a member of the Lodge, notwithstanding the fact that his name had been dropped from the books and he had not paid dues.

It is an old and well-understood masonic law "that the charter must be present at the opening," but to hold that action of the Lodge, otherwise all right, upon such a matter as granting a dimit is void unless the charter is in the Lodge-room at the time, is a very narrow interpretation of the law

governing this subject. The charter is the evidence of authority to assemble and work and should always be present, but if by accident it happens to be locked up in a safe in the ante-room, or at the home of the Master, to contend that all business transacted at a communication held under such circumstances is illegal would lead to complications that would be very troublesome. If there was any question as to the existence of the charter it would be a very different matter, but admitting that the Lodge has a charter, the mere matter of its being in the Lodge-room all the time is not in my opinion important.

He reported the happy fact that the masons of Manchester had purchased and paid for a lot of land for a masonic home, and that considerable sums of money had been subscribed by masons and lodges throughout the state for the purpose of building the home and recommended the project to the liberal consideration of his brethren.

He devoted considerable attention to the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington with reference to Negro Masonry, deeply deploring it and expressing views in accord with the general view taken of the matter. The district deputy grand master system is in vogue in New Hampshire and the reports of these officers show that great good results from the systematic labors of these faithful officers.

An amendment to the constitution, was adopted, providing :

That Section 2, Article 2, be amended by adding the following: And any brother who shall have served as an officer or on any standing committee of this Grand Lodge for ten years consecutively may be elected to permanent membership.

A quite exhaustive discussion of a proposed change in the trial of cases from the lodge trial plan, in general use, to one by a commission, is found in a report written by Brother Joseph W. Fellows. The report is an able one, disclosing a comprehensive view of the subject, and favorable to the change with suggestions of the amendments of the constitution and code necessary to the adoption of the plan.

The reports of the standing and special committees show careful and painstaking care in the preparation, facilitating intelligent action in the Grand Lodge. Negro Masonry, of course, was considered upon the report of a committee, but final action was postponed until the next annual communication, practically in accord with our own action in Nebraska.

Brother Fellows proposed the following amendment to the constitution:

SECTION 129. Whenever a member of a Lodge, or a brother under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of any offence, which, if proved, would subject him to expulsion or suspension from the rights and privileges of masonry, he shall have a fair and impartial trial and the proceeding in the premises shall be conducted substantially as follows :

The Grand Master shall appoint a board of five members of the Grand Lodge, to be styled Commissioners on Trials, but in case of disqualification of any member to sit, he may in his discretion make special appointment for the trial of any given case.

The Commissioners on Trials shall have jurisdiction of all offences except non-payment of dues.

The first named of said Commissioners shall be the chairman thereof, and three members shall constitute a quorum. The Commissioners shall appoint one of their number Secretary, who shall discharge the usual

duties appertaining to such office, and such other duties as may be required.

The chairman shall hold office for a term of five years; the next person named in order, four years; the next, three years; the next, two years, and the next, one year. At the expiration of the term of office of each Commissioner respectively, the vacancy so caused shall be filled by the Grand Master, and the appointee shall hold office for a term of five years. In the absence of the chairman, the next in order shall serve in his stead.

This proposed amendment with proposed rules for the conducting of trials, goes over to the next annual communication for final action, we judge, as they were not acted upon.

Brother A. S. Wait, whose reports for the grand chapter, we have read and reviewed with much pleasure, writes the report on correspondence covering one hundred and forty-three pages and reviewing the proceedings, in his very able manner, of fifty-five sister grand lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them. Under Wisconsin, 1898, we find a record of the curious antics of some of our Badger friends, with their Grand Master's more reasonable views :

The Grand Master had received several communications making complaints because of the Order of the Eastern Star being permitted to occupy Lodge rooms. He gives his answer to one of these, wherein, advising that if any respectable number of members were dissatisfied at such occupancy, they present their objections to the Grand Lodge, he proceeds :

The Order of the Eastern Star seems to have come to Wisconsin to stay and if not permitted to use Masonic Halls they will probably find some other places to hold their meetings. While not a member of the Order myself, I have no special objection to permitting Masons' wives and daughters occasionally occupying our apartments for purposes not in conflict with Masonic teachings. If our Lodge rooms are too sacred for our wives and daughters to sometimes cross the threshold and discover their shape they must in sacredness exceed the Temples erected for the worship of the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Each Lodge, however, has a right to decide for itself, subject to the approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, as to what institutions shall be permitted to occupy their apartments.

The committee to whom the address was referred reported that the Grand Master had disposed of the question, and recommended that it be dismissed, which was done.

The Grand Master of Texas decided that in the trial of an accused, a witness who is a member of another lodge cannot sit in the trial lodge to testify over the objections of a member of the lodge, but his testimony must be taken by a committee or by deposition in the manner provided by law. To which Bro. Wait thus justly demurs :

We do not ourselves assent to the decision numbered 7. It seems to us a most unreasonable thing, where a Lodge has occasion for the presence as a witness of a member of another Lodge, that a member of the Lodge calling him should have the right to exclude him. It is bad enough, to our thinking, that on ordinary occasions a member should be allowed the right peremptorily to exclude a member of another Lodge from the privilege of visiting. In this case the brother was not seeking the privilege of visitation, but the Lodge was asking his attendance for its own purposes. To hold that the Lodge in such a case must be subject to the individual will of a single member seems to us carrying the rule, if rule it is, to the point of absurdity.

Under Maine, 1898, we find him according, as is justly due, to Brother Drummond, great ability as a masonic writer and jurist, but these two brothers do not agree, we find, upon every question that arises in grand lodges, more than they do in their Grand Chapter reports. The entertainment afforded the rest of us, and their readers generally, however, is always instructive.

Companion Wait discusses with vigor all the matters coming under his review and we dislike to turn away from it, but our limit will not allow a further tarry.

M.:W.:John McLane, Milford, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:George P. Cleaves, Concord, is Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY 1899.

January 25th, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, the One Hundred and Twelfth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Josiah W. Ewan, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, ten district deputy grand masters, ten past grand masters, forty-six grand representatives, and representatives from one hundred and sixty-three of the one hundred and sixty-eight subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A sincere welcome to his brethren, opens the annual address of the Grand Master. To the God of Battles, he ascribes our victory, in the War with Spain, for humanity.

Death had not entered the ranks of the grand officers and past grand officers during the year, but not less than forty-one past masters had been called from labor on earth to refreshment in the celestial lodge, and a fraternal record, the Grand Master contributes to the memory of each. With the names of their own dead, he records those of sister grand lodges, fraternally and reverently lay wreaths of respect upon their graves.

Frequent correspondence and association with his most worshipful brethren, the Grand Master of New York on the one hand, and the Grand Master of Pennsylvania on the other, had marked the past year, and the Grand Master expresses his delight thereat.

He had laid the corner-stone of the new post office building in Paterson, at the request of brother Garret A. Hobart, late Vice-President of the United States, and the occasion was made memorable by the presence of a large throng of brethren, who were addressed by distinguished and eloquent speakers.

The following is, in part, his account of a yet more important occasion :

An important epoch in New Jersey Masonry was marked on the 24th day of June last, St. John the Baptist's Day, when it was my distinguished privilege and great honor, assisted by my Associate and Subordinate Grand Officers, to dedicate the Masonic Home of New Jersey to the purposes of Free Masonry, Virtue and Masonic Charity.

This event, which was especially authorized by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, was witnessed by an audience of Masons, their wives and friends, variously estimated at from 10,000 to 12,000, who had journeyed from nearly every part of our State to participate in this great occasion.

From our Sister Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania came R. W. William J. Kelly, Grand Master, accompanied by several of his Associate and Subord-

inate Grand Officers, and nearly the entire Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Masonic Home.

From New York came M. W. John Stewart, P. G. M., together with many distinguished visitors from our own and neighboring Jurisdictions. The day was a typical June day.

The thousands of visitors were delighted with the Home and its beautiful surroundings.

To aid in the work of building the home, the grand lodge, had, at a former session, levied an assessment of \$2.00 per capita, and each and every lodge in the grand jurisdiction has paid the same.

He reports having granted a very large number of special dispensations. This old jurisdiction maintains the prerogatives of the Grand Master, whereon in some jurisdictions, new lights have appeared, as in New Mexico where it is declared the Grand Master shall have no power to suspend the operation of any by-law of the grand lodge, forgetting that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to alter or change the landmarks, which recognizes prerogatives as pertaining to the office of the Grand Master.

Owing to the strictness of New Jersey as to the physical qualifications of candidates for freemasonry, many have sought for and obtained waiver of jurisdiction by subordinate lodges, and have been made masons in a sister jurisdiction. These brethren are sometimes welcome visitors in the New Jersey lodges, whereat the Grand Master, speaking of one of these cases says :

I have in mind a young man, who could not, by reason of a physical defect, join a New Jersey Lodge. He was granted a waiver, and subsequently joined a Lodge in a Sister Jurisdiction, and is a frequent and welcome visitor to the Lodges in the city of New Jersey in which he resided.

I have been expecting to be asked whether he could affiliate with a New Jersey Lodge on dimit, and if not, why not.

Our Sister Jurisdiction has been benefited by his initiation fees and dues. He is a Mason in good standing, and associates with us as such. It may well be asked why the Grand Lodge of New Jersey will permit a man be made a Mason in a Sister Jurisdiction whom it will not allow to be made in its own. I will venture a decision: Applicants for waiver of Jurisdiction must possess the same physical qualifications as required by those applying to a Lodge of this Jurisdiction, and their eligibility determined in the same manner.

The Grand Master's report shows that he did much visiting among the lodges and that he devoted much time to the discharge of his duties to the craft. His concluding remarks show the kind of a mason he is :

My ideal of Masonry is high, perhaps to some too high, but I would raise it still higher, and higher, so that when a person wished to become a member of the Fraternity it would be because he truly desired knowledge that he might be of service to his fellow-creatures, and when he became a member that the world would know that he was one to whom the burdened heart might pour out its sorrows; to whom distress might prefer its suit, whose hand was guided by justice, and whose heart was expanded by benevolence.

The reports of the grand secretary, the committee on masonic home, and that of the grand treasurer, each, show a careful attention to duty,

and together they present a basis for an intelligent planning of future work, which the grand lodge took up with earnest endeavor for the good of the fraternity in their jurisdiction. All the work of the committee was carefully considered and acted upon with commendable zeal.

It was decided that a mason unaffiliated for more than six months cannot be admitted to visit a lodge in that jurisdiction; that every affiliate with a lodge, who was not a member of a lodge in that jurisdiction on the first day of January, 1897, shall upon affiliation pay a fee of \$2.00 for the permanent fund of the masonic home, in the same manner as initiates; that the dispensations and permissions granted and denied by the Grand Master are recognized as being within his prerogative, and no action on the part of the grand lodge is required.

This, we understand is also the position of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, not usual, but doubtless in more complete harmony with ancient custom and landmarks.

R.:W.:Brother Jacob Ringle, was recognized, and said :

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER—Allow me to present to this M. W. Grand Lodge, this stone. I took the stone out of the quarries of King Solomon, on Mt. Moriah, Jerusalem, the place where the temple of Solomon was erected, where our ancient brethren wrought, and where the stones of that ancient and ever-memorable edifice were hewn, squared and numbered, and where also our ancient brethren received their wages, consisting of corn, wine and oil.

I hope, Most Worshipful Sir, that you will accept this stone in the name of the Grand Lodge, not for its intrinsic worth or value, but that it may be preserved in the archives of the Grand Lodge for all time, as a token of my good will toward the fraternity, and that it may be placed on the Grand Master's trestle-board on all future communications of this Grand Lodge.

A rising vote of thanks was recorded, and doubtless the stone will be put to its intended use.

M.:W.:Josiah W. Ewan, was re-elected and installed.

Brother George B. Edwards, presented the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and eighty-eight pages, and reviewing the proceedings of sixty-two sister grand lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them.

From his discussion of Negro Masonry, in reviewing Washington, 1898, we extract the following as of especial interest, because of the concise way it is put :

That the report of the Special Committee of the Grand Lodge of Washington, composed of the Grand Secretary, the present Grand Master and one other, was deliberately considered, the consequences thereon carefully weighed, the plan of action matured and the localized objective purpose attained, may be deduced from the following :

By the length of time at the disposal of the committee which prepared the document—one year; by the voluntary extension of the subject under the title of "Negro Masonry," the presentation having been no other than a letter from two petitioners, representing no other interests than themselves, to "devise some way whereby we (the writers of the letter), as true and trusty Masons, having been regularly initiated, passed and raised, can be brought into communication with, and enjoy the fraternal confidence of the members of the Craft in this State," wherefrom the committee begged the whole question; by the one-sided "sovereignty" to which reference has

been made, contained in the address of the Grand Master; by the rescinding of the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg and the Grand Orient of France, on the previous day of the same Grand Communication; by the final recognition and refusal to reconsider. These display the animus, premeditatedness of the issue.

In this recognition as Masons of those held for a century as clandestine, and in the attempt to graft upon that status regularity, the regularity of the promoters has been debased, the sanctity of jurisdiction violated and the zone of sovereign chastity polluted.

Commenting upon the adoption by the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, of the distinctive colored apron, viz., blue and gold, he remarks: "Without envy at this distinction, can the wearing of such an apron add a single dignity beyond that conferred by the plain lambskin or white leather apron, the emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason?"

Under Ohio, 1898, in reviewing the report of the Grand Master, we find what we most heartily approve as the implied opinion of Bro. Edwards :

An application to hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing one who had been holding his dimit for fourteen years, who was on his death-bed and wanted to affiliate in order that he "might die a Mason," received for answer: "The present Grand Master is not a firm believer in death-bed repentance." Evidently not present at the crucifixion.

Unless there is some regulation to the contrary, it is difficult to see how the deceased Brother did not "die a Mason," but it is unnecessary to quote Masonic law to Saint Peter. He is a law unto himself, has a jurisdiction of his own, and may have regulations other than general, covering special cases.

Commenting upon our case of Square and Compass Lodge No. 213, against Compass and Square Lodge No. 212, he, with fine sense of the ludicrous remarks :

Borrowing the fine from the Judge! Don't laugh! If a necessity, a silent chuckle—at the inverted incidents, of course. Numerical neighbors, twin names, reverse, perverse, insistent, persistent.

M.:W.:Josiah W. Ewan, Mt. Holly, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Thos. H. R. Redway, Trenton, is Grand Secretary.

NEW MEXICO, 1899.

October 2nd, in the hall of Temple Lodge No. 6, in the city of Albuquerque, the Twenty-second Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by Deputy Grand Master Elias E. Day, because of the unavoidable absence of M.:W.:Robert C. Steward, Grand Master; three other grand officers were also absent. There were in attendance, the other grand officers, some of the past grand officers, eleven grand representatives, and representatives from thirteen of the twenty subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's annual address was read by the Deputy Grand Master. From it we learn that he had granted sixteen special dispensations during the year. He also refused to grant one special dispensation, giving as his reason—although he regarded it a meritorious case and recommended that the Grand Lodge grant it—that the Grand Master has no power to suspend any by-law of the Grand Lodge. What we wonder at, is that he granted the sixteen. He reports four decisions, one of which is as follows:

No. 2. "Would you kindly inform me as to how far or how much knowledge is necessary for a proficiency lecture—whether a person having the sense and idea of the lecture and the obligation was enough, or whether he should have word for word?"

Answer. "Proficient in the lectures" I take to mean the ability to prove oneself a Mason beyond doubt, whether letter and word perfect or not, this perfection of course is desirable for the benefit of the brother and the Lodge, but I do not deem it *absolutely* necessary. If a brother having, as you say, "the sense and idea of the lecture and the obligation," and had besides a deep impression of the seriousness and imperative demands of his Masonic duties and obligations, I certainly would hold him "proficient."

If the examination contemplated in this decision, is for advancement, we think it a very loose rule. "A deep impression of the seriousness and imperative demands of his Masonic duties and obligations," can hardly take the place of a knowledge of the lectures, which a candidate for advancement should commit.

"A deep impression of the seriousness and imperative demands of his Masonic duties," we think must have been weighing upon the Grand Master in deciding the following:

A Worshipful Master asked the following question:

"The Eastern Star" here had advertised an entertainment for last Saturday night, and I was informed were selling tickets to Masons, also to outsiders, the entertainment to be held in our Lodge room, and consisting of dialogues, singing, recitations, etc., etc. I learned of this only the day prior to the date set, and after consulting several of our members here, I concluded they could not hold the entertainment unless I had your consent. I wrote you that night setting forth the facts, and asking you to wire me your decision, you being out of town, I got no reply, and acting on the advice and judgment of several of our best informed members, I refused to let the affair take place as proposed.

"Kindly let me know if I acted right in the premises."

To this I replied:

"I congratulate you upon your action in the premises, for while you permit the 'Order of the Eastern Star' to hold meetings and do its work in your Lodge room, you can not permit *any one* to use a dedicated and consecrated Lodge room for purposes outside of its legitimate uses, nor can the Grand Master grant this by dispensation."

Brethren, Masonic Halls are sacred places where we practice and teach the sublime science of Masonry, they should be jealously guarded and, while the entertainment alluded to would have proved innocent enough, yet it would have been only the entering in of those things that might cause some to regard all too lightly the place that is holy ground.

The Chapter of the Eastern Star mentioned, addressed a communication to me, requesting me to appoint a day on which to meet a representative which they would send to consult with me as to whether it was Masonic or un-Masonic for them to have given the entertainment in the Lodge room.

To which I replied:

"It will not be necessary for your chapter to send a representative to consult with me upon the matter in question, for *all* the acts of your chapter *must* be held by me as 'un-Masonic,' as the chapter does not owe its existence to and is not recognized as a 'Masonic' body by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Mexico."

And this is what he did in the way of laying corner-stones:

On August 29th, 1899, I deputed Right Worshipful Brother E. S. Stover, our Grand Senior Warden, to lay the corner-stone of Temple Albert, the Jewish Synagogue in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I submit his report herewith and extend my Right Worshipful Brother my hearty thanks for his cheerful acceptance of the duty laid upon him, and my congratulations upon the very successful performance of the work.

He visited four lodges and "found them doing good work, generally at ease financially, with peace and harmony prevailing."

To look after their twenty lodges they have eight district deputy grand masters, and the Grand Master reports having received reports from all of them, and he says some of their lodges need the fostering care of the grand lodge.

The grand secretary presents a brief, but good report, concisely stating the business of his office for the year.

The grand lecturer, owing to absence from the territory, and subsequent affliction in his family, was unable to visit all the lodges as he had intended doing, yet he visited and instructed four lodges and gave private instructions to individuals, presumably masters of lodges.

The grand lodge approved all the four decisions, and may be said to be "on all fours" with the Grand Master, and the committee, reporting on the matter, heartily endorse the Grand Master in every particular as to the Eastern Star matter. Poor Stars!

Brother Max Frost was not present, but he wrote the report on correspondence covering ninety-four pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-three sister grand lodges, Nebraska, 1898, among them. The condition of the saloon question in New Mexico, is seen by what he says under Washington:

The liquor question seems to have bothered the Grand Master considerably; he made three decisions, which, however, are not exactly in harmony with each other. In the Jurisdiction in New Mexico we have not been bothered very much with this question; the sentiment of the New Mexico Grand Lodge is that petitions from persons selling liquor as a beverage or keeping saloons, should not be favorably considered. This sentiment prevails and of late years no such petitions have been received and acted upon favorably. It is true, that there are a few members of the Fraternity who are in the saloon business in New Mexico but their number is becoming rapidly less and there is no trouble concerning the subject. In a few years it will settle itself without friction and without harsh measures.

Friction with the saloon keepers should be avoided, but with the ladies of the Eastern Star, it does not matter so much.

M.:W.:Elias E. Day, Las Cruces, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:Brother Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque, is Grand Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES, 1899.

Several quarterly and special convocations had been held, and on July 24th a communication of more than ordinary interest was held in Masonic Hall, in the city of Sidney, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, Grand Master. Congratulatory messages were received; one, dated London, July 21st, from Earl Carrington and the Earl of Jersey; one from the private secretary of Lord Brassey, Governor of Victoria; one from the Bishop of Bathurst, Grand Chaplain; and others from the Grand Lodges of South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania, New

Zealand and the District Grand Lodge (S. C.) Queensland. Apologies were also received from Chief Justice Dusley and other distinguished members of the craft.

The new Grand Master-elect, Brother John Cochrane Remington, was duly installed Grand Master, who in turn installed his grand officers.

There were present thirty-eight grand representatives of sister grand lodges, residing near that grand lodge.

The new Grand Master delivered an inaugural address, full of matter of great moment to freemasons in his grand jurisdiction. From it we extract:

Furthermore, our various funds are in a state of prosperity. There was a time, after the crisis in 1893, when Freemasonry, like other institutions of our Colony, suffered from the effects of the financial panic. Our income fell suddenly; our outlay increased; there were several special and unprecedented expenses thrust upon us; and the lay-by, if any, was small. I hope we have arrived at the end of that state of things.

Our Benevolent Fund amounts to £6,200, and disburses every year between £1,100 and £1,200 in relief of deserving applicants. None such is ever refused, although Masonry is not a benefit society, and much of our charity is bestowed upon brethren who never contributed one penny to the funds of our Grand Lodge. That they are masons, and in distress, is the only qualification which guards our system of relief, the total of which during the past eleven years has amounted to over £12,200.

The Grand Lodge Fund, from which are defrayed our ordinary working expenses—no light matter when the affairs of 185 lodges throughout New South Wales are under control; and which has also been made available for the relief of distress caused by great catastrophes of flood, fire, or shipwreck; now amounts to over £3,200.

Our oldest collateral charity, the Freemasons' Orphan Society, supports 17 children of deceased masons, and has funds amounting to over £22,000. Our youngest, the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, has now on its books 23 annuitants, aged and distressed masons, their wives, or widows; and holds invested over £5,000, added to every year by the voluntary subscriptions of the fraternity, and, I am bound to say, the generous support of the public to our Annual Festival, which next Thursday will, I hope, yield a return at least equal to that of former years.

R. W. John B. Trivett, Deputy Grand Master, presents the report on correspondence, covering eighty-five pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Lodges.

Replying to Brother Greenleaf, of Colorado, he says:

The principal questions under discussion are said to be Physical qualification and Non-payment of dues. Of the former it is essential to enquire into the symbolical significance of the requirement, and to ascertain whether it is not based on the old Jewish law of perfection, and as such handed down to us with other similar requirements as a part of our esotery. As an old landmark, it behoves all true masons to guard vigilantly the structure of the centuries, and to see that none of its foundation-stones are disturbed. With regard to the latter trouble, it is said that all punitive legislation by American Grand Lodges has proved a failure, and that it is not pleasant to contemplate the spectacle of 19,000 members turned adrift annually for non-payment of dues. A return to the old practice of simply dropping from the roll, without trial, those delinquent for two years, and permitting them to reinstate themselves upon payment of dues, is recommended; persuasion, leniency, and fair treatment are better than the severe disciplinary measures which have been engrafted upon masonry.

We are glad to note the treatment advised; the trouble is one that affects us likewise, as the summons to appear and show cause is frequently, as has been observed, none other than to appear and to show poverty. Our practice is to allow the lodges to deal leniently with a brother desiring to retain connection with his lodge, and to compromise the matter of arrears of dues by accepting a portion in full discharge and then reinstating him to full membership.

M.:W.:John Cochrane Remington, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:William C. Shipway, is Grand Registrar, and R.:W.:Arthur H. Bray, is Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK, 1899.

June 6th, at Masonic Hall, in the city of New York, the One Hundred and Eighteenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened with all the grand officers, seventeen past grand officers, fifty-eight grand representatives, and representatives from seven hundred and thirty three of the seven hundred and forty-five subordinate lodges, in attendance.

From the annual address of the Grand Master M.:W.:Wm. A. Sutherland, we extract:

We are assembled in constitutional manner in the One Hundred and Eighteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York. Grave duties are imposed upon each of us in the discharge of legislative, executive, and judicial functions.

In obedience to the Constitution the officers of the Grand Lodge present accounts of their stewardship. These reports show disbursements by the Grand Treasurer amounting to \$77,648.48, leaving a balance in his hands on this date of \$48,298.90. The Trustees of the Hall and Asylum report disbursements in support of the 250 inmates of the Home, and permanent improvements, \$61,557.46, and general expenses amounting to \$3,045.72, with a balance of cash on hand amounting to \$7,919.84, with a reserve fund amounting to \$198,605.38 nearly all invested in bond and mortgages. The Trustees of the Permanent Fund show a balance of \$77,586.19. The aggregate of the funds and investments in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund, and the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, amounts to \$332,410.31.

In the building and equipment of our Home at Utica we have already expended upwards of \$375,000.00, and the Temple in which we are now assembled, though not adequate nor wholly suitable to the uses of the Craft, was, when built, ample and convenient for the requirements of that day. This building, including the site, reasonably valued at \$1,500,000, brings our entire possessions up to a total of over \$2,200,000.

Eloquent tribute is paid to the memory of the fraternal dead, with extended remarks as to the most distinguished.

A subordinate lodge sought a waiver of jurisdiction from a New Jersey lodge over a candidate. After investigation the Grand Master directed the Deputy Grand Master for that district to prefer charges against the master and secretary and later against their other members, active participants in the illegal transaction, these were all convicted. The charter of the lodge was arrested, the master and secretary were each suspended from membership, the master for three years and the secretary for one

year, two of the others were suspended from the rights and privileges of masonry for three years each and the third to reprimand, each to pay costs of trial. After which being satisfied from thorough examination that the other members of the lodge were not in any way to blame he restored the charter.

As a matter of interest to those who enjoy knowing how much our fraternity has contributed to the upbuilding of liberty, we extract what he says:

While giving every assistance within my power to our Grand Historian, who is attempting to compile a list of Free Masons hailing from New York who have served our country in the War of the Revolution, the War of 1812, the War with Mexico, and the Civil War, I deemed it wise to save the future Historian similar labor with reference to our War with Spain. Free Masons were distinctly charged in the Spanish newspapers with having incited war between the two countries, and while as an organized body we may truthfully deny the charge, yet it cannot be overlooked that Free Masons as individuals, and the lessons inculcated and the impressions received in Masonic Lodges, made themselves felt in arousing that sluggish giant, public opinion, in behalf of those oppressed by Spain. The Hon. EDMOND H. DRIGGS, member of Congress from the Third District of New York, and a member of Montauk Lodge, No. 286, in conversation with me the evening of the dedication of Kings County Lodge, November 28th last, informed me that the consideration of the proposition by Congress to appropriate \$50,000,000 to the prosecution of the war was mainly in the hands of members of the Craft; that the time given to the representatives of the Republican and Democratic parties was controlled by Masons, and that 62 out of the 79 speeches delivered that day in favor of the appropriation fell from the lips of sincere and devoted members of the Craft.

Moved by sentiments which these considerations naturally excite, I determined that a roster of the Craftsmen from New York participating in this war should be prepared while the information was readily accessible. Accordingly, on the 20th of September last I issued an encyclical, herewith submitted, appointing Captain ELBERT O. SMITH, Past Master of Excelsior Lodge, No. 195; R. W.: WILBUR M. COMBS, Past Deputy of the Grand Master for the Eleventh Masonic District, and Worshipful JAMES MCGEE, Past Master of Chancellor Walworth Lodge, No. 271, a special committee to collect the information, prepare the roster, and to report to this Grand Lodge, Wednesday afternoon, June 7th, at 3 o'clock.

This committee has been most industrious and painstaking, and is justly entitled to warmest praise at the hands of the Grand Lodge.

An extended report of the successful conducting of the Masonic Home at Utica under the supervision of Past Master Jesse B. Anthony, makes interesting reading and discloses a work of which our brethren in New York may well be proud of.

An interesting report from the Committee on Antiquities, shows that great pains have been taken to collect and preserve things of historic interest to the craft, carefully printed lists of which are preserved in their library.

A most interesting report is presented by the R. W.: Peter Ross, Historian, who includes a civil war roster of brethren engaged in that conflict and has collected records already, of about one hundred of the many hundreds named.

Information is being collected as fast as possible to perfect the rolls of

their brethren who participated in the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812.

The question raised by the edict of Grand Master Dam of the Grand Lodge of Peru, in discarding the Bible from the altar, as to whether it was a violation of a landmark, involves grounds upon which there is a difference of opinion, although all, of course, condemn the act, and all rejoice that his Grand Lodge elected a worthier brother, who at once restored the Bible to its proper place. As containing a quite correct view, we extract from resolutions adopted:

The position of the Grand Lodge of New York upon the question evolved by the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru was most forcibly presented by M.:W.:BROTHER SUTHERLAND in the edict promulgated by him, severing official relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru, for the unlawful act of discarding the Holy Bible from the Masonic altars of the Lodges of that jurisdiction.

We do not consider that we can add anything to the presentation therein made, but nevertheless we incline to the opinion that we voice the sentiments of the Craft in the general statement that, the requirement of a Great Light as part of the furniture of a Lodge is universal equally with the belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, and in all Christian countries where the Holy Bible is recognized as "the safe, sure, and infallible rule and guide of faith and the basis of our moral teachings," its prerequisite as an essential cannot be gainsaid.

Hence when the United Grand Lodge of England, upon information of this violation of Masonic usage—on June 1, 1898—ordered a severance of official relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru, we were pleased that the Mother Grand Lodge thus promptly and unequivocally indicated its jealous regard for the maintenance of the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft.

An interesting report is made by a committee on Cuban relief, which had been authorized to expend \$5,000 appropriated the year before.

M.:W.:Brother Jesse B. Anthony presents the report on correspondence covering two hundred and fourteen pages and reviewing the proceedings of forty-nine sister Grand Lodges in the United States and seven in the Dominion of Canada, with brief reference to the proceedings of twenty-five foreign Masonic bodies.

Under Wisconsin we find him quoting with a brief expression of opinion upon a subject not entirely unheard of in Nebraska:

We have on several occasions taken exception to enactments of regulations having reference to the use of or traffic in intoxicating liquors, upon the ground that it is class legislation foreign to the spirit of our institution. Our brother in commenting upon the INDIANA law, "that the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is a Masonic offence," very correctly remarks:

"Your correspondent has been a total abstainer from infancy, and is known somewhat extensively as a temperance fanatic. With all due deference to Indiana, and honoring the sentiment that prompted it, we must, however, protest against this proviso. It seems to us that so far as Masonic bodies are concerned this is temperance legislation gone mad. The idea that a Mason who uses intoxicating liquors upon rare occasions, as a beverage, and then in moderation only, is guilty of a Masonic offence, is introducing a radical and dangerous innovation in the body of Masonry. Masonry teaches temperance, but was never designed as a total abstinence society. Such a proviso must either remain a dead letter in a Lodge, or

else in nine cases out of ten it will produce discord instead of harmony and good will."

From his quotation of the discussion of freemasonry in Greece, by the grand secretary of that grand jurisdiction, we extract:

"Masonry has done much and good work in this country of late years, in relieving the sufferers from the frequent earthquakes and other epidemics, to say nothing of the three complete ambulances she sent to Crete and Thessaly during the last war; and whilst only a few years ago the simple mention of the word Mason frightened people, now it has won good repute for itself, in view of the fact that Masons also do go to church. Only a few years ago the Masonic Hall was at the most remote end of the towns; now that of Athens is situated in the very best center of the town (Stadion Street), and is known by everybody. The change brought about in public opinion is wonderful, and I am in hopes that ere long Masonry will spread over the whole country and its beneficial doctrine will soon be felt by the population."

"Number of Masons in Greece, 1,889."

Under the head "Grand Lodge History in New York," and preliminary to his more extended review of, his answer to a statement noticed, he says:

In the report of the Committee on Negro Masonry, at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington, the statement is made "that two regular Grand Lodges may lawfully exist in the same State," and among instances cited it is said, "*In New York there had been three.*"

We shall endeavor to demonstrate the incorrectness of this statement with reference to New York, and realize fully that in so doing we shall not agree with the line followed in Vol. II. of the reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New York, and hence may possibly disagree with some conclusions presented in the "History of Freemasonry in New York."

We preface our account with the assertion that there has never been but one regular Grand Lodge in the State of New York, and that it has maintained a continued existence from 1781 to the present time. There have been other associations calling themselves Grand Lodges, but they were detached fragments from the original Grand Lodge. In the first instance, 1823, arising from an honest difference of opinion, and which during its continuance might seemingly have had the appearance of two Grand Bodies occupying the territory of New York without interference with each other; and still, when we come to closely analyze the history of each, the conclusion is inevitable that there was in reality but one regular Grand Lodge in the State of New York. In the other two instances, that of 1837 arose by the violation of an enactment of the Grand Lodge having reference to public processions of the Craft, and that of 1849 was a flagrant act of insubordination of Constitutional authority, arising from the old question of the rights of Past Masters.

The report throughout is marked by courtesy, a comprehensive knowledge of the subjects commented upon, such only as is acquired by years of zealous study and research, and by a style entertaining to the reader.

M.:E.:Wright D. Pownall, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Edward M. L. Ehlers, New York, is Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA, 1899.

January 10th, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Raleigh, the One Hundred and Twelfth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Walter E. Moore, Grand Master, with fourteen grand

officers, eight past grand officers, thirteen grand representatives, and representatives from two hundred and seven of the three hundred and seven subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address, the Grand Master reports a satisfactory progress of freemasonry in his grand jurisdiction. He had trouble with the appeals for assistance, sent out by brethren, in cases when there was little merit behind them. In one case the Grand Master's consent was obtained by misrepresentation, and in another the appeal was sent out without his knowledge or consent. It seems an unusual thing, and a wonder that the custom was ever sanctioned.

His grand jurisdiction mourns the death of many valued and true members of our fraternity, and loving fraternal tribute is paid to their memory.

He reports no decisions, two dispensations for new lodges he had granted, and had restored three dormant lodges. He reports:

I have also received a communication from the Committee appointed by Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, F. & A. M., of Honolulu, advising the Brethren not to come to the Hawaiian Islands expecting to make fortunes easily, and pick money from the trees, but setting forth the true situation. I wish to specially commend this communication, as in the true Masonic Spirit, and not as usual holding out the great advantages of the country to induce immigration, but it gives the disadvantages as well, so that the would-be seekers of a home in a distant land may not be deceived and disappointed.

Of special communications he says:

There has been five special communications of the Grand Lodge this year, one at Wilson on April 28th, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of Disciples Church at that place. I commissioned P. G. M. Francis M. Moyer to officiate, and his report shows that it was a very delightful occasion, and that great good will result to the order thereby. One at Morganton May 31st and another at Chapel Hill June 1st and the annual special communication which is always held at Oxford on June 24th. At the last three named communications I had the pleasure to preside in person and a full account of the proceedings will be printed. On July 13, a special communication was held at Sarem Christian church in Gates county for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of a church at that place. I commissioned Bro. J. A. Eason to officiate.

Now in bringing my report to a close, allow me to thank you from my heart of hearts for your many acts of kindness during the two years we have labored together in a common cause. They will be held in lasting, grateful remembrance, and while I shall not serve you longer as Grand Master, I beg to assure you that in sympathy, thought and action, my purest and best efforts will be given to the Fraternity.

May I not say as Ruth said to Naomi, "Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God, my God."

The grand secretary makes an excellent showing of good work performed in his office, and a more prompt receipt of returns from the lodges than ever before in the history of the Grand Lodge; all of which proves his efficiency in the place he fills.

The report of the directors of the orphans asylum shows that four new cottages for girls had been added to the property of that institution, and that the work had been made possible by the donation of \$7,500 by one,

Mr. B. N. Duke, upon condition that freemasons donated an equal amount. He paid his, and this writer thinks that if he were Grand Master of North Carolina, he would make that man a mason at sight, grand lodge or no grand lodge.

We cull from the proceedings the following resolutions, and commend them, especially to our brethren in New Mexico:

WHEREAS, Master Masons, their wives, daughters, sisters and mothers are the only persons eligible to membership in Eastern Star Chapters, as are now being organized in this State; and,

WHEREAS, We believe that such Chapters will greatly increase the income to our great charity, the Oxford Orphan Asylum; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the organization of Eastern Star Chapters be encouraged throughout this Grand Jurisdiction.

From the address of Judge Clark, at the laying of the corner-stone of a building on the grounds of the state deaf and dumb school, by the grand lodge, in the town of Morganton, we extract briefly:

Recently I read in one of the papers published in your city a touching incident which fixed my attention. A lady in New York City who was on her visit of love and mercy to the dwellings of the poor, met a friend who was one of the queens of song and whose fame fills two hemispheres. The prima donna asked to accompany her. On their visit they climbed to a miserable garret, where a widow, clad in scant clothing, sat weeping in a corner while her only child lay dead in a plain pine coffin in the center of the room. No minister of the gospel was present, none of the trappings of woe to distract the attention from grief. The undertaker, in a business-like way, was proceeding to fasten the lid upon the little coffin when she, whose voice had thrilled listening thousands, stepped forward and laying her hand on the edge, sang:

"Angels ever bright and fair,
Take me to your love and care."

As the glorious notes rose, full-throated, the undertaker stepped back in awe, the mother lifted her streaming eyes in ecstasy, and into the stairway the people crowded and on the streets they paused to catch the golden tide of song. And no funeral that day in all the palaces of wealth had such high honor, for it was genius that stood by the coffin of poverty and filled the room with the effulgence of its glory. It was genius transfigured by the love of humanity, a shaft of light piercing through nineteen centuries from the Cross of Calvary.

It is the same sacred cause of humanity taught by the divine Galilean which sends the representatives of the great State of North Carolina here to day to lay this corner-stone for an edifice consecrated to the instruction of those less favored by nature and fortune than ourselves, which brings around us on this occasion the Grand Master and other high officials of an ancient and honorable order, whose origin is lost in the dim mists of antiquity and calls forth this assemblage of ladies and gentlemen from the grand circuit of your summer hills in honor of the occasion and in sympathy with its cause.

Brother John A. Collins writes the report on correspondence, covering ninety pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-six sister grand lodges. He condenses and reports briefly almost everything of interest found in

the proceedings reviewed, and his report is a valuable contribution to his brethren.

M. W. : Richard J. Noble, Selma, is Grand Master.

R. W. : John C. Drewry, Raleigh, is Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NORTHERN CHINA, 1899.

September 22nd, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Shanghai, the Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by R. W. : Lewis Moore, Deputy Grand Master, with his principal grand officers, representatives from the subordinate lodges and visitors from neighboring District Grand Lodges and others in attendance.

A most interesting communication from the Grand Secretary in regard to the will and pleasure of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, which explains itself, and above all, shows the powerful influence of freemasonry as now organized, was read. It contains the following :

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master having had before him certain resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Peru, reversing its former action respecting the removal of the Volume of the Sacred Law from the altars of Lodges, and the suppression of the word "Bible" in the Ritual; and having satisfied himself that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Peru has in pursuance of such resolutions issued a decree abrogating the decree of June 17th, 1897.

His Royal Highness is of opinion that the Grand Lodge of Peru, having ordered the restoration of the Volume of the Sacred Law to its place upon the Altar and in the Ritual, is entitled to recognition as a true and lawful Masonic body, so long as it conforms to the landmarks and beliefs common to pure Masonry, and that this recognition should be extended to all Lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of Peru which faithfully carry out the true principles of the Craft as endorsed by the later decree.

His Royal Highness therefore desires that the sense of Grand Lodge be taken upon the following resolutions:—

1st.—That this Grand Lodge hails with the greatest satisfaction the reversal, by the Grand Lodge of Peru, of its decree of the 13th of June, 1897, by which decree the Volume of the Sacred Law was removed from the Altars and from the Rituals of Lodges under its jurisdiction.

2nd.—That this Grand Lodge welcomes the return of the Grand Lodge of Peru to its place among those supreme Masonic Bodies which acknowledge a belief in the Great Architect of the Universe and the presence in Lodges of the Volume of His Sacred Law, as essential landmarks of the Craft.

3rd.—That so long as the Grand Lodge of Peru, and the Lodges holding thereunder, respect those ancient landmarks, and practise pure Masonry, they are entitled to recognition by English Masons as true and lawful Masonic Lodges or Bodies.

From the address of the Deputy Grand Master we extract :

R. W. D. G. M. —Brethren: Once again at the Autumn Meeting of District Grand Lodge we re-open our Masonic Session and look forward with pleasure to the work we delight in. It gives me much pleasure to report a steady increase in our members and that our District is prosperous. The District Grand Lodge roll is larger than on any former occasion and up to the present the current has proved a very favourable year. I only trust

the great number of Brethren who have this year joined the Craft will prove well and worthy Masons. I must impress once again on the W. Masters of the different Lodges in this district to make full enquiries about any one that is proposed to be made a Mason, as to his character and if he is a fit and proper person to be admitted into the secrets of our Order. A Lodge does not prosper on account of the quantity of its members only, but rather on their standing in life and character. It is pleasant to me to be able to state that the Brethren have one and all proved themselves willing workers, and I can bear testimony to the cordiality and unanimity prevailing among the various Constitutions represented in Shanghai. It is matter for sincere congratulation that the Grand Lodge of Peru has been again welcomed to its place among those supreme Masonic Bodies which acknowledge a belief in the G.A.O.T.U. and the presence in Lodges of the Volume of His Sacred Law as essential Landmarks of the Craft.

R.:W.:Lewis Moore, is Deputy Grand Master.

Samuel R. Gale, P.:S.:W.:Shanghai, is District Grand Secretary.

NORTH DAKOTA, 1899.

June 20th, in the Hall of Shiloh Lodge No. 1, in the city of Fargo the Tenth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Geo. H. Keyes, Grand Master, with the principal grand officers, eight past grand officers, twenty-one grand representatives and representatives from forty-five of the fifty-five subordinate lodges, in attendance.

We quote the opening words of the Grand Master's annual address :

Brethren: Life is made up of moments, and moments are made up of thoughts, and thoughts are born into acts, and acts into deeds, and thus along the highway of life we gather them up and drop them by the wayside. The weed, the flower, the fruit, the forest tree springs up in our wake and thus our life's records are left in perpetual memory, be they good, or bad, or indifferent. No one thing is all our life. Masonry, even to the most enthusiastic, is but a part, yet should that part be neglected, the whole cannot be as beautiful; for in Masonry we are taught ethics that must color all our acts and thoughts and deeds. The tremendous force which lies behind the mystic tie must perforce imprint itself upon the civilization in which we live. It need not necessarily be done in the name of Freemasonry, but wheresoever or whensoever our acts and deeds have been laid beside our pathway the tinge of our precepts color and emblazen the scroll. Whether it be in church, in business, in public affairs, in social ways, ever pervading and ever active, it marks and stamps and prints and paints and stains the record of our life. We teach that these should not be of the mottled grey or the dull soiled color that glistens not in the rays of the sun; but that they should stand out clear and clean, and bright and brilliant that the world may see our good deeds, and reflect that the precepts of Freemasonry are not made of neutral colors, or inanity, or deceit, or false living; but are bright and beautiful and strong. We may not all be able to decorate large deeds or great thoughts, but each should take what nature has given unto him, and, with the best at hand, leave impressed thereon the noblest and brightest that is in him.

Appropriate tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead is made. From his numerous decisions we extract :

Question 1.—A member of a lodge is arrested, tried and found guilty of petit larceny before a Justice of the Peace. The Brother appeals the case to the District Court. During the pendency of the appeal, it being re-

ported that the Brother will apply for a dimit, it asks to be instructed as to the proper course should the request for a dimit be made.

Answer:—Lodge must grant dimit. A Master Mason in good standing, whose dues are paid and who is under no charge is entitled to a dimit. (See Approved Decisions of Grand Lodge of North Dakota, pg. 75.) If you know or believe that this Brother is guilty of unmasonic conduct, it is clearly your duty to prefer charges against him, and to ascertain by due trial whether or not he is guilty. Until charges are preferred he must be regarded as in good standing.

Question 2.—The Lodge at "A" receives, elects and confers upon a candidate the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees of the material belonging to the Lodge at "B." The Lodge at "B" complains of the invasion of jurisdiction by the Lodge at "A," and requests that I take proper action therein.

The Lodge at "B" acknowledge the invasion and asked instructions. They say: "We have conferred the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees on a candidate who lives about one-half mile closer to "A" than to "B," and consequently, outside of our jurisdiction." Also that "B" Lodge has been notified by "A" Lodge to transfer candidate to them." Also that, "as said candidate desires to retain membership in "B" Lodge, can we remit initiation fees to "A" Lodge and proceed to confer Master Mason degree?"

"Can a Fellow Craft dimit and join another Lodge?"

Answer.—"B" Lodge invaded the jurisdiction of the Lodge at "A," and the candidate *was* and is *now* the material of the Lodge at "A." Lodge at "B" has no right to proceed to confer upon the candidate the Master Mason degree, nor to retain the fees collected for conferring the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees, but should remit to Lodge at "A" all fees collected and relinquish all further claims to the candidate. The candidate's desire to become a member of Lodge at "B" cannot be considered at this time. Lodge at "A" is the aggrieved party and its demands must be satisfied.

I cannot find that our Code gives the right to a Lodge to appeal from its own decision. My predecessor, M. W. Robert M. Carothers, who is not only learned in the law of our land but in Masonic Jurisprudence, decided that: "Proceedings against a Brother are criminal in their nature. The Lodge is both Judge and Jury, and its findings in favor of the accused are final. No appeal on the part of the accusers will lie, nor can a new trial be granted." (Pro. 1898, pg. 269, Ques. 3.)

For the first time in the history of the grand lodge, he says, two cornerstones were laid, one being that of a new masonic temple at Fargo, and the other, that of the state industrial school for manual training, at Ellendale.

He reported having granted several special dispensations to confer degrees in less than the statutory time and two to ballot on petitions of candidates without waiting the statutory time, thereby exercising exactly the prerogative including that of making a mason at sight, and it seems curious to the writer that our brethren on the North cannot *see* the principle involved, it being a matter of *sight*.

He reported constituting two new chapters, and the granting of dispensations for three new chapters.

The Grand Secretary's report shows painstaking care, fidelity to duty, and is a comprehensive showing of conditions existing in that prosperous jurisdiction.

The Grand Lecturer had done good work and reports it to the grand lodge.

To their Lodge U. D. in the Philippines was cabled greetings. A cut of the hall building, at Manila, in which its meetings were held, together with an interesting account of its surroundings and its bi-weekly communications is found in the pamphlet before us, from which we quote:

Resolved: That the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction have viewed with pride the action of our then Grand Master Robert M. Carothers in granting a Dispensation to hold a Lodge U. D. in the Philippine Islands, and the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of his acts by the Grand Lodge at its previous session. We have watched with eagerness all news of what our brethren were doing in the island on the other side of the world. Thus far reports of their acts have received our hearty approval, and met our most sanguine expectations. We, therefore, extend to our brethren in the antipodes our heartiest and sincerest, and deepest regards. We watch for their return with no little expectation of pleasure of the re-union and the gathering together again of our brothers around the firesides, and the re-uniting with their loved ones will be our cherished anticipation. We send them our greeting, our good will and our hopes for a safe and pleasant return.

From a well written report on obituary we extract:

Within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, eighteen Lodges have been called to surrender workmen to the will of the Supreme Architect, and twenty-three members have been called to continue the work above. Let us, therefore, believe that their work was done, and ours is yet to be completed; that their influence and good deeds shall still have its beneficial effect upon us from above; that the Supreme Architect takes them now to prepare for the final re-union of the Craft in the everlasting ward of the Spiritual Temple. Yet, for the sundering of earthly ties, and the sorrow of the stricken and bereaved brethren, there must be genuine sympathy and fraternal sorrowing with them.

Charters to the five lodges U. D. were granted.

There is no report on correspondence.

M. W. John A. Percival, Devils Lake, is Grand Master.

M. W. Frank J. Thompson, Fargo, is Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA, 1899.

June 14th, in the rooms of Annapolis Lodge No. 33, Annapolis, the Thirty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Thomas B. Finch, Grand Master, with most of the grand officers, twenty-five past grand officers, twenty-eight grand representatives and the representatives from all the sixty-one subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A procession was then formed, the Royal Arch Masons being assigned a position immediately preceding Grand Lodge Officers, and headed by the Bridgetown brass band marched to St. Luke's Church, where Divine service was held. Rev. Canon Brock, Grand Chaplain, Reverends Geo. D. Harris, H. D. DeBlois, Geo. Haslam and Robert Johnson taking part in the services, and an appropriate sermon preached by Brother Rev. Henry How, Rector of the Parish, and an active member of Annapolis Royal Lodge.

From the sermon we quote interesting historical references.

It is with the greatest pleasure that, as Rector of this parish, I welcome the Grand Lodge to this prime town of our vast Dominion. It is quite natural that mechanics should care to visit this historic spot where, some two miles distant, the first nether millstone of Acadia was set. It is quite reasonable that members of this branch of the Church should wish to tread where first the beams of our Gospel broke in upon the darkness of Toowapskik. It is equally to be expected that all cultured Masons should rejoice now to assemble within the limits of the jurisdiction of Annapolis Royal Lodge, No. 33, for, in 1606, at Goat Island, was found a stone with the Great Lights of Masonry carved thereupon. This is the earliest Masonic relic found upon this continent. Here, also, is the home of Canadian Masonry. For, in 1733, the first Masonic Lodge was here organized. "Annapolis Royal Lodge," the mother of Halifax Masonry, was then No. 4 on the registry of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. We therefore trust that these facts may deepen your interest in this town, wherein we hope your present brief sojourn may be both agreeable to all and helpful to the Craft.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master dwells upon the early history of freemasonry in the province from which we learn that:

One hundred and sixty years ago this very town of Annapolis Royal was represented before the Masonic authorities in Boston asking for a warrant to open a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons here, and from Annapolis Royal in 1750 was issued the first Charter for a Lodge of Masons in Halifax. The library of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts contains an ancient volume—worth its weight in gold—published in 1786. It is entitled "A Record of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia." It contains an account of the rise and progress of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia from the first settlement to that date. It informs us that in 1750 a number of the brethren residing in Halifax met with Governor Cornwallis almost as soon as there were any houses erected there and petitioned Erasmus James Phillips, of Annapolis Royal, Provincial Grand Master, for a warrant to hold a Lodge in Halifax. The warrant was received by them in July, 1750, and Governor Cornwallis as long as he resided in Nova Scotia was Master of this Lodge.

Now to-day, a century and half after, the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the successor of the Lodge established by the warrant, and whose Grand Master might, without a stretch of Masonic truth, be called the successor to the Provincial Grand Master of 1750 at Annapolis Royal, meets in Annapolis Royal.

In his tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead, he makes special mention of their own deceased Past Grand Master Lewis Johnstone, and Past Deputy Grand Master Edmund T. Mahon, both of whom had passed away during the year.

He reports an improved financial condition, the reduction of the debt of Masonic hall, the necessity for more room and attention to arranging of the books in the grand lodge library, now crowded into the grand secretary's office, and made suitable recommendations pertaining to the affairs of the grand lodge.

He had granted a goodly number of special dispensations for the usual purposes. He had visited with great pleasure, as many lodges as it was convenient for him to do.

The eight district deputy grand masters, each made report showing the performance of his duties.

The deputy grand master of New Brunswick was received with honors. In replying to the cordial welcome extended to him he dwelt upon the

advantages to all concerned in the proposition to unite the grand lodges of the maritime provinces, and a committee was appointed to confer with like committee from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

The report on correspondence, covering two hundred and two pages and reviewing the proceedings of sixty-three sister grand lodges is the product of a committee of four brethren: R.:W.:Brother T. V. B. Bingay, reviews the proceedings of 28 grand jurisdictions, R.:W.:Brother W. E. Thompson, 9; R.:W.:Brother T. Mowbray, 7; and the grand secretary, R.:W.:Wm. Ross, 19. Nebraska, 1898, is fraternally treated. Grand Master Dinsmore's decisions are approved, a summary of our proceedings made, and Grand Orator W.:Brother Charles' oration commended as an interesting essay, and generous quotation therefrom accorded place.

The report carefully notes all the more important matters engaging the attention of the grand lodges reviewed, with fraternal comment and courteous treatment of the writers on correspondence.

M.:W.:Thomas B. Flint, Yarmouth, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Wm. Ross, Halifax, is Grand Secretary.

OHIO, 1899.

October 25th, in Valentine's Hall, in the city of Toledo, the Ninetieth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:E. C. Gulliford, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, eleven past grand masters, twenty-three district lecturers, a large number of grand representatives, and representatives from a large number of the five hundred and two subordinate lodges, in attendance.

Eloquent are the words, found in the Grand Master's annual address, in presenting the claims of masonry to its votaries, and eloquent, indeed, are the tributes paid to the memory of the illustrious dead of his grand jurisdiction. Enoch T. Carson and Charles C. Kiefer are no more, but their works do follow them, and the Grand Master's words in speaking of them will be treasured by the craft in Ohio.

Clandestine Masonry, so aggravating in Ohio in the past, he says is fast becoming a thing of the past. The lodges are closing their doors, and the members openly renouncing their allegiance to the so-called masonic bodies. He recommends the reading of the proceedings of the grand lodge, in subordinate lodges. A passing reference, only, is made of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in relation to so-called Negro Masonry. He had made, with pleasure, all the visitations his other duties would permit.

He reports the constituting of four new lodges, the dedicating of six masonic halls and the laying of several corner-stones of public and masonic buildings. He is in favor of one ballot only for the degrees instead of a ballot for each. The cases in court, which have been so long pending, involving the Cerneau difficulties, he says, have all come to an end satisfactorily to legitimate freemasonry.

The enterprise of a member of one of the lodges, in starting an endless chain letter with a view to advertise his business and benefit the masonic home out of the profits, was promptly interrupted by a letter from the

Grand Master commanding him to recall all letters forwarded and return all moneys received, with the assurance that if he did not comply, suspension from all the rights and privileges of masonry would surely follow. We have noticed like action in other masonic jurisdictions and can but rejoice that wherever such enterprises have been proposed the Grand Master when notified has interposed a prompt refusal to permit the business. Such action is in strong contrast with the church society that made money by raffling off a cow, and obtained the title of "The Church of the Sacred Cow." Of their masonic home he says:

Upon a hill overlooking the beautiful city of Springfield, watching the stars in their courses by night, and by day catching the first brilliant rays of the rising sun, stands that noble pile, the pride of every Mason's heart, the Ohio Masonic Home. Its foundation has been laid broad and deep. Let us, then, amply endow it, that it may meet every recurring want. It challenges the admiration of the Fraternity throughout the land. It has placed the Grand Lodge in the position of a public benefactor. It is the cynosure of a million friendly eyes, and the object of a thousand grateful prayers. It soothes the pillow and softens the couch of its infirm inmates; it dries the tears of the desolate widow, and commits the helpless orphan to the strong, protecting arms of Masonic guardianship; it is an enduring charity, and demands our sacred protection.

The reports of the grand treasurer, the grand secretary and the board of trustees of the home, show a gratifying state of financial prosperity, and a careful attention to duty by the officers in charge of the great interests involved. We are glad to note, that this grand lodge is disposed to discourage amendments to long settled regulations, and will not encourage every brother who gets it into his head that some new thing conceived by him, will benefit the whole fraternity.

Past Grand Master W. M. Cunningham writes the report on correspondence, covering three hundred and nineteen pages and reviewing the proceedings of sixty English speaking and eleven other grand lodges, Under Nebraska, we find:

Since the review of the Proceedings of 1898 the public press has announced the removal to the world beyond of our esteemed friend and beloved Brother, William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

He discusses briefly, but with justice, and vigorously the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1898, and as a matter significant in its occurrence, we extract the following:

Ohio was one among the number of Grand Lodges to whom the Washington Proceedings for 1898 was not sent prior to its last Annual Communication—although the Washington Annual was said to have been issued at least a month or more previous thereto.

This, however, should not be a matter of surprise to the loyal Masons of Ohio; for, as may be noted herein in the review of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Washington for 1898, the Report of its writers on Foreign Correspondence were so prolific in uncalled-for, unfounded, and unmasonic statements in relation to this Grand Lodge that under other circumstances your Committee would have considered the Report as not entitled to any notice whatever. Further comment herein in this connection is doubtless unnecessary.

The report, throughout, presents a careful summary of what is going on in all the grand jurisdictions reviewed, with wise and judicious comment. Its perusal is well worth the time of any intelligent mason, and it ought to be thoroughly studied by every master of a lodge in Ohio.

M.:W.:E. L. Lybarger, Spring Mountain, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:J. H. Bromwell, Cincinnati, is Grand Secretary.

OKLAHOMA, 1899.

February 14th, in the Hall of Oklahoma Lodge No. 3, in the city of Oklahoma City, the Seventh Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: Enoch M. Bambord, Grand Master, with all, excepting two, of the grand officers, four past grand officers, twelve past masters, and representatives from twenty-nine of the thirty-five chartered lodges, and all eight lodges U.:D.:., in attendance.

Patriotic utterances, in discussing the War with Spain, and the participation therein by craftsmen from his grand jurisdiction, marked the opening of the Grand Master's annual address. Justly proud of its results, with solicitude for the future, he passed on to a discussion of the duty of his brethren to earnestly maintain the "fixed principles and historical regularity" which characterize our institution. He had experienced much pleasure in the performance of his official duties, and reports prosperity and a good condition of things existing throughout his jurisdiction. He paid fitting tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead; reported constituting two new lodges; the granting of dispensations for eight more and special dispensations for the usual purposes, including eight to ballot on petitions of candidates and confer degrees without waiting the time required by regulation.

He reports quite a large number of decisions, but they are upon such familiar questions that it is not deemed best to copy them into this report. Negro Masonry in the Grand Lodge of Washington is discussed from the standpoint of fealty to law and order in the fraternity, and recommending that a committee be appointed to "draft a letter to the Grand Lodge of Washington respectfully urging her to retrace her steps," which was accordingly done.

One lodge desired a dispensation to appear in masonic clothing, and march in procession to celebrate the anniversary of the establishment of the Lodge I. O. O. F., but, of course, it was not granted. The Grand Master laid three corner-stones, one for a new masonic hall, one for an opera house and the third for a school house.

He says his grand lodge, following in the footsteps of many of our grand lodges, has abolished the grand lodge representative system, which suggests the query: "how many?"

Upon examination of the roll of subordinate lodges we learn that Cloud Chief, Gray Horse and Wah-Shah-She, are sisters in the fold.

The instituting of so many new lodges brought a good deal of business into the grand lodge, and much of its labor was directed to correcting errors of one kind and another appearing in their returns.

R.:W.:Brother Chas. Day, forty-seven years a mason, wrestling "with

the abominable grip," unsuited, he says, for grand chaplain, to which intercessory position he had been appointed, and with modest doubts as to his oratorical powers, nevertheless, delivered a very interesting oration which was highly appreciated by his brethren, from which we extract:

We live in a fast age. Old-time methods are rapidly giving way to the new. No longer do we await the tired postman for last week's news, neither tarry at the wayside inn for the familiar rattle of the old stage coach, and the merry bugle call announcing the approach of long-looked-for friends. Nor are we content with the old freighters' slow and cumbersome outfit, for exchange of commodities with our neighbor county and state.

Subjugated steam, harnessed lightning, and man's ingenuity have relegated these slow methods to the past. Today, the iron horse propelled by wings of steam is transferring our people and our products from state to state and from continent to continent, with the rapidity of the wind, and by the skilled finger touch of the electric button, news from all the world is transmitted more rapid than time itself. Not since the stars sang together in primeval morn has such rapid change been made, as in this, our day and age, and with equal rapidity comes growing greed for worldly goods; making money, the God to be worshiped. Let us see to it brethren, one and all, that this avaricious spirit hindereth not our solemn duty in protecting the reputation of, and in administering to the wants of the distressed worthy brother, the destitute widow, the innocent maiden and the helpless orphan. Then may it not only be said of us, Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity but behold how these brethren love one another and all mankind. Thus may we be counted of the faithful craft, our life's work approved by the Supreme Grand Overseer and we receive the shibboleth of admission to a place in that Spiritual Temple, whose maker and builder is the Eternal Great I Am, and in His Divine presence receive the true Master's word "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter in to the joys of thy Lord."

R. W. Brother J. S. Hunt, Grand Secretary, writes the report on correspondence covering two hundred and eight pages, twenty pages of which are devoted to extracts from historical papers and written appeals for recognition by the several Mexican grand bodies, and a discussion of Mexican masonry generally, well presented and instructive. But he thinks "a hundred years of probation is none too long to demonstrate her capacity to rise to a faint conception of the great principles of the Order." With this extreme view we cannot agree. To us it seems that our Mexican brethren of the Gran Dieta Symbolica are laboring earnestly and zealously to place freemasonry in Mexico in full accord with American ideas of ancient customs and usages, and organized government of the craft. Irregularities are being healed, and the disposition to magnify faults and mistakes in the past, now being eliminated, we think unfair, and we hope to see the full realization of the hopes of the faithful craftsmen who are now leading the way to a sound organization through the Gran Dieta.

The principle ground upon which he opposes recognition is:

"That schismatic, rebellious and seceding lodges and grand lodges and recalcitrant masons still hold forth in Mexico."

But such a position is untenable, a like condition has existed, now and then, within the historical limits of each of several grand lodges in our own country. The Grand Lodge of Ohio publishes a list of thirty-two such lodges, boasting obedience to a so-called grand lodge existing within the

boundaries of the state. The Grand Lodge of New York has had a great deal of trouble arising from such organizations in that state, as have other American grand lodges. The usual and proper course has been to recognize the pure and to repudiate the spurious. In that way only, perhaps, can masonry build up in our sister republic of Mexico.

We are inclined to think that the Grand Lodges of Texas, New York, Kansas, Montana, Iowa and North Dakota have not made a mistake in recognizing it as a legitimate masonic grand body, and entering into fraternal relations with it.

Upon questions of interest he thus declares himself:

As we have heretofore expressed our opinion upon most of the other and older questions, upon which Masonry is still at sea, we will pass them with a simple expression of our individual sentiments. The main proposition, making five years the limit of jurisdiction over rejected candidates we are in favor of. The adoption of this proposition by the several Grand Lodges, if it did nothing more, it would bring us one step nearer the "mecca" of Masonic harmony.

Drastic laws against non-affiliates we look upon as an impotent expression of a proper indignation against this growing evil, but otherwise actually barren of results.

The Wisconsin plan of relief we would not endorse, as the charity that expends the other fellow's money is hardly of a divine origin.

Suspension from all the rights, benefits and prerogatives of Masonry, for the non-payment of dues, we denounce as un-Masonic. It is a travesty upon that fundamental principle of Masonic and civil law, which protects every man and Mason in his rights, until proven guilty by due trial and conviction. Suspension from all Lodge privileges would be a just punishment for a failure to help bear the burdens of a lodge.

The following is too good to miss:

"NEGRO MASONRY."

This colored ghost seems to have bobbed up a long way from home, and is creating quite a diversion among the several Grand Lodges. We regret beyond expression that the harmony existing among the Grand Lodges should be so unnecessarily disrupted by a resurrection of this long buried question. If our Washington brethren were desirous of recording an expression of sympathy with negro Masonry, a lodge of sorrow would have been a very appropriate proceeding, possibly. That is just what our Washington brethren have been doing inadvertently.

M.:W.: William L. Eagleton, Pawnee, is Grand Master.

R.:W.: James S. Hunt, Stillwater, is Grand Secretary.

OREGON, 1899.

June 14th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Portland, the Forty-ninth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.: John B. Cleland, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, sixteen past grand officers, thirty-nine grand representatives and representatives from ninety-five of the ninety-nine subordinate lodges, in attendance.

The opening paragraphs of the Grand Master's annual address are devoted to matters of national patriotism; the glorious undertaking of our nation in the interests of humanity, the marvelous victories on sea and land

achieved, and the more closely knitting together of the several sections of our united country are dealt with in words of patriotic fervor.

The fraternal dead are remembered in appropriate mention, with apt poetic quotations.

He mentions with pleasure the return of Peru to her duty in restoring the Great Light of masonry to her masonic altars. Reports constituting two new lodges, the consolidation of two old lodges, the dedication of a masonic temple at Corvallis in his grand jurisdiction, the laying of the corner-stone of a court house and of a church and the granting of several special dispensations.

He registers his regrets that he was unable to visit lodges beyond the immediate vicinity of Portland.

He reports twenty-seven decisions, all but one of which would seem to be founded in sound judgment and the law of that jurisdiction. Those of more than ordinary interest, are :

1. Q. Must a Master Mason holding a dimit from an Eastern jurisdiction, who has applied for membership and been rejected, wait six months before he can again apply to the lodge that rejected him?

A. No.

2. Q. May such rejected Master Mason immediately apply to a lodge located in a different community from the one that rejected him?

A. Yes.

3. Q. Is it incumbent on a Master Mason holding a dimit, who has applied for membership and been rejected, to contribute to support of the Grand Lodge?

A. No.

4. A lodge by rejecting a petition for membership by affiliation cannot deprive a Mason of the right to lodge burial.

But the following, unless based upon a regulation of their grand lodge we should question :

14. Q. The Worshipful Master summoned a number of brethren to appear at a regular communication of the lodge and show cause why they should not be stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues to January 1, 1898; the membership at the time did not exceed fifty, and some thirty-five were delinquent. Eighteen members were present at the meeting, some of them delinquents. A motion was made to the effect that the dues of all brethren up to January 1, 1899, be remitted; on the motion being put, there were fifteen votes in the affirmative and three in the negative, and it was carried. Was such action legal?

A. No.

Negro Masonry receives extended notice and the prevailing view was concurred in. The address evidences a thorough familiarity with the conditions and needs of the craft in his grand jurisdiction.

The report of the grand secretary is well arranged and shows in convenient form statistics of value to the reviewers and historians.

The grand lodge adopted the following :

Resolved, That hereafter no member of the committee appointed on the petition of a profane for the degrees in a lodge of this jurisdiction shall ask such petitioner any questions relative to his petition, nor shall any member of a lodge make known to any profane the name of any member of a committee appointed on a petition for degrees.

Resolved, That whenever the Master of a subordinate lodge shall find a child of a Mason in the jurisdiction of his lodge which needs assistance in obtaining an education, it shall be his duty to report the same to the Grand Master. The Grand Master and Committee on Educational Fund shall examine into all such cases, and on the 1st of September and February of each year shall appropriate to such children such sums as in their judgment are required for their assistance: Provided, that the total amount so appropriated shall not exceed the total amount of the income from the Educational Fund for the preceding six months.

Adopted.

The educational fund has been accumulating for many years and has reached the sum of \$100,000. Owing to the excellent public schools, and institutions of learning abounding in the state, the demand for a masonic school, the original object of the fund, no longer exists, hence the excellent plan outlined in the foregoing resolution.

Here is a remedy, whatever else may be said about it: "Resolved, That all laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge which refer to a Past Master's degree be and are hereby repealed."

M. W. Brother Robert Clow writes the report on correspondence, his fifth, covering one hundred and eighty-nine pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-three sister grand lodges; Nebraska, 1898, receives fraternal and generous consideration.

He controverts the liberality of recent modification of the rule of physical perfection in candidates, and speaks of the "symbolical significance" of the old rule. We agree that the candidate for initiation should be physically able to conform to the manner of the initiation, without the aid of any mechanical substitution of feet or limbs, but once initiated, he becomes a brother and subsequent misfortune in physical injuries should not prevent advancement to further and more light. As to the "*deep symbolical significance*" of the rule of physical perfection, we once thought there was something in it, but the arguments to support the theory fail to confirm our former view. Pray enlighten us. What is the "*deep symbolical significance*" of which you speak?

Under West Virginia, 1898, we find him saying:

We have heretofore and still hold that an investigation of the cause of an objection to the advancement of an E. A. or F. C. is in contravention of the fundamental law of Masonry which requires unanimity, in that its tendency is to deprive the Master Mason of an inherent right to pass upon the moral and physical qualifications of a candidate, either for initiation or advancement, and to introduce an element of discord in the lodge. Such a proceeding places an E. A. or F. C. upon an equality with a Master Mason, and throws suspicion upon the latter's ability to judge of the fitness or unfitness of the material proposed to advance. If the three-ballot rule is in force—which we believe should be in every jurisdiction—there would be as much propriety in, and as much semblance of law for, investigating the cause of a black-ball, if one should be cast on an application for advancement, as for an investigation of the cause of an objection. It is generally conceded that an objection has the same force and effect as a black-ball, no more, no less; though that is a modification of the old rule. Then why provide for an investigation of one and not the other?

The report is well written and its study well repays one who reads it.

M. W. John Milton Hodson, Portland, is Grand Master.

M. W. James F. Robinson, Eugene, is Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA, 1899.

December 27th, at the Masonic Temple, in the city of Philadelphia, the Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by R. W. George E. Wagner, Deputy Grand Master, with all the living grand officers and the representatives of seventy-two subordinate lodges, in attendance.

The Deputy Grand Master, in opening the annual address, said:

One year ago to-day, there stood in this station Right Worshipful Brother Henry W. Williams, who had just been installed to the highest office within the gift of his Brethren—Right Worshipful Grand Master.

We looked forward, at his hands, to a bright, brilliant, and successful administration of the affairs of Grand Lodge, but, alas, how unstable are human affairs and anticipations! Within a period of less than one month Brother Williams was cold in death, and within a month and a day his remains were committed to the grave. Brother Henry W. Williams was born in Harford, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, on the 30th day of July, 1830, and died in Philadelphia, on the 25th day of January, 1899, and it became my melancholy duty, with the assistance of a large number of the Craft, hailing from all sections of the State, to perform the Masonic Burial Service at his late home at Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, on the 28th day of January, 1899.

The life services and character of Brother Williams were fully set forth by eminent Brethren at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held on March 1 last, as will appear in the printed proceedings of said meeting. It, therefore, would seem unnecessary to repeat them on this occasion, but I cannot let the opportunity pass without again expressing to Grand Lodge my own feelings at the great loss the Fraternity suffered in his death, and my own personal loss of a dear friend and pleasant companion; a man of high character, affable and amiable in manner, dignified and courteous in bearing, prompt and diligent in performance, wise and prudent in council. We mourn his loss, and will hold his memory green.

Loving tribute to the memory of other Pennsylvania brethren of distinction is made.

He reported a large number of decisions, all in accord with well understood masonic law and precedent. He refused to make masons at sight, asserting, however, that the grand master's right to do so, in Pennsylvania, was well established and understood.

He made as many visitations as time would permit, without neglecting other official duties, laid three corner-stones and dedicated one new masonic hall.

Plans were considered for extensive improvements in their beautiful temple, so as to obtain the advantages of modern appliances, employing steam and electric power in elevation and lighting the building.

The extent of their masonic library will be suggested by the quotation of a brief paragraph from the report of the Committee on Library:

The members of the Craft are becoming familiar with the fact that, next to the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C., our accommodations are the most beautiful, even if not the most spacious, in the country, and the daily growing attendance is exceedingly gratifying to your committee.

The report on correspondence, covering two hundred and twelve pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-four sister grand bodies, is signed by

Brothers Michael Arnold, James M. Lamberton, Bushrod W. James, Lee S. Smith and Benjamin F. Hughes, each taking a part in its production, but the work was principally done by Brother Lamberton. In the introductory remarks we find that:

Your Committee has been compelled to again submit its convincing proof that Philadelphia is the place in which the first Masonic Lodges met in America. This is a fact almost universally conceded, but occasionally a refrain uttered by one of those who will not be convinced requires an answer. We have given it under our review of Maine. The truth is mighty and will prevail.

And under Maine, the controversy over the early history of freemasonry in the colonies is carried on with Brother Drummond. From it we extract:

This controversy with Brother DRUMMOND has always been interesting. The more that is said on the subject the more certainly proved are these facts:

1. There was a Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, Brother DANIEL COXE, appointed by the Grand Master of England in the year 1730 (June 5), and there were Masonic Lodges at work in Philadelphia during that year.
2. Brother HENRY PRICE was appointed Provincial Grand Master of New England in the year 1733 (April 30).

From the above we draw the irresistible conclusion that Brother Coxe warranted the Philadelphia Lodges.

We assert an undeniable fact when we say that there were Lodges in Pennsylvania before there were any in Massachusetts or elsewhere in America.

Nebraska, 1898, is generously treated, the report of our M.:W.:Brother Davidson on the fraternal dead, is declared to be "an unusually beautiful and chaste production."

Reviewing Ohio, 1898, Brother Lamberton quotes the grand master's report that during the year he had written 1500 letters, dedicated five lodge rooms, laid six corner-stones, visited *four valleys* of the Scottish Rite and forty-five lodges, and traveled a little over six thousand miles, and suggests that "why he should have been roaming around any 'valleys' he does not know; he might have got lost." This brother wonders why he stopped to count the mile posts, for he could never see the importance sometimes, seemingly, given to the number of miles one has traveled.

The following, under New Jersey, is quoted with approval, and sets forth sound masonic law as viewed by every masonic jurist in the land:

"An amendment to the Constitution, prohibiting the re-election of a Brother to the office of Grand Master, was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The Committee reported thereon, and their report was adopted. We heartily and thoroughly concur. The Committee holds that the proposed legislation is contrary to the Landmarks of the Fraternity. The Grand Master is the presiding officer of the Grand Lodge *solely by virtue of his office*; he is *not* the creature of the Grand Lodge; he is the Grand Master of Masons, and not of the Grand Lodge, and is so installed. The office of Grand Master existed before the organization of the Grand Lodge, and would continue to exist if the Grand Lodge should be dissolved. The Craft may elect any Brother M.M. to the office of Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge cannot limit their power so to do. As the office exists independently of Grand Lodge, under the Ancient Landmarks, the Grand

Lodge cannot in any way limit the choice of the Brethren, and therefore the proposed amendment to the Constitution is contrary to the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, and if adopted would be ineffectual for any purpose. The Committee recommend that the proposed amendment to the Constitution, because contrary to the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, shall not be entertained by the Grand Lodge. We say above that we heartily and thoroughly concur in this report and action of Grand Lodge, and we do so because many young and zealous Masons do not at all understand the matter. They look upon and consider the Grand Master as purely the creature of the Grand Lodge, and therefore possessing only such powers and authority as are defined by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. There are certain rights and prerogatives of the office, above and beyond the Constitution, which the Constitution itself cannot impair or take away.

The review is thoroughly a good one.

M.:W.:George E. Wagner, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:William A. Sinn, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, is Grand Secretary.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1899.

June 26th, in Freemasons Hall at Masonic Temple, in the city of Charlottetown, the Twenty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Leonard Morris, Grand Master, with the principal grand officers, twenty-six grand representatives and representatives from all the subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In his annual address the Grand Master reported two special communications, one held June 27th, 1898, to lay the corner-stone of the Methodist church at Margate, the other on July 9th, 1898, when the new hall at Cra-paud Center, for the use of True Brothers' Lodge No. 8, was dedicated. Both of which occasions were attended with much pleasure and profit to the craft. He had visited several lodges and installed the officers of three lodges at their request. One special dispensation, to elect and install officers out of time, only, had been granted. He had exchanged grand representatives with several sister grand jurisdictions and made one decision. He had received and referred a communication on Negro Masonry to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and notes with pleasure the action of Peru in restoring the Bible to her masonic altars. He extends sympathy to the brethren of sister grand jurisdictions who had been called upon to mourn the loss by death of many illustrious craftsmen. In closing he says:

I love Masonry. It is a noble institution. Its object is to promote the happiness of man—its laws are reason—its intention, peace. Nearly a million of the best men on this side of the Atlantic are its votaries. May it prove a mighty factor in hastening the time when swords shall be beaten into plow-shares and spears into pruning hooks, when the reign of peace shall become universal and eternal. May our beloved Fraternity enjoy the smile of Heaven, and grow in wisdom, strength and beauty until the whole earth be full of our Royal Art.

Brief reports and harmonious dispatch of business mark the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

M.:W.:John A. Messervey, Charlottetown, is Grand Master.

R.:E.:Neil Mackelvie, Summerside, is Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC, 1899.

January 25, in the Masonic Temple, in the city of Montreal, the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:E. T. D. Chambers, Grand Master, with most of the grand officers, seven past grand masters, twenty-seven grand representatives and representatives from fifty of the subordinate lodges, present.

The annual address of the Grand Master discusses matters of historical interest to his brethren. It also comments upon current national and international events, with a grasp of the great questions of the day, the determination of which, rightly made, is to count so much for human progress, liberty and enlightenment. Of interest, we extract:

Man's inhumanity to man still makes countless thousands mourn, and even the oldest existing forms of civilization without the underlying principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, are little better than relics of barbarism. Some of the leading events of the last few months have shown how rapidly the old-time supremacy of Might, unaccompanied by Right, may be swept aside by the forces that operate for the furtherance of a practical belief in the Brotherhood of Man. The civilization of Spain, like that of ancient Egypt and Greece and Rome, lacks the essential principles of permanency, that are found alone in the eternal verities underlying the foundation of our beautiful system. There are those in Spain who call themselves by the name of Masons; but with the so-called Masonic governing bodies in that country, this Grand Lodge severed all connection some years ago, by the adoption of a Report which I had the honor of presenting to it, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations and Correspondence.

While it is impossible for us without transgressing the landmarks of Masonry, to indulge, as Masons, in national or political discussions, we should scarcely prove our loyalty to the teachings of the Craft by withholding an expression of gratification at the speedy triumph, in a recent war, of the principles which make for the increased happiness of humanity.

There is reason to hope that Masonry in Cuba, under the new order of things will take a fresh start and prosper as it has never done before.

To the memory of those "called to rest," he pays loving tribute in garlands fragrant with fraternal odor.

Under the head of "New Lodges," he reports two instituted and one constituted. The dedication of a lodge room in the town of Cookshire was an occasion of pleasant interest to those present, some of whom had come many miles to participate in the work and festivities. In only three cases had he issued dispensations to confer degrees out of time. He reports the following decision:

In the case of a complaint that a member of a Lodge had openly threatened that a candidate would be rejected, I advised that charges of un-Masonic conduct should be preferred against him.

In the Lodge referred to in the last decision, the application of a candidate was withdrawn before ballot, because of the alleged threats already referred to. A motion for the return of the proposition fee was objected to, and the D.D.G.M., who was present, and appealed to, gave it as his opinion that the fee was forfeited to the Lodge. I decided that by a vote of the majority of its members, the Lodge, if it saw fit, could dispose of this portion of its funds by returning it to the applicant.

A case, illustrating the power vested in a Grand Master, he thus reports:

RIGHTING A WRONG.

One instance, and I hope a rare one, of what appears to me to have been the improper withholding of a Masonic right, was brought to my notice last June by the W. M. of Dorchester Lodge No. 4, St. Johns. Early in April, 1895, a candidate then residing in England was initiated in Lodge St. Andrews No. 1631, Gorleston, England, after payment of the fees for the three degrees. In May of the same year he came out to Fredericton, N. B., and at once communicated with the Secretary of Hiram Lodge No. 6, A. F. and A. M., Fredericton, for advancement to the two other degrees, having been assured by the W. M. and other officers in England that everything would be all right. The Secretary of Hiram Lodge wrote to England for particulars, and these proving satisfactory, Hiram Lodge proceeded to pass and raise him in due form, sending certificates of the fact to his Mother Lodge in England. He then applied for his M. M. certificate, but was, of course, referred to England. The Secretary of St. Andrews wrote and said that the Grand Lodge of England could not grant a certificate for degrees conferred outside its jurisdiction. The Brother re-opened the question by writing to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, but was told that he could do nothing. Friends in this city advised the Brother to take the ceremonies of passing and raising again, in one of the Lodges in Montreal still under the English Register. To this the New Brunswick Masons objected, stating that the Brother was as much M. M. as the Grand Master of England was. Meanwhile, he was without credentials, and apparently without the means of getting any. The facts related were vouched for by the W. M. of Dorchester Lodge, and I was asked by him as well as by the Brother in question, what steps he should take to obtain a certificate. Here was, apparently, a wrong to be righted. Were it possible to have granted the Brother a certificate without further ado, I would gladly have done so. This was, of course, out of the question, as I had nothing to certify to. But the case was a special one, and I felt that it required special treatment. I asked Dorchester Lodge, in the jurisdiction of which the Brother resided—through its W. M.,—to do me the special favor, providing, of course, that the Brother's application was accepted by the Lodge, of re-obligating him in the three degrees, without exacting any other fee therefor, than that payable to Grand Lodge for his registration and certificate. Good old Dorchester came at once to my assistance and to that of the Brother in question, and has my gratitude, as I am sure it will have your's, for the promptness with which it did its part towards the righting of the then existing wrong. Of course I issued a dispensation, waiving for this special case, Section 218 of the Constitution, respecting the payment of fees for the degrees, confident that every member of this Grand Lodge would be actuated by the feeling that prompted the members of Dorchester Lodge, in remaining satisfied to do without a Brother's fees for the degrees, rather than that he should be asked to pay twice for them, in order to obtain the certificate of standing that should in the first place have followed them.

In response to an address to the Queen the following was received:

Writing from Ottawa, Major L. G. Drummond, Governor-General's Secretary, says: "I am directed by His Excellency the Governor-General, to inform you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies telegraphs that "Her Majesty the Queen desires that Her heartfelt thanks may be conveyed to the Freemasons of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, for their beautifully executed address of congratulation which She has received with much satisfaction, and for the expressions of loyalty and good-will that it contains. Her Majesty the Queen is greatly touched by the feeling allusions to the Duke of Kent and the Prince of Wales, with reference to their work and influence in the Masonic Brotherhood."

He speaks approvingly of the value of the reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence, recommending their perusal by members of our great fraternity, and in closing said:

Whatever may be my future lot in life, I shall ever look back with special satisfaction to the term of office that is now expiring, and shall feel satisfied that no greater honour can now possibly befall me than to have presided as Grand Master, over the destinies of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

From the business transacted, we would gladly extract the more important, but so much of our space has been devoted to the address of the gifted and zealous Grand Master, whose labors in the field of masonic work has always been of so much interest to us, that we pass the same to note the report on correspondence, the work of R.:W.:Brother Will H. Whyte, covering one hundred and sixteen pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-eight sister grand lodges; Nebraska, 1898, receives fraternal consideration. It is his second, a good review, but the retiring Grand Master, we are told, will resume his old place at the "round table."

M.:W.:Benjamin Tooke, Montreal, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:John H. Isaacson, Montreal, is Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND, 1899.

May 15th, at Freemasons Hall, in the city of Providence, the One Hundred and Ninth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Cyrus M. Van Slyck, Grand Master, with nineteen grand officers, five past grand masters, seven other grand officers, one hundred and fifty-three past masters and representatives from twenty-nine of the thirty-seven subordinate lodges, in attendance. There were also thirty-seven grand representatives present.

In his annual address the Grand Master pays tribute to the memory of ten members of the grand lodge, who, during the year past, had been called from their labors on earth to, he fondly hoped, the Celestial Grand Lodge above.

He reported the issuing of several special dispensations, the visiting of nine lodges, attended by many of his grand officers in each case and the summoning of the grand officers in special communication, on three occasions; one to dedicate the altar erected in a masonic hall, one to dedicate a new masonic hall, and one to attend the centennial observances of one of their bodies.

He reported several decisions, but all of them were based upon well understood rules of masonic jurisprudence, or upon the provisions of their own law, and not of special interest.

Of the proposition by Grand Master Rumsey, of Wyoming, to establish a sovereign grand lodge, he remarks :

The proposition contained in this letter is practically a revival of the agitation of a century ago for the formation of a General Grand Lodge. I have not thought it wise that this communication be answered before Grand Lodge should have an opportunity to consider the proposition. In my own opinion, however, the doctrine of territorial supremacy is too firmly established in the majority of these United States to be ever successfully set

aside and I see no reason to fear that a serious consideration of the possibility of an attempt to form a Sovereign Grand Lodge will disturb the peace and harmony now generally existing between the different Grand Jurisdictions. I, therefore, do not consider it necessary to suggest the many grounds upon which the legality of such a body might be questioned, nor the many difficult questions to which its formation would give rise

In closing he says :

The retrospect of the year shows us that in Rhode Island Freemasonry is a living and growing institution. We find the Lodges in a healthy and flourishing condition, and the brethren living together in peace and harmony and working for the proper advancement of the Craft.

In surrendering the jewel which one year ago was a second time suspended upon my breast, I thank you for the confidence which you then reposed in me, and trust that you may not have found that confidence too greatly misplaced. It has been my aim that the the duties of the office should be performed promptly, and in a business-like manner, and while I do not in any manner shirk the entire responsibility for my official acts, I desire to express my deep sense of gratitude to the officers of Grand Lodge, and to the Craft generally, who have by their loyalty and cheerful assistance whenever called upon, materially lightened the burdens of a responsible office.

The business of the grand body pertained to local interest only. There is no report on correspondence.

M.:W.:Milton Livsey, Providence, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Edwin Baker, Providence, is Grand Secretary.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1899.

April 19th, in Freemasons Hall, at Adelaide, the Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened. M.:W.:, the Rt. Hon. S. J. Way, P. C., D. C. L., L. L. D., &c., Grand Master, with all his grand officers, many past grand officers, twenty-two grand representatives and representatives from the subordinate lodges, were in attendance.

The Grand Master had recently recovered from a severe sickness, and R.:W.: the Hon. J. G. Jenkins, Deputy Grand Master, on behalf of the grand lodge and the members of the craft in the colony tendered their congratulations for his restoration to health.

The M. W. Grand Master in responding thanked the Deputy Grand Master for his congratulations on his recovery, and expressed his pleasure at the interest taken by the country Lodges in his welfare. He wished to extend his thanks to them, and also to all the brotherhood for their prayers and expressions of sympathy during his recent illness. He also reverently expressed his exceeding gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe for his recovery from his dangerous illness. During that illness his thoughts had been continually with his Brethren, and their expression of sympathy and regard had served to sustain him during that trying period. He would take that opportunity to thank the Deputy Grand Master for the energy and zeal, coupled with the ability and efficiency which he had displayed in the discharge of those duties which he himself had been unable to perform during the long period of his illness. (Applause.)

The report of the board of general purposes shows a good financial condition. The board recommended the restoration of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Peru. Mention was made of the erection at Port Pirie,

of a commodious and elegant masonic hall, and its consecration by the deputy grand master. A very satisfactory report by the grand inspector of lodges was made; relief had been granted and donations to charitable institutions, in liberal sums, had been made.

The grand master, who is a member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Lieutenant-Governor, and Chief Justice of South Australia, was, upon the motion of the deputy grand master, re-elected as grand master for the ensuing year.

The communication was an harmonious and enjoyable occasion, as fully appears from the pamphlet of the proceedings.

There is no report on correspondence.

V.:W.:T. C. Holland, is Grand Registrar.

W.:F. J. Cunningham, is Assistant Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA, 1899.

December 12th, in Masonic Temple, in the city of Charleston, the One Hundred and Twenty-third Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Bartlett J. Witherspoon, Grand Master, with the principal grand officers, seventeen district deputy grand masters, four past grand masters, and representatives from one hundred and sixty-seven of the one hundred and eighty-three subordinate chapters, in attendance.

M.:W.:Brother J. Adger Smyth, P.:G.:M.:., mayor of the city, welcomed the grand lodge in an earnest and cordial address.

Earnest words mark the opening paragraph of the Grand Master's annual address, in which is disclosed the fact that he possessed a true conception of the responsibilities of official position, not only in the grand lodge, but as well in the subordinate lodges, to whose representatives he submitted counsel of great value.

The state of the craft is prosperous, he says, and is evidenced not only by increase in numbers, but by harmony and good feeling existing in the lodges. Death had wrought sad havoc, and appropriate mention of the fraternal dead is recorded.

He reports only three decisions, the granting of several dispensations to ballot upon candidates and confer degrees in less than the time fixed by constitution and regulation, and the laying of one corner-stone for a new masonic hall, one for a college dormitory and one for the alumni hall of Furman University at Granville. He issued dispensations for two new lodges, and granted proxies to dedicate three new masonic halls. He did not make, of course, as many visitations as he would have liked to have done.

The business of the grand lodge was taken up with matters of local importance only, and no question of special interest to the craft generally was discussed.

R.:W.:Charles Inglesby writes the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and fifty-eight pages and reviewing the proceedings of most of the grand jurisdictions. Nebraska is not among them.

Under Wyoming, we find him saying:

A brief report on correspondence was submitted by Bro. Grand Secretary Kuykendall. He gives South Carolina for 1897 not quite a page. He thinks our physical qualification rule, and also the perpetual jurisdiction over rejected material, are old Masonic "fables, exploded traditions, myths and cobwebs of the past." He is one of those whom we recognize as so-called *progressive* Masons, who want proof for everything, *proof on the record*. If you quote Anderson's constitutions or Mackey to him, he will say, what *proof* have we that Mackey and Anderson were right in saying that a Grand Master can open an occasional lodge and make a mason at sight? That it is a landmark that Grand Masters possess by virtue of their office. In his conclusion he says that those who were supposed to be speculative masons prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge of England, if now present in the flesh, would not know anything more about our system of Masonry and its esoteric work than that of the Knights of Pythias." Why would they not? Because the progressive masons have tried to make changes in the body of Masonry and have left the old ways, for new fangled things. In South Carolina and many other of the older jurisdictions, we cling with undying tenacity to the legends, traditions and teachings of the fathers, believing that Masonry changes not.

And in conclusion:

The foregoing is fraternally submitted, in the hope that it contains some information that will be of interest and benefit to the Craft. The burning question of the year, was the Grand Lodge of Washington, and its action on the subject of Negro Masonry, and that has ended happily by the revocation by that Grand Body of its objectionable action.

It is very gratifying to be able to say, that not a single Grand Lodge concurred in, or sympathized with the Grand Lodge of Washington, in this matter. And but one single correspondence writer, M. W. Brother Joseph Robbins, P. G. M. of Illinois, undertook to sustain the Grand Lodge of Washington.

These facts are very gratifying, in that they demonstrate the unity and harmony of American Masonry.

M. W. Orlando Sheppard, Edgefield, is Grand Master.

R. W. Charles Inglesby, Charleston, is Grand Secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA, 1899.

June 13th, in the lodge room of St. John's Lodge No. 1, in the city of Yankton, the Twenty-fifth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Louis G. Levoy, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, M. W. Brother Theodore S. Parvin, Grand Secretary of Iowa, honorary member, sixteen past grand officers, twenty grand representatives, and representatives from eighty-two of the ninety-three subordinate lodges, in attendance.

The Grand Master, in opening his annual address, extends a most cordial welcome to his brethren, congratulating them upon the material growth made in the twenty-five years of existence of the grand lodge. He pays tribute to the memory of the fraternal dead of his jurisdiction, and appropriately records the illustrious dead of sister grand jurisdictions.

The Grand Lodge, he reports, had been duly incorporated during the year, an unnecessary and, as the writer thinks, an unwise thing to do. Nothing is gained by it, and it thereby becomes in some sense a creature of the civil law.

He had constituted one new lodge, and rendered eleven decisions; one

holding that in the absence of the principal officers of a lodge the Junior Past Master may open the lodge and transact business, but in this the Grand Lodge did not concur, and justly so, but it did approve another decision that minutes of a communication having been read and approved, cannot at a subsequent meeting be expunged from the record. We think this is wrong, and against usage. It may become necessary to expunge a record to do justice and correct a mistake, and to that end the thing has often been done.

Several dispensations, for the usual purposes, he had granted, but he correctly refused to grant one to a lodge to act as an escort, where a commandery of Knights Templar was burying a brother with their ceremonies.

Every lodge, he reports, had been visited by a grand officer.

The quarto centennial of the Grand Lodge was celebrated, and a full account of the occasion is recorded, together with historical events, the masonic history of its past and present grand officers, and the portraits of many of them grace the pages of this, to them, a most valuable volume of proceedings. It is likewise valuable to the general masonic historian as a repository of valuable information.

An excellent report on correspondence covering one hundred and twenty-three pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-five sister grand lodges, is the work of M. W. Brother William Blatt, his sixteenth. It discloses a familiarity with all the interesting questions engaging the attention of grand lodges and writers on correspondence. While agreeing that the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington was wrong, he disapproves of the action of those grand lodges which cut off masonic fellowships with Washington freemasons and the grand lodge. To this writer, such action was entirely justifiable, the offence was so great, and planned with so much deliberation, that drastic measures would seem to be entirely proper. Perhaps the most aggravating circumstance in the case was that of an attempt, on the part of its author, to deny the fact that negro masonry had been recognized; an attempt well calculated to insult the intelligence of the masonic order.

Of the Grand Lodge of Peru, he says:

A very short time subsequent to the issuance of the "Bible Edict" by the Grand Master Christian Dam, the Grand Lodge of Peru met and condemned his action and restored the Bible upon the Altars of Masonry in the Jurisdiction, and elected another Grand Master.

While approving the action of our own and other Grand Lodges in severely condemning Dam's action, yet, upon second sober thought, we have come to the conclusion that there is a vast if not an essential difference between the Bible in Peru and the Bible in non-Latin countries. In Spanish-American countries there are but two classes—the Latin-Catholic and the heretic. The latter is the term applied in all those countries to those who are not devout Catholics. The Latin Bible is a book for the Priesthood only. No layman possesses or dare study it. The revelations of its contents and interpretation are solely in the hands of the Priesthood; therefore its reverence, by those who do not subscribe to the teachings and methods of that church and its Priests cannot be of a degree akin to our own. Hence a more charitable, a more liberal view on our part upon the act of banishment pronounced by the Grand Master of Peru, is at least not out of place.

We have closed our report earlier than usual and have not at this time, April 15th, received all the annual proceedings. We are compelled to go to press with a few of them left out. Our successor, however, will no doubt make up the deficiency in next year's report.

We do not agree with our brother, because an open Bible on the masonic altar means for that community enlightenment and progress, such as has accompanied an open Bible in every country in Christendom where it has been an open book. And we rejoice exceedingly that it is possible for our grand lodges in English-speaking countries, through their influence to maintain, in at least Latin-American countries, an open Bible. We believe that its influence will be great in upbuilding liberty and justice in those lands. Ignorance, superstition, and vice have had their day long enough. The restoration of the Bible to masonic altars in Mexico and Peru constitutes a good step towards a brighter day, and men should realize the advantages secured by the actions taken in the good work.

M.:W.:William H. Roddle, Brookings, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:George A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, is Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE, 1899.

January 25th, at Freemasons Hall, in the city of Nashville, the Fifty-fifth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:Wm. H. Bumpas, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, twenty past grand officers, seventy-seven past masters, and representatives from a large number of the four hundred and twenty-eight subordinate lodges, in attendance.

A hearty welcome to his brethren, proud reference to the achievements of our nation, and a pardonable pride in the fact that the rolls of freemasonry in our land contain the names of those most illustrious in the annals of our country's heroes, scholars, and statesmen, mark the opening paragraphs of the annual address of the Grand Master.

Many special dispensations are recorded in the report of his official acts; two new lodges U.:D.: had he instituted; made decisions in twenty-nine cases, and granted new trials in two cases upon appeal, referring two other appeals to the Grand Lodge.

He recommended resuming the custom of exchanging grand representatives with sister grand lodges. He makes a strong appeal to his brethren to maintain and support their masonic home.

To the memory of Past Grand Master Frizzell he pays the following beautiful tribute:

The young may die. The old must die. Swiftly do the sands run, and how rapidly are our lives drawing to a close. We gather to-day by two new-made graves. The one is the grave of a young man, handsome, strong, full of energy, and endowed with fine ability, yet he lies down to sleep in the narrow house appointed for all the living; under a bank of flowers, he rests from his labors, in beautiful Mt. Olivet. He sleeps his last sleep. The pilgrim Mason rests. He was known to most of you, and he ever had a kind word and a warm grasp of the hand, and a heart full of sympathy; and his life was that of an upright and honorable gentleman and Mason. No more in these halls will the voice of John Ridley Frizzell be heard. That voice is hushed forever, and that handsome face will greet you no

more, and that warm grasp will be felt no more, for he has been gathered to his fathers. One by one our lives go out; one by one we cross the dark river; one by one we enter that beautiful land where no sorrow comes, and where all tears are wiped away.

Of Past Grand Master he says:

The other grave is in Rose Hill Cemetery, at Columbia. It is the grave of Past Grand Master Archelaus M. Hughes. It is the grave of an old man verging upon a century; one whose life was an open book; one whose work was that of a true Mason, a distinguished citizen, an humble Christian. For more than sixty years he served you in this Grand Lodge, and his counsel was timely and good. His voice was the voice of a friend, and his words were words of cheer, and of truth, and of soberness. His record is long and brilliant and rare. No man had stronger convictions than Past Grand Master Hughes, and no man was more certain to assert and to defend them; but to every opponent he was courtly, kind, and generous. He crossed his lance with the ablest and the best, and when defeated he yielded with the dignity of a Knight.

We buried Grand Master Hughes from his own church, in the city of Columbia. A large concourse of Masons and friends followed him to his home in Rose Hill Cemetery. We were reminded, as we stood at the foot of his grave, of his great usefulness, his long life, his grand career, his noble name, his untarnished character, and we felt that we stood in the presence of a sacred friendship, and upon holy ground. We turn away from these graves, remembering that a young life has gone out, leaving behind hundreds of friends who will regret his death, and that from the other there comes the sweet reflection that old age is happy, pleasant, and full of comfort when the trust on God is strong. Judge Hughes died in the full hope of a glorious immortality, and we trust that on the glorious morn of the Resurrection, we shall greet them both.

He speaks in loving sympathy of our Cuban brethren, and favors the recognition of the Gran Dieta Symbolica of Mexico.

He recommends the preservation of their portraits of grand masters, remarking that he is "informed that no such collection exists anywhere else." In this he is mistaken. We saw on a recent visit to the rooms of the grand officers in California, in their temple, at San Francisco, a collection of portraits of past grand masters all painted, if we remember correctly by a California brother, whose death occurred in February last. The Grand Master had made as many visitations as his other duties would permit, and commends the ability of the officers in charge of the lodges where he went. He forcibly condemns profanity and intemperance, deploring that either is found among the craft.

A very full and interesting report was made of the condition of the Home, showing that the widows and orphans are generously provided for, a happy Christmas was provided by special subscription therefor.

M. W. Brother Geo. H. Morgan writes the report, his third, on correspondence, covering one hundred and seventeen pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-nine sister grand lodges.

The Grand Master of Ohio having decided that masonic funeral services can be held over a master mason in good standing if the body is to be cremated, Bro. Morgan comments and gives it as his opinion that cremation is inconsistent with the idea of masonic burial, and that when de-

ceased and his friends desire that disposition of the body, there should be no masonic ceremonies.

We are of the opinion that if the masonic burial ceremonies constitute the final act in the drama of the third degree, as asserted by some, in such a case the lodge should take no part, as a lodge, in the funeral. Freemasonry, in many respects, is a law unto itself and cannot be warped to meet the many fads of the day. The lodge, in burying a deceased brother, is open and at work on the third degree, and every approved ritual which we have ever seen contemplates a coffin, a spade, a grave and the sprig of acacia, none of which can figure at such a disposition of the body.

We give, with pleasure, what he says, under Alabama, in comment upon the proposition that the Bible cannot be removed from the altars of freemasonry:

The Holy Bible is in truth the greatest of the three great lights in Masonry, not simply in symbolism, but in truth and in fact. Strike it down, and Masonry becomes only as "a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." Discard the Bible from our Lodge altars and the altars of our hearts, and the Masonic fabric falls, as fall it should. Reverence it as the "rule and guide of our faith and practice," and Masonry continues an institution for good, to ameliorate the condition of mankind.

How peculiarly striking is the manner in which the Holy Spirit opens this sublime book! We are at once introduced to God Himself, in the essential fullness of His being and the solitariness of His acting. All prefatory matter is omitted. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This first sentence in the divine canon sets us in the presence of Him who is the infinite source of all true blessedness. There is no argument in His Book to prove His existence. His Holy Spirit could not afford to enter upon anything of the kind. He reveals Himself in His wondrous works. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork." Contemplate the awful simplicity and sublimity of the next declaration after the introductory truth: "And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep." Here was a scene which the power of God alone could meet. Man, in the pride of his heart, has proved himself too ready to interfere with God in other spheres of action; but in this primeval scene he had no place until afterwards. Like all the rest, he was the subject of creative power. "The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters!" He contemplated the scene of darkness before Him—*impenetrable gloom and darkness!* He alone could enlighten it and cause life to spring into existence; substitute order for chaos—open an expanse between the waters by the almighty power of his Spirit, where life might be displayed. "God said, let there be light, and there was light." How simple! And yet, how Godlike! "He spoke, and it was done! He commanded, and it stood fast." What a blessed revelation to the untutored Entered Apprentice when the first lesson in Masonry is unfolded to his inquiring mind. Brethren, we must preserve the Book of God. The Holy Bible! "The great light in Masonry!"

M. W. Joseph H. Bullock, Paris, is Grand Master.

R. W. John B. Garrett, Nashville, is Grand Secretary.

TEXAS, 1899.

December 5th, at Masonic Temple, in the city of Houston, the Sixty-fourth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Sam R. Hamilton, Grand Master, with the principal grand officers, nineteen past grand officers, twenty-six grand representatives, and

representatives from two hundred and fifty-eight subordinate lodges, in attendance.

"Like the ever onward flow of some mighty river, Time, with its restless current, has borne us upon its bosom, and another year has been added to our lives and to the history of masonry in Texas," are the words constituting the opening paragraph of the annual address of the Grand Master, followed by warm fraternal greeting to his brethren. Loving tribute is paid to the lamented fraternal dead, among them their own Past Grand Master, Alfred Stephen Richardson, who died on the thirtieth day of October, 1899, while returning home with his wife to the city of Houston.

The Grand Master reported constituting thirteen new lodges and instituting of four lodges U. D., the relief of flood sufferers on the river Colorado and its tributaries, the removal of a lodge from one town to another, where the good of the craft would seem to be benefited thereby, the disposition of the property of demised lodges, the authorization granted to several lodges to sell and dispose of their property, and in other cases to mortgage their real estate to enable the erection of lodge buildings.

One poor lodge was suspended because it dared to initiate a candidate who had lost one joint of a finger on the left hand, but owing to mitigating circumstances the charter was restored some time later. The "perfect-youth" theory seems to be in full swing in Texas and its enforcement in such a case makes one weary. Duplicate charters, two in number, when the originals had been lost by fire, had been issued. A large number of special dispensations had been granted, and as many had been refused; an unusually large number of decisions, forty-three of which he reported. We extract the following:

Second—Held that when a brother is found guilty, and his punishment assessed at "reprimand," the failure to administer same at the time set does not void the punishment. The reprimand must be administered unless the party takes an appeal. If he persistently refuses to appear and receive it, charges should be preferred for the refusing to submit to the award of his brethren.

Fourth—That when a lodge desires to raise a building fund by borrowing money and issuing its notes therefor, the negotiation of said notes is no violation of our regulations concerning solicitation, as it is a matter of business, and not one of charity. The lodge being a chartered body, has a perfect right to proceed upon the same lines as an individual, except that, if a mortgage was involved, Art. 60 would require the consent of the Grand Lodge, or of the Grand Master.

Sixth—"Deceased brother requested burial by Commandery. What are duties and privileges of Blue Lodge?" To this telegram I responded: "Lodge has exclusive charge of funeral. Otherwise, takes no part." Subsequently, by mail, I informed the Master that when a Knight Templar died, and the lodge performed the burial services, it was perfectly proper and very appropriate for the Commandery to act as "escort."

Eighth—On the occasion of the Cattlemen's convention at Fort Worth early in the year, the good ladies of the O. E. S., being desirous to do their part in aiding the local lodge by raising funds to be applied on account of the Widows' and Orphans' Home, concluded to equip a dining hall on that occasion, and donate the net proceeds to that purpose.

I was asked by 'phone, if it would be improper for them to place before the door a notice reading, "Meals served. Proceeds to apply on donation to Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home."

At first I was disposed to conclude that as the O. E. S. was an independent organization, we had no jurisdiction, and that if they saw proper to raise a fund and voluntarily donate same, it was a matter over which we had no control. But, after carefully examining Art. 631, and applying the rule that declares it improper to accomplish indirectly that which we are prohibited from doing directly, I wired them as follows: "As a lodge is beneficiary, perhaps best to omit word 'Masonic.'" I cannot let the occasion pass without highly commending the ladies for their zeal, and the brethren of Fort Worth Lodge for their scrupulous regard for our regulations.

Seventeenth—Held that it would be a deviation from our established customs, and therefore inadmissible, for an "E. A. only" (however proficient he might be) to *preside* at the conferring of the E. A. degree upon an actual candidate. And the same inhibition would hold as to a "F. C. only," as, under our economy, such degrees are only conferred under the auspices of a Master's lodge, and the work should only be performed by those who have attained to the third degree in Masonry.

The resumption of fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Cuba, he reports.

He notes the effort of Grand Master Ramsey, of Wyoming, to erect a supreme grand lodge, and his circular with reference thereto, but gives the matter no encouragement. He recommends the re-incorporation of the grand lodge, an entire dissolving of all corporate relations under state legislation would be better, and the Committee on Jurisprudence reported recommending taking another year to consider its advisability.

The non-payment of dues, and non-affiliation, is troubling our brethren of Texas, and the Grand Master discusses the questions quite at length. He devotes some wise suggestions in favor of maintaining their widows' and orphans' home. In conclusion he says:

I have devoted the year almost exclusively to the service of Masonry, and it has been to me a labor of love. I have frequently been reminded of the fact that even a Grand Master has to walk upon a chequered pavement, in common with his brethren, and that good and evil is the common heritage of our race.

Notwithstanding the fact that I have endeavored to discharge the duties of my office in the fear of God, and with an eye single to the good of Masonry, yet I am satisfied that I have made many mistakes.

Should my imperfect service receive your approbation, I shall feel amply rewarded, and it will afford me great pleasure to return again to my place in the ranks to labor hereafter as heretofore, in the furtherance of a cause that lies near and dear to my heart.

The eleventh annual report of the board of directors of the widows' and orphans' home shows that the value of its property is \$176,087.91; that this great charity has made rapid growth and progress and is an institution that our Texas brethren may well feel proud of.

The following proposed amendment of the constitution was offered, and lies over until the succeeding annual communication:

Resolved, (1) That, after the period of five years shall have elapsed since the rejection of an applicant for the degrees in Masonry, he having moved

into the jurisdiction of another lodge, either in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction, and having applied for the degrees, then the lodge applied to shall correspond with the rejecting lodge as to the former standing and character of the applicant, and if upon the information so obtained he be deemed worthy, the lodge may proceed in the case without further reference to the action of the rejecting lodge.

From the work done by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, one would think our Texas brethren given to great strictness in dealing with those who in any way violate the letter of the law. At any rate their docket was crowded with cases at the session under review. Their decisions, however, commend themselves as sound, and are clothed with clear and explicit statements of fact and law. They are not satisfied with the language made use of by the Washington grand lodge in repealing the negro resolutions of 1898, and justly criticise the resolutions of 1899. From the committee's report we extract what is said of the latter Washington resolution:

We are free to confess that they are not satisfactory. They are couched in such a superfluity of verbiage as to leave great doubts of their real meaning. The writer of that report, with exceeding ingenuity, has exhausted the vocabulary in an effort "how not to say it." They constitute a fearful and wonderfully constructed instrument. They do not strike us as being frank or ingenuous. Having read them carefully five or six times, we own up that we cannot understand them. We hope that this results from our inability to comprehend that style of diplomatic composition, and not from any design upon the part of the composer. We are reminded of the celebrated debate in the Georgia scenes upon the question "whether, in popular elections, the votes of faction or internal suggestion should dominate." One debater after another commenced to discuss the question, stop short with an air of dismay, and say, "Mr. President, I will pay my fine; I don't understand the question." We are just in that fix. We throw up the sponge and are willing to pay our fine. We don't understand the report or the resolutions, and respectfully refer to Bro. Matthew's comments.

Will the Grand Lodge of Washington please tell us in plain English what it does mean?

Does it recognize the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge jurisdiction?

Does it repudiate all spurious Masonry and especially the so-called Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all of its offshoots?

Does it refuse to recognize and will it prevent its subordinates from recognizing, holding intercourse with or affiliating with spurious or clandestine Masons?

We have tried to find an answer to the above questions, or even to some of them in the report and resolutions, but have totally failed.

The answers to these questions, embrace in a nut-shell, the issue which induced us to suspend intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Washington; and until satisfactorily made, we must be pardoned for allowing the *statu quo* to remain undisturbed.

The report on correspondence, covering one hundred and three pages, and reviewing the proceedings of fifty sister grand lodges, is the work of M. W. Brother Thos. M. Mathews. The review is an excellent one; he hews to the line, not looking, as he says, to see or caring much where the chips fall. He handles the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington, 1899, in their alleged repeal of their 1898 negro resolutions, without gloves;

showing up the insincerity of the men who wrote the resolutions, and this writer quite agrees with his conclusions that the repealing resolutions do not repeal, saying:

This "Declaration" is the most adroitly written and curiously worded paper we have ever read or seen, and as one is forced to read between the lines, is intended more to conceal than to express clearly its true meaning.

As the Grand Master of British Columbia told his brethren it did him, it is well calculated to and will befog any reader who is not fully upon his guard and determined not to be hood-winked and led astray by its specious sophistry.

The Grand Lodge of Washington occupies the curious position of acquiescing in the opinions of other Grand Lodges so long, and only so long, as those opinions are in harmony with her own pet theories. And because some fifty or more Grand Lodges rebel against and resist the "Negro Masonry" dictum as promulgated in her "Declaration," they are regarded and denounced by her as "an enemy at her gates, breathing threatenings and slaughter" against her.

The fact of the whole matter in a nutshell is that the "Declaration" does not declare anything that to self-respecting Grand Lodges can in the least degree be satisfactory, nor does the repealing clause repeal the uncalled for, offensive, disorganizing and peace destroying resolutions. We think the Grand Lodge of Washington should try again, or that the other Grand Lodges so vitally concerned and who have so much at issue should repudiate and ostracise both her and her adherents.

M.:W.:R. M. Lusk, Bonham, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:John Watson, Houston, is Grand Secretary.

UTAH, 1900.

On January 16th, at Masonic Hall, in the city of Ogden, the Twenty-ninth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:James David Murdoch, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, ten past grand officers, ten past masters, twenty-nine grand representatives, and representatives from all the ten subordinate lodges, in attendance.

With a fraternal and hearty welcome to his brethren, the Grand Master opened his annual address. Patriotic utterances, coupled with references to our late War with Spain and our new possessions, mark his well chosen words.

To the memory of the fraternal dead he devotes appropriate comment, and turns to a report of his official acts, which, he says, had not been numerous or extensive. Not a single question of law had been presented for his decision. One dispensation, a new one, he had issued to Rocky Mountain Lodge at Mercur. Although he had earnestly intended to visit every lodge in his grand jurisdiction, he had done so. Where he did visit he found a good condition of things existing. The standard work and uniformity of ritual which has been the aim, he fears, will never be realized notwithstanding the zeal of their grand lecturers, and the many schools of instruction provided for the benefit of the craft. Only one special dispensation, and that to elect officers, had he granted, or been asked to grant. He makes an earnest protest against rotation in office, where it is indulged without careful reference to the qualifications of the candidate. The proposition of Grand Master Rumsey of Wyoming, looking to the erection of a

supreme, or sovereign grand lodge, as a sort of a masonic tribunal of court or appeal, he did not approve, but combats the motion in some well directed words of criticism. He attended the Washington centennial observances at Mount Vernon and renders an interesting account of the same.

From the report of the grand secretary we learn that the year had been the most prosperous of all the thirty years of freemasonry in Utah. The Committee on Jurisprudence recommended that the topical form of report on correspondence be adopted, specially mentioning Illinois and Nebraska as examples. The Grand Orient of Belgium was formally recognized, and fraternal exchange of representatives ordered. A reception and banquet, tendered by the Ogden lodge, was highly enjoyed, appropriate and flattering mention of which is duly recorded.

R. W. Bro. Christopher Diehl writes the report on correspondence covering one hundred and twelve pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-six sister grand lodges, Nebraska, 1899, among them. The report is a thoroughly good one, filled with all the more important matters under review. We trust he will find more satisfaction in his forthcoming topical report than this writer experienced in attempting the same thing last year for Nebraska. He quotes with approval from the oration of our Brother Summers, and speaks in high terms of the production as "an eloquent Masonic document."

From his conclusion we quote :

We have read during the year thousands of pages upon Masonry, and from it we have derived pleasure; from the Addresses of Grand Masters and Correspondence reports we have obtained new views of old questions, and from both much valuable information. The year's reading has again convinced us that Freemasonry is steadily increasing in numbers, in moral strength, and in influence for good. That there may be no halt in the onward march of the Craft it is absolutely necessary that each Brother is vigilant within and without our sacred retreats, in other words, he must practice the teachings of Masonry in the daily walks of his life.

During the year the most prominent topics of discussion have been: (1) the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington regarding Negro Masonry; (2) non-affiliation and suspension for non-payment of dues; (3) the physical qualification doctrine; (4) the status of the Gran Dieta of Mexico; (5) military Lodges; (6) Grand Master's prerogatives, and several others of minor importance. On all of these subjects there may be found in our report quotations which will pay perusal, and on all of them we have in our own humble way, and with fraternal courtesy and respect, intimated our own opinions, though not, we trust obtrusively.

By a decree of our Grand Lodge the next Report on Correspondence has to be furnished in topical form. Always bowing to the dictates of that august Body we shall, God willing, attempt to prepare a report as directed. Whether it will be a success or a failure we do not know; neither do we know how it will be received by the Brethren of Utah, for whose benefits these reports are written. We shall try our "level best" to please them in the future as we have at least attempted to do for the last thirty years. There is nothing like trying.

M. W. George V. Schramm, Ogden, is Grand Master.

R. W. Christopher Diehl, Salt Lake City, is Grand Secretary.

VERMONT, 1899.

June 14th, in Masonic Temple, in the city of Burlington, the One Hundred and Sixth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W. Daniel N. Nicholson, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, twelve district deputy grand masters, ten past grand officers, thirty-four grand representatives, and representatives from ninety of the one hundred and two subordinate lodges, in attendance.

Reverend A. W. Warner, Grand Chaplain, of Bethel, who, the Grand Master says, has led the devotions of the Grand Lodge for a third of a century, again invoked the blessings of Divine Providence upon them.

In opening his annual address the Grand Master extended fraternal welcome and greetings, rejoicing that death had not come nigh to touch their official ranks. Death, however, had claimed many in the subordinate lodges, and of these appropriate fraternal mention was made. The War with Spain, the inevitable tears of the widow and the fatherless, the mother's heart melted in sorrow because of the loss of her son and the sister, grief-stricken for the lost companionship of her beloved brother, were feelingly remembered, as well as the glorious cause in which our soldiers were engaged.

He gives attention to the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing Negro Masonry, and embodies in his address of Vermont's action in 1855, when a member of a negro lodge sought the privilege of visiting a lodge in that state. The matter of the legality of the colored lodges was then taken up by Grand Master Tucker and the Grand Lodge, and the inevitable result of my investigation seeking a solution of the matter was reached, namely, by every rule, recognized in American Grand Lodges, Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all its brood are clandestine. Satisfied with its former conclusion, and reviewing the case anew the Grand Lodge said :

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Washington by the adoption of certain resolutions at its Annual Communication in 1898 has in effect denied that Grand Lodges duly and legally constituted are supreme within their territory, and has signified an intention to recognize as masons men belonging to clandestine and irregular lodges, therefore,

Resolved. That the Grand Master is hereby instructed (unless said Grand Lodge of Washington at its annual communication, this year, rescinds its aforesaid action), to issue an edict suspending all Masonic intercourse between the Grand Lodge of Vermont, its subordinates and members, and the Grand Lodge of Washington, its subordinates and members, until the wrong is made right.

The Grand Master also reviewed, at length, the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru embodying the report of a commission of that body showing the emphatic loyalty to landmarks evinced by our true brethren in Peru, who promptly at the annual communication in June 1898, restored the Bible to its proper place in the lodges.

He reported granting eleven special dispensations for the usual purposes for which such dispensations are granted, within the discretion and under the prerogative possessed. We make note of the quite general exercise of such power, that those who read our report may know, even if they don't consider, that the craft is being served by those who follow masonic

landmarks and usage. He reported five decisions, none of which are of special interest to the craft generally outside of the Grand Jurisdiction of Vermont.

In Vermont it is provided, as in keeping with ancient usages, that the term "past master" applies only to a Master who has passed and vacated the chair, and does not apply, to one who succeeds himself in that office, until he finally vacates it.

The Grand Master's address and report is a most comprehensive one, disclosing the condition of nearly everything of interest to his brethren, and no doubt excited an interest in many things not usually touched in such a paper.

From the report of the Committee on Necrology we extract :

Vermont truly mourns with her sister the loss of a valued friend and faithful official in the removal by death, May 6, 1899, of R. W. William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska and the Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge, near the Grand Lodge of Nebraska for twenty-two consecutive years, which position he held at the time of his decease.

Among the first of the Eminent Craftsmen in attendance at the Masonic Congress in Chicago in 1893 to call upon the delegates from this state, was this distinguished brother, whose long official connection with this jurisdiction naturally caused a desire on his part to see and know her representatives at that meeting, and it was indeed a pleasure to them to make the acquaintance of so bright and genial a brother, and a source of pride and gratification to know that Vermont and her interests were represented in this flourishing jurisdiction by so able and zealous a member of the Craft.

We extend to the several Grand Bodies with which Bro. Bowen was associated our fraternal sympathy, and append herewith the official announcement of his death by M. W. Bro. Frank H. Young.

M. W. Bro. Marsh O. Perkins writes the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and seventy-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty four sister Grand Lodges, Nebraska, 1898, receiving generous consideration, but hear him on the subject of two of our decisions :

The following are produced as "rare old curios"—why a Bro. should take the initiative in such cases is beyond our present, limited comprehension:—

Could we suspend a brother who asks in open lodge to be suspended because he is unable to pay his dues? Yes.

Could we suspend a brother who verbally requests the Secretary for immediate suspension for non-payment of dues? No; the request should come to the lodge in writing, signed by the brother desiring to be suspended.

The decisions seems to have been approved without even adding the supposedly saving grace of "turning state's evidence." But we think the first of these decisions *anent* suspensions should have been emphatically disapproved. A Bro. so unfortunate as to be unable to pay his dues is entitled to Masonic charity, and the remission of his dues, instead of being required to carry himself farther into the valley of humiliation.

Upon the subject of the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington in recognizing clandestine Negro Masonry, he says, the regret is deep and wide-spread because of its following "the leadership of designing and ambitious (?) brethren, who have only brought contumely upon her fair name by hurling the brand of discord among the workmen on the Temple."

Upon the subject of the exclusive jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge, within its territorial limits, he says :

The declaration of inherent right of sovereignty was first made in Massachusetts in 1777, again in 1782, and has ever since been the law to govern in this country. It has been pronounced good law again and again. It is a wholesome law inspiring self-respect, self-restraint and self-reliance. It has proved a potent factor in preserving peace and harmony among the craft throughout the land. It is of sufficient age to have become a law that may not be disturbed without causing confusion, breeding discord and leading to ruin, and no Grand Lodge can be justified in a breach of it, any more than it would be in overturning a landmark. Vermont spoke with emphasis on this subject in 1855, when she adopted the utterances of Grand Master Tucker in that year in the following resolutions, emphatically reaffirming her own position:

"1. That no Grand Lodge of any State can regularly recognize a subordinate lodge existing in another State, or its members, until such subordinate lodge is recognized by the Grand Lodge of the State in which it exists.

"2. That no Grand Lodge, either in these United States or any other country, can legally establish a subordinate lodge in any other State where a regularly constituted Grand Lodge exists."

M.:W.:W. Scott Nay, Underhill, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, is Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA, 1899.

December 13th, in Lannon's Opera House, in the city of Alexandria, the One Hundred and Twenty-second Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form by M.:W.:R. T. W. Duke, Jr., Grand Master, with all the grand officers, the representatives from one hundred and ninety-nine of the two hundred and seventy-five subordinate lodges, a large number of district deputies and a great number of past masters of the Virginia lodges, twenty-seven grand representatives, and grand masters, and distinguished visitors from the grand jurisdictions of Alabama, Arkansas, Belgium, Canada, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Indiana, Indian Territory, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Nova Scotia, Oklahoma, Texas, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia, present.

These distinguished brethren were all introduced and welcomed. M.:W.:Brother Drummond, and many others, addressed the Grand Lodge in most fitting language, appropriate to the principal occasion of this grand communication, that of engaging in the memorial observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Worshipful Brother George Washington, by the Freemasons of the United States, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which occurred on the next day, December 14th, 1899.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master said:

I welcome you to-night to the one hundred and twenty-second Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Let us first, as it is meet, right and our bounden duty to do, return thanks to our Heavenly Father, for the great mercies we have received at His hands in the

past Masonic year. To-day no crape lies upon our altar, and I have not a single death to report to cast its shadow upon our assemblage.

And yet, we meet for the first time, with one exception, since 1784, outside of the Capital City, and our meeting is held here to commemorate the anniversary of a death. The one hundredth anniversary of the death of an immortal—for he—the anniversary of whose death we commemorate—belonged and belongs to the few to whom fame gives an earthly immortality, and likewise to the many to whom is given immortality beyond the grave, for as great as he was, he was the humble follower of Him who is the Resurrection and the Life.

Tribute to his memory will be paid to-morrow over the length and breadth of the land, and I will not attempt here to say one word in eulogium of George Washington. The mere mention of his name carries with it all that the most eloquent can say.

The commemoration of this anniversary initiated with the Grand Lodge of Colorado, to whom is due the credit of calling the attention of the Masonic Fraternity to its propriety.

That Lodge, with whom united many of the Grand Lodges of the United States, requested the Grand Lodge of the State of Virginia to undertake the management and control of the entire affair. No one at that time realized the magnitude of the undertaking, or the labor and expense required to carry it out successfully, nor did the Grand Lodge conceive what a task it had before it until it had committed itself to the faithful performance of the duty imposed upon it. But having undertaken it, realizing that it was to honor her greatest son, she has put forth every effort and spared neither time nor means to discharge the duty her sister Grand Lodges requested at her hands. When the time came and the full measure of the character of this commemoration was made known, she had the cheerful co-operation and ready aid of thirty-two of the Grand Lodges of this Union and of some of the Foreign Grand Lodges. I shall not name them here, for they have the full consciousness of duty performed, and I can only say to them, that the Grand Lodge of Virginia appreciates most highly their aid and comfort, no matter whether it came in material shape or in friendly and brotherly God speed.

Several Jurisdictions who united in the call to Virginia did nothing more, and some were silent at all times.

We regret sincerely that every one of the Jurisdictions in the United States is not represented here. All would be welcome whether they came as participants or as guests, for the object of this commemoration is not for the honor or glorification of any Grand Lodge, but an evidence and token of the honor and respect in which Free Masons hold the memory of their great Brother—the greatest man in all the tide of time.

The Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, and those members since called in to fill vacancies caused by resignation, deserve, as they will receive, the hearty thanks of all who desire to see this commemoration a success. Rt. Wor. K. Kemper, Chairman, has from the beginning worked with fidelity and zeal; Bro. J. B. Sener, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who rendered most valuable service, drawing the report and outlining the plans and programme, felt constrained to resign the position for good reasons. I accepted his resignation with regret, and appointed Bro. Thomas S. Martin to succeed him, a most fortunate appointment, for this distinguished brother entered into the performance of his duties with his characteristic energy and fidelity to every trust. Bros. John W. Daniel, M. Woods, and Most Wor. Bro. Mann Page have done their full duty, but the success of the undertaking I feel it my duty to say will be due in great part to the self-sacrificing, hearty, earnest, hard work of M. Wor. A. R. Courtney, who succeeded Bro. Sener as Chairman of the Executive Committee. He has given almost his entire time for the last three months to this work, and his energy, tact, and labor have been phenomenal.

And here I turn to the distinguished representatives of our sister Grand Lodges, and in the name of the Grand Lodge of Virginia bid them a hearty and unfeigned welcome. Brethren—I will not call you guests—you are ours, of us, part of us, no matter from whence you come—Maine and California, Canada, Nova Scotia, and Florida, Belgium and Victoria, East, West, North, South. Here I hail you as from no foreign clime, for Free Masonry is but one country, knows but one latitude. Our love, our gratitude, destroys barriers, obliterates all lines. You are in your own home. Some have doubted the prerogative of Grand Masters to make Masons at sight, but no one dare question the power of the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia when he makes you now and at sight, one and all, Virginia Masons, and bids you enter your own home and occupy as you will.

“Our hoard is frugal, but our hearts are great,” take them with our unfeigned affection, and may this meeting knit together in ties of sincerest affection every Mason and every Masonic Lodge represented here.

The Grand Master reported his official acts, the officers and standing committees made excellent report of duties performed and matters referred to them and all the usual business of the grand lodge was properly attended to.

The services at Mt. Vernon, accounts of which have been given and read by freemasons everywhere, forms a considerable part of the volume lying before the writer. To enter into an account of it in this report seems unnecessary; our Grand Master, who was present and honored on that occasion, no doubt, will refer to it in a more interesting manner than this committee could hope to do if we were to make the attempt.

R. W.: Brother Joseph W. Eggleston, writes the report on correspondence, covering one hundred and fifteen pages; Nebraska, 1898, is fraternally reviewed, but he says: “There is no report on correspondence. More’s the pity, as it is like beating the air to discuss without having some one to maintain the opposite side, and in this and other reports we have been obliged to take issue with Nebraska on one or two points.” To which we reply: Please state your points, and possibly you can be accommodated along the line of your arduous pursuit of poor Nebraska.

He and the writer certainly will not disagree about what he says in speaking of the Grand Master of British Columbia:

He, hampered by a “Constitution,” debates the question as to what a dispensation really is. Well, if Masonry is to become everywhere a modern society governed, not by a blending of King Solomon’s wisdom and power with pure democracy, but by organic law or “Constitution,” a “dispensation” would have simply no meaning at all. The word plainly means a “dispensing” with a provision of law when special circumstances render it necessary. The only reason for our blending of autocratic with democratic government is in memory of the same blending which existed when the temple was built. The three Grand Masters, the only Master Masons living, jointly exercised general powers as our Master Masons in Grand Lodge assembled do, but would any sane Mason imagine that King Solomon would have hesitated, in an emergency, to “dispense” with the action of any of their laws, and, as the word plainly means, set it aside. The laws made by these three Grand Masters were general in their nature, but not necessarily so specific or elaborate as to properly cover every possible case; therefore they could be set aside temporarily by proper authority, and ours should be the same way. We have in the Landmarks enough fixed, immutable, organic law, and we have only been, in some instances, misled

by the name Constitution. Many Jurisdictions calling their law a Constitution do not set it up as sacred and inviolable, but countenance the Grand Master's right to "dispense" with it in his discretion. It should be given some other name on this continent, simply because the word Constitution has with us come to mean far more than it does in England. Call it a methodical digest of laws of the Grand Lodge, make it binding except when "dispensed" with by authority of King Solomon's successor, and it at once becomes a useful thing instead of a terror. Besides, the office of Grand Master and its relation to the Craft typifies, as we have frequently said, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

M. W.: George W. Wright, Marion, is Grand Master.

R. W.: George W. Carrington, Richmond, is Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA, 1899.

November 15, in Masonic Temple, in the city of Martinsburg, the Thirty-fifth Annual Communication assembled and the Grand Lodge was opened by M. W.: Joseph Hall, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, nine past grand masters, eight district deputy grand masters, eleven district deputy grand lecturers, a large number of past masters, grand representatives, and representatives from one hundred and nine of the one hundred and fifteen subordinate lodges, in attendance.

Comment upon the report, flight of time mark the opening paragraphs of the Grand Master's annual address. A tribute to the memory of Past Grand Master A. M. Evans, who died during the year, he pays in appropriate language. He reports the instituting of four new lodges, and the holding of nine special communications of the grand lodge, eight of which were for the purpose of laying corner-stones and one to dedicate a new lodge room. He granted a large number of special dispensations for the usual purpose. He reported twenty-four decisions, sixteen of which met with full approval; the others were disapproved. Clandestine masons, from some of the brood of thirty-six having their nesting places in Ohio, swarmed over into his grand jurisdiction and it had been necessary for him to warn his brethren, which he did by means of an edict, a report of which, he makes.

Another source of trouble arose by reason of persistent efforts of one Taylor, hailing from the Orient of Guatemala, a Scottish Rite body, to visit the subordinate lodges of West Virginia, but by vigilance he was finally held at bay. He complains because of the loose constructions put upon a former edict by some of the subordinate lodges, whereby the old constitutions, governing physical qualifications in candidates, have, as he says, been violated, and recommends the expunging of the edict. He discusses the rules of "rotation in office," from the standpoint of opposition thereto, quite fully, and enlarges upon the duty to use the black ball.

The following resolution was adopted :

"Resolved, By the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of West Virginia, that Section 28 of our General Laws and Regulations be so amended as to hereafter abolish the so-called degree of Past Master; provided that the usual obligation of a Past Master be retained, and that any and all brothers who may be chosen as Junior and Senior Wardens and Worshipful Masters of all Subordinate Lodges belonging to

this Grand Jurisdiction shall be dully administered to such officers hereafter elected at the time of their respective installations."

From the report of the Committee, we extract :

By his decision that the Grand Master has not the authority to grant a dispensation to permit Lodges to ballot on candidates at special Communications, either for initiation or advancement, is a violation of the fundamental principles from which the Grand Master derives certain prerogatives to act for and in behalf of the Grand Lodge when not in session to meet unforeseen emergencies. A Grand Master's prerogative cannot be taken from him by any act of the Grand Lodge, but he is amenable to it for any abuse of his power. Just such emergencies as are stated in this decision frequently arise, and the prerogative has been exercised by the Grand Masters of this jurisdiction and approved by this Grand Lodge, ever since its existence. We therefore dissent from this decision, because it is not nor never has been the law in this Grand Jurisdiction.

M.:W.:Brother Geo. W. Atkinson, the Grand Secretary, writes the report on correspondence, covering two hundred and seventy-eight pages, and reviewing the proceedings of sixty-four grand lodges; Nebraska, 1899, receives liberal space and consideration. He compliments Brother Summer's oration, quoting liberally therefrom, reviews some of Grand Master Young's decisions, and uses two i's and two l's in writing this reporter's name, an altogether unnecessary adding and multiplying of letters, but he classes our views with the conservative, where we certainly wish to be considered as standing. From his conclusion we quote :

The principal discussion of the year was in regard to the action upon Negro Masonry by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington. I have considered this matter, in its different bearings, in my observations upon a large number of Grand Lodge proceedings, and especially Washington's own annals, so that I need only allude to it here. Suffice it to say that every Grand Lodge on this Continent which has considered the subject at all, disapproved of the course taken by our Washington brethren thereon. It is gratifying to Masons everywhere that the Grand Lodge of Washington rescinded its action, although it was done in anything but a direct manner, and I presume all of the Grand Bodies which withdrew their fraternal relations with Washington, will promptly repeal their acts also. I did not bring the matter directly to the attention of our Grand Lodge, for the reason that the act had been repealed before our Annual Communication last November; and it was unnecessary therefore to pass upon the subject in any formal manner. I rejoice that the knotty problem has been disposed of, and I trust forever.

His report is an excellent one.

M.:W.:Neil Robinson, Charleston, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:George W. Atkinson, Wheeling, is Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN, 1899.

June 13th, in the Masonic Building in the city of Milwaukee, the Fifty-fifth Annual Communication assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:James G. Monahan, Grand Master, with all but one of the grand officers, thirteen past grand masters, two past deputy grand masters, twenty-four past grand wardens, forty-two grand representatives, and representatives from two hundred and twenty-one of the two hundred and thirty-seven subordinate lodges, in attendance.

The Grand Master in opening his annual address asked his brethren to arise and repeat with him the Lord's Prayer. This done, he greeted them, and proceeded at once to a report of his official acts. He notes peace and prosperity, and a good condition among the lodges, paying tribute to the memory of Past Deputy Grand Master David C. Fulton, and Past Grand Secretary Wm. T. Palmer, and reported the death of two hundred and twenty-five members of the subordinate lodges. He had granted thirty-six special dispensations for various purposes, including seven to permit chapters of the Eastern Star to use Masonic Halls, and says he loves masonry because of its antiquity, its mission and its inherent worth; Masons, because by them he has been permitted to wear the lambskin and drink from the eternal fountain of knowledge that flows from out behind the centuries, and the Eastern Star because it enables his wife to share with him in the work and glories of the order. He says that, from his own special inquiries, its organization has in every way been beneficial to masonry. He had convened the grand lodge in special session six times during the year for the purpose of constituting one new lodge, laying the corner-stone of the new Masonic Temple at Eau Claire, and the corner-stone of the public library building at Oshkosh, the dedication of the Masonic Hall at Randolph, and at Clear Lake to dedicate the new Masonic Hall erected there.

He notices briefly the action of Grand Master Dam, of Peru, in attempting to banish, by edict, the Bible from the altar, which, however, was not generally done in the lodges, and of the subsequent action of that grand lodge and his successor, in restoring the Great Light to its proper place in masonic lodges.

He had refused to consider the proposition to grant a dispensation for an army lodge, giving as a reason "that the experience of the Craft during the War of the Rebellion had proved conclusively that army lodges were a source of great annoyance, vexatious trouble, and were productive of but little good."

The contrary view will be seen by reference to the proceedings of South Dakota, 1899, to which reference will be found in this report in the review of that grand jurisdiction.

He reports eight decisions from which we extract the following, which the grand lodge did not approve:

7th. A sentence of suspension or expulsion from a Lodge suspends or expels from all Masonic bodies; and the members of a Lodge, Chapter, Commandery or Consistory who, knowingly, permit a Mason, while under such sentence, to sit in their meetings, or converse upon the subject of Masonry with him, are guilty of un-Masonic conduct, and can be disciplined by their respective Lodges.

Continuing he says:

Fifty-five years ago three Lodges—Mineral Point, No. 1; Melody, No. 2, and Kilbourn, No. 3—met at Madison, by their representatives, and organized the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin. There were seven delegates at that gathering, representing seventy-nine Masons—all there were in the then Territory of Wisconsin. To-day our Grand Lodge meets with over seven hundred delegates, representing nearly eighteen thousand Masons. Then

persecution assailed the Order, both openly and secretly, and in many communities to be known as a Free Mason meant social ostracism, financial embarrassment and political death. It was an hour that tried men's souls. The Prince of Darkness had been unchained, the gall of bigotry had embittered the hearts of the race, the clouds of superstition and darkness shut out the light of truth, the creeds had triumphed over the Christ. The spirit of intolerance, like a blighting hot wind, swept over the land. It saw the ranks of Masonry shattered and dispersed, her Lodge room doors sealed, her lesser lights extinguished, and proclaimed to the world that Masonry was no more.

But the condition of the Craft to-day shows that while calumny may detract, and oppression cripple, they cannot destroy the principles of living Truth; for, proud in her strength, glorious in the loveliness of her beauty, Masonry, like a white dove of peace, girdles the earth with her mighty pinions, and points the way to a higher and holier civilization.

Who knows better than a good Grand Secretary the needs of his grand jurisdiction, and we are glad to find this one in his report, saying:

In this connection it may be well to have in mind that, with the passing years, the time is coming when some provision must be made for caring for indigent Masons or the widows and orphans who are entitled to our care.

The ladies of the Eastern Star of this State assumed a burden for the care of an aged widow, which imposed an expenditure upon them of over \$300.00, and this case was properly a charge upon a sister Jurisdiction.

There does not seem to be occasion to go to the cost of erecting—and the greater expense of maintaining—a Masonic home in this Jurisdiction for the few who would be found to avail themselves of its privileges. There should, however, be some provision for a fund to be used in emergent cases where no Lodge seems to be directly responsible. I submit this subject for the consideration of some of our wise and philanthropic Brethren, with the hope that some plan may be devised to keep up the good name of Wisconsin in the matter of dispensing Masonic charity.

Past Grand Master M. L. Youngs, who has been their grand lecturer for forty-two years, presented a very interesting report, setting forth historical events of interest and discussing the impropriety of adding to the prescribed ritual and lectures, unusual musical selections, literary excerpts, many of them beautiful in language, but sometimes foreign to the ritual and contrary to the spirit of its teachings and symbols, as also the employment of stage settings, theatrical scenes and stereopticon views, other than of the emblems or symbols given in the monitor and chart.

In which discussion he cited the action of the grand lodge and grand officers of Massachusetts and Illinois, and of Past Grand Master Aldro Jenks, while Grand Master in their own jurisdiction, to prevent such variations which he denominates innovations.

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution condemning the action of the Grand Lodge of Washington upon the subject of Negro Masonry, severing all fraternal relations until such time as that Grand Lodge shall rescind its action.

Five hundred dollars were appropriated to relieve brethren suffering from the tornado which did so much injury to New Richmond, and which occurred on the eve of the opening of the present session of the Grand Lodge.

M.:W.:Brother Aldro Jenks writes the very excellent report on correspondence, covering one hundred and thirty-six pages and reviewing the proceedings of fifty-seven sister grand lodges.

He is in full accord with M.:W.:Brother Postlewaite, of Kansas, in his views concerning the propriety of lodges attending public worship in regalia, and with him wonders "what part a few white gloves can have in the worship of God." Lodge regalia, he says, "has its use and place, but in this day and age we think it should not be worn in public worship. It detracts the minds, attracts the audience, and destroys true worship. If the lodge goes for the purpose of worship, regalia will not be needed. Lodges should not be seen in public merely for show or help others make a show."

He is in full accord with the more advanced promoters of strict so-called temperance legislation, and in support of it on the ground of precedent, he says:

If the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin together with some twenty to twenty-five other Grand Lodges of the United States are violating the landmarks of Masonry, we are interested in knowing it. It is the first time we have ever seen this claim advanced, excepting in the minority report of the committee in Texas, whose proceedings called forth the opinion from Bro. Upton. As Bro. Upton is not disposed to adhere to any distinctively "American doctrine," we will cite him to an Ancient respectable English Authority on the subject:

On the 15th of September, 1779, the Archives of "the Grand Lodge of all England" were examined by a Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge for that purpose. This Grand Lodge was the one at York, from which York rite Masonry takes its name. A schedule was made of the ancient records and belongings of the old Grand Lodge of York. Among them was found a skin of parchment endorsed "Old Rules of the Grand Lodge of York, 1725."

The fifteenth article of these "old rules" is as follows:

"No more persons shall be admitted as Brothers of this Society that shall keep a Public House."

The keepers of Public Houses of that day were no other than the vendors of intoxicating liquors that are being legislated against at the present day, and if this action of the numerous American Grand Lodges is an innovation, it certainly has quite respectable Ancient Masonic Authority to excuse it.

M.:W.:Charles E. Wheelan, Madison, is Grand Master.

M.:W.:John W. Lafin, Milwaukee, is Grand Secretary.

WYOMING, 1899.

September 13th, in the Hall of Cheyenne Lodge No. 1, in the city of Cheyenne, the Twenty-fifth Annual Communication was assembled, and the Grand Lodge was opened by M.:W.:J. M. Rumsey, Grand Master, with all the grand officers, except three, four past grand masters, nineteen past masters and representatives from twelve of the sixteen subordinate lodges, in attendance.

In opening his annual address, the Grand Master said:

As members of a great commonwealth, we cannot but turn our eyes, first of all, to the page of history which has just been written—a page, stained it is true, with the best blood of our fellow citizens and our brother

Masons, but illuminated with hope, crowned with victory and closed with ever-welcome peace.

I have no pleasure in a war which was forced upon us—which cost millions of money—sacrificed many human lives and brought desolation to many homes, but I cannot help rejoicing that, in the spirit in which we entered upon it and in its general results, we have everything to be thankful for and little to regret.

He paid appropriate tribute to the fraternal dead; reported having refused some applications for special dispensations for fear "it would be a fatal mistake to set aside established rules, by a dispensation, unless for the most satisfactory reasons." And then to maintain, as it would seem, an equilibrium, "on the fence," he granted two.

"For the good of Masonry," he says, he had addressed a letter to the different Grand Masters throughout the United States, suggesting the organization of a "Supreme or Sovereign Grand Lodge." We had supposed that there are now a good many "Sovereign Grand Lodges" already in existence in the United States. But he says "very distinctively" that his letter was "merely tentative and experimental," and that it did not meet with unanimous endorsement. If there is a well informed freemason in this country, one who has a comprehensive conception of what the institution really is, who favors such a scheme, we don't know where to find him.

From his letter we extract:

In connection with the controversy arising out of the action of the Grand Lodge at Washington, it has occurred to me that it would be advisable to establish a Masonic tribunal or court of appeal which might be termed a Supreme, or Sovereign Grand Lodge, on which suggestion I would very much like your opinion.

The Washington matter has been settled in a much better way. In a way entirely in harmony with freemasonry, which is "a law unto itself." And at the same time an American principle of Grand Lodge sovereignty, in determining what is masonry in its own jurisdiction, has been fully vindicated. He visited one lodge and installed its officers; reports no decisions; deputed a past grand master to lay the corner-stone of the federal building at Cheyenne, a good account of which is rendered. He recommended the restoration of the grand representative system, and the establishing a fund looking to the building at some future time, of a Wyoming Masonic Home. The reports of the several grand officers and standing committees were all painstaking, and the business of the Grand Lodge received careful consideration.

R.:W.:W. L. Kuykendall presented a special report on the recognition of negro masonry by the Grand Lodge of Washington, which was adopted. It is an excellent presentation of the correct view of the questions involved. He writes the report on correspondence; Nebraska, 1898, receives fraternal consideration; thinks our Grand Lodge has settled the question of whether the Grand Master is the creature of the constitution, or the Grand Lodge. We are not arguing that question at the present time, but suggest to our Wyoming brother that if he will go to the trouble of opening the first volume of Nebraska's reprint of the proceedings of our Grand Lodge—a copy of

which we think he has—he will find that Nebraska had a Grand Master and a Grand Lodge before it had a constitution. That after the installation of its first Grand Master, and the erection of a Grand Lodge, the Grand Master appointed a committee which presented a constitution, and that the constitution, created by the Grand Master's committee and adopted by his Grand Lodge, was brought into being. Simple facts in history sometimes serve to solve who creates, and which is the creature.

In concluding he says:

In closing this, our fourteenth report, we do so with the best of feeling for all our brethren everywhere and for mankind in general. To our brethren in Wyoming we return our sincere thanks for kindness and consideration extended through all the years we have been the Reporter, and to our brethren of the guild we say forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, if any such have occurred, and we will be content. May peace and harmony prevail and prosperity attend our great Institution continuously so that it may be said in spirit and in truth that our Fraternity is a happy family of friends and brothers.

M.:W.:E. P. Bowman, New Castle, is Grand Master.

R.:W.:Wm. L. Kuykendall, Saratoga, is Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE	Date	Number of lodges	Number of members	Raised	Restored and affiliated	Demitted	Expelled	Suspended	Suspended for non-payment of dues	Died	Net gain	Loss
Alabama	1899	377	11291	639	756	469	12	25	362	253	272	
Arizona	1899	14	735	48	30	16	1	1	15	11	34	
Arkansas	1898	448	12522	640	461	470	17	24	480	254		144
British Columbia	1899	24	1639	139	98	57			24	20	136	
California	1899	267	20442	1388	605	831	6	400		413	900	
Canada	1899	861	24957	1580	599	579			553	312	1088	
Colorado	1899	94	7974	422	828	144	3	101		118	369	
Connecticut	1900	109	17446	718	132	66	5	2	173	214	214	
Delaware	1899	21	2235	93	15	18				80	59	
District of Columbia	1899	25	5579	351	149	57			75	107	267	
Florida	1900	147	4321	243	800	203	4	192		91	53	
Georgia	1899	430	19382	1107							771	
Idaho	1899	29	1143	64	38	37	2	50		21		8
Illinois	1899	723	55120	2928	1168	1122	20	1161		879	962	
Indiana	1899	488	80901	1791	817	659	27	20	474	487	947	
Indian Territory	1899	91	3025	298	274	281	7		113	72	143	
Iowa	1899	563	28490	1496	768	835	10	8	678	357	869	
Kansas	1899	362	20859	1297	754	689	8		356	278	756	
Kentucky	1899	408	18790	1376	901	651	22		821	352	388	
Louisiana	1900	129	5962	416	159	150	2	147	17	131	128	
Maine	1899	195	22165	702	165	200	2	287		419		21
Manitoba	1899	60	2870	242	122	112			55	26	200	
Maryland	1899		8021	534	71	152		352	51	90		
Massachusetts	1899		39334	1858	310	357	1	327		581		
Michigan	1900	386	41917	2098	925	449	11	352		657	1537	
Minnesota	1899	205	15906	742	365	434	9	3	255	218	218	
Mississippi	1899	265	8748	550	371	259	8	9	325	222	99	
Missouri	1899	556	22153	1589	1138	766	27	39	781	516	598	
Montana	1899	46	3000	199	109	61	1	3	51	43	150	
Nebraska	1900	236	12361	685	467	327	4	6	221	167	427	
Nevada	1899	20	850	22	27	27			10	27		15
New Brunswick	1899	32	1778	95	28	38			43	30	12	
New Hampshire	1899	78	9240	304	19	77			41	189	16	
New Jersey	1899	168	16970	974	260	190	4		349	275	426	
New Mexico	1899	20	922	62	32	28	1	1	13	10	41	
New South Wales	1899	185	7164	811	554	875		106		67		
New York	1899	745	98180	5774	1990	898	22		237	1589	3700	
North Carolina	1899	307	10954	805	835	201	6	74	240	165	454	
North Dakota	1899	55	3169	337	71	123	1		98	23	223	
Northern China	1899	6	227	28	32	24				2	48	
Nova Scotia	1899	61	3397	224	73	101		2	73	58	12	
Ohio	1899	502	44201	2677	1519	712	16	6	1400	707	1353	
Oklahoma	1899	44	1895	209	178	96	4	24		22	431	
Oregon	1899	99	5095	288	205	110	1		88	78	216	
Pennsylvania	1899	433	53446	2773	570	334		772		851	1386	
Prince Edward Island	1899	13	526	17	6	16			2	5		
Quebec	1899	55	9643	213	70	71		1	105	34	72	
Rhode Island	1899	37	5220	205	232	12			73	96	57	
South Australia	1899	42	2405	173	155	177		17	41	24	73	
South Carolina	1899	183	6056			185			175	117		
South Dakota	1899	93	4437	209	90	161	1	1	58	50	29	
Tennessee	1899	428	17465	679	633	624	16	18	486	385		340
Texas	1899		28141	1296	1453	1448	30	34	698	531		
Utah	1900	10	927	68	42	22			16	13	60	
Vermont	1899	102	10166	439	103	134	2		93	185	280	
Virginia	1899	275	12836	622	438	423	4	4	292	218		68
Washington	1899	100	4949	809	316	126	1	3	138	55	316	
West Virginia	1899	113	6567	356	115	158	4	6	140	81	316	
Wisconsin	1899	237	17421	737	353	318	7	12	266	225	305	
Wyoming	1899	16	1044	42	27	33	1		19	12	4	

ADDENDA
TO THE
LAW OF FREEMASONRY IN NEBRASKA.

BEING ALL AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GRAND
LODGE, APPROVED DECISIONS OF THE GRAND MASTERS, AND
REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON JURISPRU-
DENCE FROM 1895 TO DATE.*

RELATING TO GRAND LODGE.

Section 1. Grand Lodge Meeting.

1. On the Wednesday on or immediately following the third day of June of each year, at such hour as the Grand Master may appoint, a Master Mason's Lodge shall be opened. So soon as a constitutional number of lodges is ascertained to be present the Grand Lodge of Nebraska shall be declared open for the dispatch of business, and the Grand Master shall then make such appointments as may be necessary to fill all vacancies in the standing committees. 1898-5637.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES.

2. Add to Sec. 1, Par. 2, "and the committee on Fraternal Dead." 1900-5897.

3. The Grand Master shall, at the time of his installation, appoint the committee on Foreign Correspondence, the committee on Codification of the Law, and the committee on Fraternal Dead; and shall appoint the other standing committees at or before the opening of the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge. 1900-5897.

20. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be permitted to omit from his address all matters relating to deceased brethren, and that such matter be embodied in the report of the standing committee on Fraternal Dead, and be published at the same time as the Grand Master's address and reports of officers. 1900-5898.

*Section and paragraph refer to section and paragraph Law of Freemasonry, edition of 1895, that are amended. Notes at foot of each amendment, etc., refer to year and page of proceedings.

Section 2. Grand Lodge Officers.

1. Add "Said Grand Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Grand Lodge, if kept in a bank, in a separate account, and not mingled with his own funds in his private account." 1900-5897.

2. The Grand Secretary shall annually notify the Secretaries of the sums remaining due from or to each subordinate lodge on the 20th day of March, and on the 15th day of May of each year he shall close the account of each subordinate lodge preparatory to submitting same to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication. 1898-5623.

3. The Grand Wardens, in the absence of the Grand Master, he not being out of the state nor under any disability, are entitled to all the courtesies and honors due to grand officers, but have no rights or powers except as delegated by the Grand Master. 1898-5644.

Section 4. Appropriations.

2. *Resolved*, That hereafter no money shall be drawn from any fund under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge except it be done by regular warrant signed by the proper officers—the usual custom of drawing money. 1898-5624.

Section 7. Orphans Educational Fund.

Add to Par. 2, "provided that no trustee shall have any personal interest in any loan made." 1900-5897.

6. *Whereas*, Heretofore there has been organized by this Grand Lodge, and by associations of Masons under this jurisdiction, and with the sympathy, sanction and support of the Grand Lodge, funds for educational and charitable purposes. One of said funds, the Orphans Educational Fund, has now reached and passed the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, after which it was intended to devote the proceeds or part thereof to be used for the purpose intended by its founders; therefore,

Resolved, That a select committee consisting of the M.:W.:Grand Master, M.:W.:Bros.:Mercer, 4; Lininger, 3; Young, 207; and W.:Bro.:Hopewell, 31, be appointed to inquire into the condition of all funds, intended for charitable and educational purposes, and to report to the next Grand Lodge such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the disbursement and expenditure of the income derived from the same. 1899-5753-4.

7. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Orphans Educational Fund be required to furnish bond in such form as the Grand Master may direct, from some approved guaranty company, in the sum of \$5,000, or such additional sum as the Grand Master may direct, to be paid for from the monies belonging to such fund; said bond to be approved by the Grand Master, and to be filed with the Grand Secretary. 1899-5731.

8. *Resolved*, That John Stevenson Bowen, youngest child of our late lamented Grand Secretary, William R. Bowen, be and is hereby adopted as "the child of the Grand Lodge, A.:F.:&A.:M.:, of Nebraska;" and that we pledge ourselves to exercise paternal care for his future practical educa-

tion and welfare from available means of the Orphans Educational Fund of this jurisdiction. 1899-5750.

Section 9. Miscellaneous.

1. *Resolved*, That the committee on Codification of the Law, furnish the Grand Secretary all standing resolutions, approved decisions of the Grand Master, and committee on Jurisprudence, with reference to proceedings wherein they were made, and that said resolutions and decisions shall be printed with the proceedings from year to year. 1896-577.

2. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the names of Master Masons who are members of Nebraska lodges should be published with our next year's proceedings, and each fifth year thereafter. 1886-3417.

RELATING TO LODGES.

Section 100. Lodges.

1. A lodge shall consist of a Master, a Senior and a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior Deacon, a Junior Deacon, a Tyler, and as many members as are convenient. In a chartered lodge the first five officers above enumerated shall be elected by ballot, by a majority of votes, at the last regular meeting in May of each year; all other officers shall be appointed by the Master. 1899-5736.

2. The officers shall be installed during the month of June, and after the annual communication of the Grand Lodge. 1899-5748.

16. A lodge can not be permitted to bury a suspended Mason. 1899-5694.

17. A member of a lodge can be installed into office notwithstanding he is in arrears for dues. 1899-5694.

18. An individual brother can not file objections against an officer-elect being installed without preferring charges. Matters of this kind should always be referred to the Grand Master. 1896-571.

19. Installation at other than the regular time, except by dispensation, is irregular, and any Master of a lodge permitting the same is subject to Masonic discipline. 1899-5694, 5732.

20. The installing officer should afford every brother opportunity for objection before he installs any officer of the lodge, and should the ground for objection be deemed sufficient he will be justified in refusing to install such officer; in such case the matter should be reported to the Grand Master for his action. Any brother in good standing has the right to lodge an objection directly with the Grand Master for his consideration and decision. 1899-5695.

21. After the regular election of officers in subordinate lodges has been held, and before the members so selected have been installed, the vote on any individual officer can not be reconsidered. 1896-571.

22. The meeting on St. John's Day is for the special purpose of installation, and no other business can be transacted unless such meeting is made a regular meeting by the by-laws of the lodge. 1896-511.

23. Notices of lodge meetings may be published in newspapers. 1896-512.

Section 102. Lodge officers.

16. The Master, or, in the absence of the Master, the ranking Warden, may at any time invite any competent brother to preside over the lodge; but in this case the brother so presiding only acts as a proxy of the officer who called him to the East, and should he be superseded by the entrance of a ranking officer, the presiding brother's authority would at once cease. 1899-5735.

17. Where charges are preferred against or objections made to a Master-elect before his installation, the matter should be referred to the Grand Master for investigation and decision. 1896-572.

18. A brother having been installed by proxy as Junior Warden, afterward re-elected as Master, all of the acts of the lodge and of the brother while serving as Master are valid. 1893-80.

19. A brother who has all other qualifications, but has lost the fore-finger and middle finger of his right hand, is eligible to the office of Master. 1896-572.

20. The Senior Warden of a lodge can not install its officers unless he be a Past Master. 1894-135.

21. When a Warden is suspended for non-payment of dues, such suspension *ipso facto* vacates his office. 1896-512.

22. Where a lodge by resolution allows its Secretary ten (\$10.00) dollars per annum for incidental expenses, he has no right to withhold it from the funds received without reporting the same to the Treasurer, and getting regular vouchers thereon. 1893-63.

Section 103. Qualifications of petitioners.

4. A petitioner engaged in the liquor business shall not be elected to initiation, advancement, or membership, nor can the manager of a brewery receive the degrees though he be highly recommended for intelligence, industry, and good moral character. 1900-5844.

5. An applicant for initiation who has lost the third finger on his right hand can be initiated. 1893-63.

6. A brother Entered Apprentice who is so deaf that it is questionable whether he could receive the lectures and obligations and fully understand the nature and extent thereof, should not receive further degrees. 1894-135.

7. A petition can not be received and acted upon before the petitioner is twenty-one years of age. 1899-5695, 5732.

8. *Query*—Can a man who has had his hip hurt so as to make one leg a trifle shorter than the other, be made a Mason? *Answer*—If the defect is so trifling as to be scarcely discernible, and does not interfere with his performing all the requirements of Masonry, we can see no reason why he can not. 1885-3254 5.

9. A man whose left foot is amputated two inches above the ankle cannot be made a Mason, even though he wear a perfect artificial limb, and walk so naturally that the loss of his foot escapes observation. 1900-5344.

Section 104. Lodge fees, dues, and returns.

4. A lodge may remit a brother's dues, even though he be suspended. 1900-5843.

12. Each lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge on or before the 30th day of April, the following Grand Lodge fees and dues, viz.: For each initiation, the sum of five dollars (\$5.00); for each member, the sum of one dollar (\$1.00); for each special dispensation to elect and install its officer or officers at a time other than that provided by law, the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00). Such fee shall accompany the petition requesting the dispensation, said petition to be under the seal of the lodge making the request. All Master Masons not under sentence of suspension who are members on the first day of the Masonic year, April 1st, and none others, shall be considered members liable for dues. 1898-5623.

13. The Masonic fiscal year of this jurisdiction shall begin on the first day of April, and end on the thirty-first day of March, and each chartered lodge shall make its annual return to the Grand Secretary within ten days thereafter; and all Grand Lodge dues, and fees of chartered lodges, shall be paid on or before the thirtieth (30th) day of April. 1898-5623.

14. On the recommendation of the committee on Returns each chartered lodge, for each Master Mason in good standing on its roll at the beginning of the year, shall be credited one cent for each day before May 1st both copies of its annual return, together with the appertaining funds, reach the Grand Secretary's office, provided that such credit shall in no case exceed twenty-five cents for each Master Mason in good standing at the beginning of the year. The committee on Returns shall not recommend the above-stipulated credit unless the return be reasonably accurate and well made. 1898-5623.

18. Lodges need not include adult children who are self-supporting, nor widows who are in good financial circumstances, in the lodge report of widows and orphans. 1899-5695.

20. The law relative to exempting members from payment of dues requires that the applicant must have been an affiliated mason for thirty years, not necessarily continuous; but the time which a brother holding a demit serves in a lodge under dispensation cannot be computed in the required period. 1898-5622; 1900-5843.

21. A brother is entitled to hold his certificate of exemption from Grand Lodge dues. The lodge should, however, first make a record of it before delivering it to him. 1899-5695.

22. A lodge may retain a demitting brother's dues when paid in advance. 1894-136.

Section 105. New lodges.

20. Every meeting of a lodge while under dispensation is a regular meeting, if properly convened. 1888-552.

21. A Nebraska Freemason holding a demit over one year can be named in a dispensation creating a new lodge, and be selected to become a charter member thereof. 1894-135, 177.

22. A vote recommending a new lodge may be taken in the same manner as if voting on other business before the lodge. 1894-135.

Section 106. Jurisdiction.

1. The Grand Master cannot grant a dispensation to confer degrees upon a candidate who has not resided in the jurisdiction of the lodge for one year. 1899-5694.

4. Distance, for the purpose of settling questions of territorial jurisdiction, is to be measured in a straight line from the boundaries of the cities in which the lodges are located. 1896-513.

7. When several lodges have concurrent jurisdiction, a waiver of jurisdiction over one who resided therein, but has never petitioned any of them, to be effectual, must be granted by each of the several lodges. 1896-512.

8. *To Whom it May Concern:* This is to certify that Bro.: _____, who has received the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees through _____ Lodge, No. _____, has been granted the privilege of receiving the remaining degree in any lawfully constituted lodge of Masons.

_____ W.:M.:

_____ Secretary.

The foregoing is a waiver of jurisdiction. 1899-5735.

13. A lodge still retains jurisdiction over one whom it rejected twenty-two years ago, even though he has since resided in another jurisdiction. 1900-5843.

A petitioner for the degrees who was elected two years ago but did not attend for initiation, is the material of the lodge to which he applied for admission, and no other lodge can receive him upon petition without a waiver of jurisdiction. 1900-5843.

14. A profane may petition the nearest chartered lodge during the month of May, who is in the jurisdiction of the lodge under dispensation on April 30th. 1893-81.

15. A profane living within the jurisdiction of Ionic Lodge No. 87, petitioned for the degrees. The petition took the ordinary course, and was acted upon favorably by No. 87. Within the year immediately following the action of the lodge he failed to apply for the E.:A.: degree, and changed his residence to the jurisdiction of Omadi Lodge No. 5, and now seeks to have the degree conferred upon him. Should there be a waiver of jurisdiction by Lodge No. 87? What course should be pursued by the applicant and the lodges, all parties desiring to aid the applicant? *Answer*—The applicant has applied to and been elected to secure the degrees in No. 87, and thereby becomes the material of No. 87. If now he wishes to become a member of No. 5 he must petition No. 5, and No. 5 must ask No. 87 to waive jurisdiction. 1899-5735.

16. *Resolved*, 1, That whenever citizens of Nebraska who are desirous of petitioning for the degrees of Masonry shall reside nearer some constituted lodge in Kansas, and shall wish to petition said Kansas lodge for the degrees, they be allowed to do so without first obtaining permission of the Grand Master of this jurisdiction: *Provided*, That this regulation

shall take effect and be in force only upon and after receipt of official information from the Grand Lodge of Kansas that similar permission is given residents of Kansas to apply for the degrees in neighboring lodges located in Nebraska.

2. That the Grand Secretary be instructed to inform the M.:W.:Grand Master of Kansas of this action, and invite concert and reciprocity in this behalf.

3. That whenever the Grand Lodge of Kansas shall have enacted similar provisions, the M.:W.:Grand Master shall notify lodges in this jurisdiction along the border-line between the two States of the taking effect thereof. 1886-3411.

Section 107. Petitioners.

5. A candidate may petition again as soon as objections have been withdrawn. 1900-5843.

9. The six months before a rejected petitioner can again apply, means six months from the date of the ballot to the reception of the subsequent petition. 1894-135.

10. The petition of a candidate for initiation being refused consideration by the lodge, the applicant should not be reported as rejected. 1888-552.

11. A Freemason in good standing living in any jurisdiction may petition, and, if elected, join a Nebraska lodge. 1899-5695.

12. As the Grand Lodge of Kansas and the Grand Lodge of Missouri do not claim perpetual jurisdiction over a candidate, a Nebraska lodge may act on the petition of a rejected candidate from either of these jurisdictions without a waiver of jurisdiction, because a Nebraska lodge may receive and act upon the petition of a rejected candidate from any jurisdiction in which by lapse of time a waiver exists. 1899-5694, 5732.

Section 108. Balloting and objections.

3. See 1900-5894.

8. *Query No. 1*—After a ballot has been taken and the Master declares the result, a brother arises and openly states that he has cast a black ball under the impression that it was altogether a different person. Can the Master, under the circumstances, repass the ballot? *Answer*—Yes; because it would be a radical injury to the candidate to be excluded on these conditions. 1885-3254.

10. An objection to an initiation or an advancement made to the Master, or to the lodge, holds good until removed. 1897-746, 1898-5631.

11. The outgoing Master should communicate to the new Master the name of each objector, and his objections shall hold good so long as the objector lives and remains a member of that lodge. 1893-78. See 1900-5844, 5895.

13. After a candidate has been elected, and before any degrees have been conferred, charges cannot be preferred against him. The proper procedure is by objection to his receiving the degrees. 1894-135.

14. When an applicant has been rejected, and at the close of the lodge it is learned that a brother is not a member of the lodge had voted on the application, a new ballot should be ordered, and notice given at the last

regular meeting before the meeting at which the ballot is to be taken. 1898-5622.

Section 109. Lodge membership.

10. Honorary membership in subordinate lodges is not recognized in this grand jurisdiction.

13. A brother who has remained a member of an extinct lodge over one year is in good standing, provided he is clear on the books. 1893-63.

Section 110. Demits.

1. (a) Petition for a demit should not be referred to a committee. 1895-354.

(b) An elective officer, duly installed, cannot demit to assist in forming a lodge under dispensation. 1900-5843.

6. An installed officer cannot be demitted. 1899-5695.

13. A vote demitting a brother, when announced by the Master, can not be reconsidered. 1899-5695.

Section 111. Work.

6. See 1900-5894-5.

9. Committee on Jurisprudence report that Webb's Monitor has heretofore been adopted by this Grand Lodge and can see no good reason for any change. 1885-3311.

10. Every mason hereafter raised to the degree of Master Mason shall become proficient therein, as required in the former degrees, and give proof thereof by examination in open lodge; which fact shall be entered of record. 1900-5898.

Section 112. Visitors.

4. A visiting brother may be admitted notwithstanding former objections, in the absence of any further objections. 1894-177.

5. Is it lawful for a Master of a subordinate lodge in Nebraska, meeting in Iowa a brother, a member of another subordinate lodge of this State, to acquire by examination a knowledge of the fact that he is a Mason? *Answer*—No, not to the extent that said information can be used for avouchment. 1890-5735.

9. *Query*—Should the test oath be repeated by the committee or the visitor? *Answer*—The Grand Custodian says that according to our work as now practiced the committee should lead. 1885-3255, 3289.

Section 200. Miscellaneous.

11. A public ball should not be held in a hall dedicated to masonic purposes. 1888-552.

16. That each subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction be required to furnish each Master Mason in good standing with a diploma, and that the same be verified each year. 1885-3290.

17. A lodge is in charge of the Master during the hours of labor; in charge of the Junior Warden when at refreshment. Masons are either at

labor or refreshment. "At ease," or "the right of the floor," are improper terms and should not be used. 1891-324.

18. A lodge is at refreshment only during the short interim of the same meeting, except during trials or funerals. 1896-570.

19. A lodge is not at refreshment during the time intervening between one meeting and the next. 1896-570.

20. A lodge sending up by-laws for approval shall submit the same in duplicate, the Grand Secretary retaining one copy; a full copy of the section amended shall also be forwarded in duplicate. 1893-64.

21. Names of expelled masons should not appear upon published rosters of any lodge under any heading. 1894-136.

22. Upon a request of a Kansas lodge to a lodge in this jurisdiction to confer degrees upon a brother, our lodge should do so without examination as to proficiency, unless such request is included in the request to confer the degrees. 1894-135.

23. Members of a lodge in procession and clothed as masons, may attend church services December 27th, Saint John's Day, provided the services are purely masonic, otherwise not without a dispensation from the Grand Master. 1894-136.

24. Masonic clothing should be worn only when the lodge is at work, and should not be worn in an informal procession to attend church. 1896-512.

25. The record of a regular meeting should show how the committees on the petitions for initiation report, whether favorable, or unfavorable. 1896-571.

26. Funeral services may be held over the remains of a brother who is to be cremated. 1899-5695. See 1900-5844, 5896.

27. A profane may act as a pall-bearer at a masonic funeral; but in that case the pall-bearers should not be permitted in the procession between the Tyler and the Master, as the lodge on such occasions consists of all who are between these two officers, and should be at all times duly tyled. 1899-5695.

28. I think it un-masonic for any one to use the emblems of Freemasonry on business-cards for any business purpose. However, I know of no law in our jurisdiction prohibiting it, although other Grand Jurisdictions have enacted such laws. 1899-5695, 5733.

29. The use of the word "Masonic" in the corporate name of an accident insurance company ought not to be approved by the Grand Master though said company be controlled by masons and issue policies only to such. 1900-5843.

29. Some time in 1897 our lodge initiated———. Before he was passed he removed to Jewell, Iowa, and our lodge asked Republic Lodge No. 468, at Jewell, Iowa, to confer the second degree on Entered Apprentice———, and report to our lodge. On April 10, 1898, said Republic Lodge passed Brother ——, and on April 30, 1898, raised him to the sublime degree of Master Mason, and September 30, 1898, they reported their doings to our lodge. In April, 1899, said —— asked our lodge for a demit. Is he our material? *Answer*—Yes. 1899-5735.

BY LAWS RELATING TO DISCIPLINE.

Section 300. Penal powers of a lodge.

4. Indefinite suspension may be imposed at a special meeting of the lodge. 1900-5843, 5895-6.

5. A suspended mason can be tried without being reinstated. 1900-5844.

Section 301. Masonic offenses.

10. A refusal of a member of a lodge, without sufficient cause, after due notice, to watch with a sick brother, or furnish a substitute, is a masonic offense. 1896-512.

11. A charge of perjury is sufficient to place a brother on trial. 1893-65, 66.

Section 303. Reception of charges.

3. A receipt from a brother acknowledging the receipt of a registered letter which contained a notice, shall be considered sufficient proof of service. 1898-5644.

5. A notice to appear and show cause why a brother should not be suspended for non-payment of dues is not a summons such as is contemplated under the law. 1898-5570.

Section 304. Witness and testimony.

7. Where a brother is charged with un-masonic conduct, would the lodge be justified in admitting a certified transcript of the case in the district court as evidence in a masonic trial? *Answer*—The trial of any mason accused, if the offense charged be a crime by the civil law and masonic law, the record of his conviction in the courts of the state, or a certified copy thereof, shall be competent evidence and *prima facie* proof of guilt; but in order to establish the matter of proof beyond a doubt, if possible, the same should be corroborated by other evidence. 1891-325.

18. In a masonic trial wherein a brother has pleaded guilty, and consequently no testimony has been taken, the Master should, at the request of any of the members, allow sufficient testimony to be taken to enable the lodge to vote intelligently on the grade of punishment. 1899-5695.

Section 306. Punishment.

9. When an accused has had personal notice of the time set for trial and does not take an appeal before the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, his lodge may not after that time grant him a new trial, unless he shall show good reasons for not having appealed from the decision of his lodge to the Grand Lodge, or shall make it appear that he is in possession of newly-discovered and material evidence. 1900-5843.

Section 307. Suspension for non-payment of dues.

2. A brother being unable to pay his dues, wishing to be suspended, may ask in open lodge that this be done. 1898-5571.

3. A brother can not be suspended by verbally requesting the Secretary that he be immediately suspended for non-payment of dues. The request should come to the lodge in writing, signed by the brother desiring to be suspended. 1898-5571.

4. The provision as to trying the delinquent for disobedience of summons is mandatory. 1900-5894.

The delinquent may be tried and suspended notwithstanding the second and third degrees were conferred upon him by another lodge at the request of his own, and he claims membership in the former. 1900-5894.

Section 309. Restorations and reinstatements.

1. Where a subordinate lodge finds a brother guilty and imposes a penalty of suspension for one year, and upon appeal to the Grand Lodge this sentence is set aside and the sentence of indefinite suspension is imposed by the Grand Lodge, the subordinate lodge may reinstate such brother by a two-thirds vote, and no action of the Grand Lodge is necessary for the purpose. 1896-513.

8. Add to par. 8. The announcement must be made by the Master in open lodge. 1900-5895.

The following recommendations were adopted, but no action⁴ taken to incorporate them into the law:

"We recommend that disbursements from this fund be made through a standing committee of three, to be known as the Committee on Orphans Educational Fund, to be appointed by the Grand Master; one member to serve one year, one for two years, and one for three years; and as the term of each expires, the vacancy to be filled by the Grand Master for three years; to which committee shall be added as advisory members, the Grand Master, the Treasurer of the Orphans Educational Fund, and the outgoing chairman of the Committee on Relief.

We recommend that for the present there be expended annually from this fund, not exceeding 75 per cent. of the income; such income to be estimated and based on that of the preceding year.

We further recommend that no expenditures be made by such committee, except on written application of the master and wardens of the lodges within whose jurisdiction the proposed beneficiary resides, setting out fully all facts connected with the case; and that all orders for the payment of money be signed by the chairman and secretary of such committee and sent to the Grand Secretary; upon receipt of which, warrants are to be drawn upon the treasurer in the usual manner.

We further recommend that it be the duty of the outgoing chairman of the Relief Committee of the Grand Lodge, to investigate and report at the next session of the Grand Lodge upon the condition of the Relief Fund, and to make such recommendation in regard thereto as he may deem proper." 1900-5903.

