PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONs
OF CANADA
At the Forty-Fifth Annual Convocation

1903

HELD IN

THE MASONIC HALL, TEMPLE BUILDING,
CITY OF TORONTO, ONT.

Wednesday, January 28th, A.D. 1903
A.I. 2433, A.L. 5903.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED

ABRAHAM SHAW, Kingston, Ont.
Grand Z.

GEO. J. BENNETT, Toronto.
Grand Scribe E.
Grand Chapter of Canada

PROCEEDINGS

At the Forty-Fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Temple Building, City of Toronto, on Wednesday, the 28th January, A.D. 1903, A.I. 2433.

M. E. Comp. William Gibson .......... Grand Z. } Grand Council
R. " " Abraham Shaw .......... Grand H. } on
R. " " DeWitt H. Martyn, M.D. Grand J. } The Throne.
R. " " Geo. J. Bennett .......... Grand Scribe E.
R. " " E. H. Briggs .......... Grand Scribe N.
R. " " Hugh Murray .......... Grand Treasurer.
R. " " J. B. Nixon .......... as Grand Principal Sojourner.
R. " " Allan Cameron, M.D. .... Grand Registrar.
" " John Richardson .......... Grand Sword Bearer.
" " O. Ellwood .......... as Grand Master 1st Veil.
" " H. S. King .......... as Grand Master 2nd Veil.
V. " " John Sinclair .......... as Grand Master 3rd Veil.
V. " " W. J. A. Lake .......... Grand Master 4th Veil.
V. " " W. H. Robinson .......... as Grand Dir. of Ceremonies.
R. " " J. C. Morgan .......... Grand Organist.
R. " " J. J. Thompson .......... as Grand Pursuivant.
" " R. W. Clewlo .......... as Grand Steward.
" " John Drew .......... as Grand Steward.
" " Alex. Gibson .......... as Grand Steward.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. G. F. Clark, M.D. .......... London Dist. No. 2
" " J. W. Porteous .......... Wellington " " 4
" " Geo. Moore .......... Hamilton " " 5
" " J. Russell Stuart .......... Huron " " 6
" " J. C. Rothery .......... Niagara " " 7
" " G. M. Aylesworth, M.D. .......... Georgian " " 9
" " G. H. M. Baker .......... Ontario " " 10
" " Jas. H. Colden .......... Pr. Edward " " 11
" " W. S. R. Murch .......... St. Lawrence " " 12
GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

" " " Abraham Shaw, Kingston - Connecticut.
" " " Thos. C. MacNabb, Chatham - Delaware.
" " " Hugh Murray, Hamilton - Dist. of Columbia.
" " " William Forbes, Grimsby - Illinois.
M. E. " " Kivas Tully, Toronto - Ireland.
R. E. " " DeW.H. Martyn, M.D., Kincardine, Indian Territory.
" " " William Walker, Toronto - Kentucky.
" " " Benjamin Allen, Toronto - Maine.
" " " R. G. W. Conolly, St. Catharines, Maryland.
M. E. " " John E. Harding, Lindsay - Massachusetts.
" " " William Gibson, Beamsville - Missouri.
" " " J. Ross Robertson, Toronto - Nebraska.
" " " J. McLean Stevenson, Barrie - New Jersey.
M. E. " " Henry Robertson, Collingwood - New York.
R. E. " " James Wilson, Toronto - North Carolina.
" " " Daniel F. MacWatt, Sarnia - Quebec.
M. E. " " Michael Walsh, Ingersoll - Rhode Island.
R. E. " " A. E. Cooper, London - South Dakota.
" " " E. T. Malone, Toronto - Texas.
" " " J. B. Nixon, Toronto - Vermont.
M. E. " " W. G. Reid, Hamilton - Victoria.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the forty-fifth annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in AMPLÉ FORM at 11 o'clock a.m.

R. E. Companion William Roaf, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there are 100 warranted Chapters and 3 U. D. on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number 85 were represented by the following Companions:—

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston.

No. 2. The Hiram, Hamilton.

No. 3. St. John's, London.
E. Comps. D. Fraser, Z.; Oliver Ellwood; R. E. Comps. J. S. Dewar, A. E. Cooper, P. Z's.

No. 4. St. Andrew's and St. John's, Toronto.

No. 5.  St. George's, London.

No. 6.  St. John's, Hamilton.

No. 7.  The Moira, Belleville.

No. 8.  King Solomon's, Toronto.

No. 15.  Wawanosh, Sarnia.

E. Comp. F. J. Ure, Z.

No. 19.  Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.
E. Comp. J. S. Campbell, P. Z.

No. 20.  Mount Horeb, Brantford.
E. Comp. W. R. McCormick, Z.

No. 22.  Grenville, Prescott.
R. E. Comp. J. N. Graham, P. Z.

No. 23.  Ezra, Simcoe.

E. Comp. W. Hurrell, Z.; R. E. Comp. J. Russell Stuart, P. Z.

E. Comp. R. H. Spencer, Z.

No. 27.  Manitou, Collingwood.

No. 29.  McCallum, Dunnville.
R. E. Comp. R. G. W. Conolly, P. Z.
No. 30.     Huron, Goderich.
           E. Comp. A. Lawson, P. Z.

No. 31.    Prince Edward, Picton.
           E. Comp. G. W. Morden, Z.; R. E. Comp. J. H. Colden;
           M. E. Comp. D. Ross, P. Z's.

No. 32.    Waterloo, Galt.
           R. E. Comp. J. W. Porteous, P. Z.

No. 34.    Signet, Barrie.
           E Comps. J. C. Irwin, Z.; Alex. Cowan; R. E. Comps. J.
           McLean Stevenson, D. F. MacWatt, J. C. Morgan, P. Z's.


No. 36.    Corinthian, Peterboro'.
           E. Comps. Alex. Gibson, J. M. Shaw, P. Z's.

No. 37.    Victoria, Port Hope.
           E. Comps. W. G. Noble, Z.; R. C. Smith; R. E. Comp. W. J.
           Robertson, P. Z's.

No. 40.    Guelph, Guelph.
           E. Comps. W. A. Mahoney, H.; H. Mahoney; R. E. Comp.
           R. Mahoney, P. Z's.

No. 41.    Harris, Ingersoll.
           E. Comp. B. Patterson, Z. and P. Z.; M. E. Comp. M.
           Walsh, P. Z.

No. 44.    Mount Sinai, Napanee.
           E. Comps. W. Rankin, Z. and P. Z.; J. G. Fennell, P. Z.

No. 45.    Excelsior, Colborne.
           E. Comps. H. J. Mayhew, Z.; W. Bellamy; R. E. Comp. J. R.
           Fitzgerald, P. Z's.

No. 47.    Wellington, Chatham.

No. 48.    St. John's, Cobourg.
           R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig, P. Z.

No. 50.    Saugeen, Walkerton.
           E. Comp. J. Grainger, Z.

No. 52.    Prince Rupert, Winnipeg, Man.
           R. E. Comp. John Leslie, P. Z.

No. 53.    Bruce, Petrolea.
           E. Comp. John Sinclair, P. Z.
No. 54.  Palestine, St. Thomas.
E. Comp. G. T. Kennedy, Z.; N. W. Ford, P. Z.

No. 55.  Niagara, Niagara.

No. 56.  Georgian, Owen Sound.
R. E. Comp. Allan Cameron, P. Z.

No. 59.  Sussex, Brockville.
E. Comp. Alf. H. Gilham, P. Z.

No. 60.  Doric, Newmarket.
R. E. Comp. P. T. Lee, P. Z.

No. 61.  Granite, Almonte.
E. Comp. Robert T. Dodds, P. Z.

No. 62.  York, Eglinton.

No. 63.  Havelock, Kincardine.
R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, P. Z.

No. 65.  St. Paul's, Toronto.

No. 66.  The Malloch, Seaforth.
E. Comp. W. R. Pearce, P. Z.

No. 67.  Enterprise, Harriston.
E. Comps. W. Fisher, Z.; John Prain, P. Z.

No. 68.  Maitland, N. Augusta.
V. E. Comp. W. H. Mowat, Proxy.

No. 69.  Grimsby, Grimsby.
R. E. Comp. W. Forbes, P. Z.

No. 70.  Grand River, Bracebridge.


No. 73.  Eric, Ridgetown.

No. 75.  St. Clair, Milton.
E. Comps. G. Sitzer, J. E. Bate; R. E. Comp. J. A. Frazer, P. Z's.
GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

No. 76.  Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls S.
E. Comps. R. Murray, H.; E. Fraser, Z.; R. E. Comps. J. C. Rothery, P. Z.

No. 77.  Occident, Toronto.

No. 78.  Minnewawa, Parkhill.
E. Comp. W. Dawson; V. E. Comp. W. Law, P. Z's.

No. 79.  Orient, Toronto.

No. 80.  Ark, Windsor.
E. Comp. R. H. Revell, P. Z.

No. 81.  Aylmer, Aylmer.

No. 82.  Shuniah, Port Arthur.

No. 83.  Ionic, Orangeville.

No. 88.  MacNabb, Dresden.
E. Comp. Ed. Worth, P. Z.

No. 90.  Golden, Rat Portage.

No. 91.  Antiquity, Toronto.

No. 94.  Midland, Lindsay.

No. 95.  Tuscan, Sudbury.
R. E. Comp. W. H. McFadden, P. Z.

No. 98.  Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C.
M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, Proxy.
ANNUAL CONVOCATION, TORONTO, 1903.

No. 100.  
*St. Lawrence, Brockville.*

No. 101.  
*Corinthian, Boissovaun.*

No. 102.  
*Algonquin, Sault Ste. Marie.*
R. E. Comp. Benjamin Allen, Proxy.

No. 103.  
*St. John's, North Bay.*
E. Comp. J. T. Lovell, P. Z.

No. 104.  
*White Oak, Oakville.*
E. Comp. W. T. Marlatt, Z.; V. E. Comp. W. H. Robinson, P. Z.

No. 106.  
*Alberta, Calgary, N.W.T.*
M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Proxy.

No. 112.  
*St. John's, Morrisburg.*
E. Comp. W. K. Farlinger, P. Z.

No. 114.  
*Bonnechere, Renfrew.*
E. Comp. G. W. Macdonald, H.; R. E. Comp. N. W. Cleary, P. Z.

No. 115.  
*Brant, Paris.*
E. Comp. James Smillie, Z. and P. Z.

No. 116.  
*Maple, Carleton Place.*
E. Comp. A. S. Gorrell, Z. and P. Z.

No. 117.  
*Berlin, Berlin.*
E. Comp. G. W. Woodward, Z.

No. 118.  
*North Star, Edmonton, N.W.T.*

No. 120.  
*Kootenay, Kaslo, B.C.*

No. 122.  
*Rossland, Rossland, B.C.*
R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf, Proxy.

No. 123.  
*Nelson, Nelson, B.C.*
M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Proxy.

No. 124.  
*Westminster, New Westminster, B.C.*
M. E. Comp. William Gibson, Proxy.

No. 127.  
*Keystone, Nanaimo, B.C.*
No. 128.  
Revelstoke, Revelstoke, B.C.
M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, Proxy.

U.D.  
Chantry, Southampton.

U.D.  
Amabel, Wiarton.
Ex.-Comps. S. E. Foster, J.; Jas. Walmsley, Z.

U.D.  
Leeds, Gananoque.
E. Comp. Fred. J. Skinner, Z.

Eighteen Chapters are unrepresented. Number of names registered, 200. Number of votes entitled to be cast, 396.

Fraternally submitted,

\begin{align*}
W. \ T. \ Toner,
R. \ J. \ Craig,
\end{align*}

\textit{Committee.}

On motion of R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig, seconded by R. E. Comp. Toner, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. the Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the sessions of Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the Forty-Fourth Annual Convocation, held in the City of Toronto, on the 22nd day of January, A.D. 1902, A.I. 2432, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

\textit{Resolved—That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 22nd day of January, 1902, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.}

The M. E. the Grand Z. then invited the Representatives of sister Grand Chapters to seats on the dais and greeted them, the Companions of Grand Chapter standing.

R. E. Comp. William Forbes, Grand Representative of Illinois, responded on behalf of his colleagues.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following
ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, Greeting.

Companions:

Under the blessing of an All-Powerful and Merciful Father, we are again permitted to meet together, and at this the forty-fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter let us render unto Him that homage which, as Royal Arch Masons, we dutifully and thankfully do, for all the manifold blessings bestowed upon us during the past year.

Forty-five years does not seem a long period in looking backwards, still we are painfully reminded that of those Companions who took a prominent part in the formation of this Grand Chapter there is but one left, M. Ex. Companion Kivas Tully, whom we pray God to preserve for many years. It must be a sincere source of gratification to him to see the progress that this body has made during these many years.

The wisdom of starting a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has been justified by the honorable position it now occupies amongst the Grand Royal Arch Chapters on the North American continent, with every one of whom it is on terms of the most friendly and fraternal relations. It has kept pace with the rise and progress of our beloved Dominion, and from the valley of the Ottawa to the shores of the Pacific Ocean the principles of the Royal Craft are the better appreciated as years roll past.

At the last Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, we had the honor to report that an address had been prepared and forwarded through the Secretary of State for Canada, expressing to His Most Gracious Majesty our homage and loyalty on his accession to the throne of this mighty Empire, and to-day the members of this Grand Chapter, and every Royal Arch Mason under its authority, were deeply grieved at the serious illness of our King in June last, but we with all his other subjects now rejoice that the prayers of the British Empire were heard, and by the grace and goodness of an All-Merciful Father, His Majesty was speedily restored to health, sufficiently so to undergo the magnificent ceremonies of Coronation, on the ninth day of August last, amidst the joy and rejoicings of a grateful, loving and loyal people.
While death has mercifully spared the ranks of those whom you have entrusted with office and passed over those who were honored in the past, yet our returns show that scores of good Companions have during the year entered into their rest and a vacant place has been prominent in many Chapters of our jurisdiction.

Ex. Companion the Hon. Senator McCallum was the founder and its first Principal of the Chapter No. 29 bearing his name. The deceased Ex. Companion was beloved by everyone who had the honor of his acquaintance, a sturdy, independent man, a good, warm-hearted friend, and wise counsellor. He evinced a deep interest in his Chapter even to the time of his death. He took a leading interest in all public affairs, having represented Monk in the Legislature of his adopted Province, as well for many years as member of the House of Commons, and for the last fifteen years he had represented the same district in the Senate of Canada. Respected alike by all for his manly and independent course in all matters affecting the best interests of the Dominion at large irrespective of his strong party inclinations. He was a man in every sense of the word.

R. Ex. Companion John Moodie, Past Grand Superintendent Hamilton District, began late in life to take an interest in the Royal Craft, but from his entrance into St. John’s Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, he took a very active part in the work of this Chapter, filling the highest position in the gift of his Companions, and then elected by the Chapters in the District to the position of District Superintendent. At the time of his death he was treasurer of St. John’s Chapter, and that office was given to his son, which he still holds. Two of his sons are active Masons.

Our sister jurisdictions across the border have in numerous instances been sorely afflicted, some of the brightest lights in the capitol firmament being blotted out by the pitiless hand that is ever seeking a shining mark. Among other notifications, I have received the following:

Arkansas—George Pressley Taylor, Past Grand High Priest.
California—Henry Hay Knapp, Past Grand High Priest; Hiram Throop Graves, Grand Treasurer.
Kansas—Andrew W. Callahan, Past Grand High Priest.
Maine—Josiah Hayden Drummond, Past Grand High Priest.


Massachusetts—Thomas Waterman, M.D., Past Grand High Priest.

Minnesota—William F. Dickinson, Frank B. Forbes; William J. Hahn, Past Grand High Priest; Solon Armstrong, Grand Treasurer.

Nevada—Albert Lackey, Past Grand High Priest.

New York—James D. Pollard, Past Grand High Priest; and James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain.

Ohio—John Day Caldwell, Grand Secretary.

South Carolina—William H. Witherow, Past Grand High Priest.

Texas—W. F. Swain, Past Grand High Priest; Dr. S. J. Morriss, Grand High Priest; Geo. Lopas, Jr., Grand Secretary and Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Virginia—Jacob Bumgardner, Past Grand High Priest.

West Virginia—Hugh Sterling, Grand Treasurer.

Many of the foregoing names will be familiar, especially to reading Masons and students of the Craft.

Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, had a continental reputation as a historian and jurist. Rev. James Byron Murray, of New York, was a prolific and polished writer. John Day Caldwell, of Ohio, was a pillar of the craft in his State. G. L. McCahan, of Maryland, and Hugh Sterling, of West Virginia, both leaders and preceptors in every branch of the fraternity.

Josiah H. Drummond, of Portland, Maine, was one of the ablest Masons in the United States; an authority on all matters connected with the craft; an able lawyer; a wise counsellor; an indefatigable worker; a most lovable companion; a broad-minded, large-hearted man, who took the foremost place amongst the brethren of his own State, and a sincere friend of Canadian Masonry. His place will not easily be filled for many years to come.

I have also been apprised of the death of our Grand Representatives near the Grand Chapters of New York and Illinois respectively, viz., R.E. and Rev. Edward P. Sprague, Salem, N.Y., and R.E. Charles H. Patton, Mount Vernon, Ill.
Visitations.

During the past year I have been able, with one exception, to visit all the Chapters I was invited to attend. Owing to a great family affliction and absence in Europe with my family, I appreciate the kindness of my Companions in not being over-exacting in this regard. I endeavored, however, to visit many of the Chapters which had not been visited by a Grand First Principal for several years and others requiring special attention.

As on former occasions I was royally received and most heartily welcomed, and in all I found a sincere desire on the part of the officers and members to further the best interests of their respective Chapters and maintain and uphold the dignity and regulations of the Grand Chapter.

The prosperity of the Royal Craft under this Grand Chapter is a sincere source of gratification to all who take an interest in its progress; both as regards increase of membership as well as to its improved financial condition, the past year has been the best in its history.

I visited Hiram Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton, twice during the year, the first being a fraternal visit. At the other I was invited to take part in a presentation to R. E. Comp. Geo. Moore, Grand Supt. of the Hamilton District, and V. Ex. Comp. Fred Miller, who had acted as First Principal during the year. Two beautiful clocks were presented to these worthy Companions. I had the honor of making the presentation on behalf of Hiram Chapter to R. E. Comp. Moore, whilst our popular and much esteemed Grand Scribe E. experienced a similar pleasure in presenting the gift to V. Ex. Comp. Fred Miller.

This Chapter has had the best year in its history, and I attribute its success to the good feeling existing amongst its members, where every Companion is working for the advancement of the Chapter, being ready and willing to assist in any part of the work, with the result that the members attend in large numbers at every Convocation, whether regular or emergent.

St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65.—By the kindness of the officers of this Chapter I was invited to attend the Convocation of Nov. 12, when the work of the Royal Arch was done by the Past Principals of the Chapter in a highly creditable manner. The special object of this gathering was, however,
more for the purpose of testifying the love and esteem for the members of St. Paul's Chapter, who had been honored at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, viz., the election of R. W. Bro. Benjamin Allan to the position of Deputy Grand Master, and R. W. Bros. E. B. Brown and A. F. Webster as D.D.G.M. for the two divisions of the Toronto District. I need not point out to the members of Grand Chapter, how large a place these Companions hold in the affections of their own members, but the same good feelings are entertained by officers as well as the members of this Grand Chapter, for on no occasion during the past two years have I been accompanied by so many of the officers of Grand Chapter as upon this particular occasion, viz.: R. Ex. Comp. Abraham Shaw, Grand H.; R. Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn, Grand J.; R. Ex. Comp. Hugh Murray, Grand Treas.; R. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Scribe E.; R. Ex. Comp. E. H. Briggs, Grand Scribe N.; R. Ex. Comp. J. A. Macfadden, Grand Prin. Soj.; R. Ex. Comp. G. F. Shepley, Past G. J.

A love feast followed in the dining hall after the close of the Chapter, bringing to an end one of the finest gatherings of the Royal Craft I have ever seen in Toronto.

On Nov. 18th I had again the pleasure of visiting Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterboro', along with R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand H., and seeing the R. A. degree conferred. The work reflected great credit upon the officers of the Chapter.

This being their annual meeting for the election of officers, a new staff was chosen, and the unanimous way in which every officer was elected is sufficient proof of the good feeling that exists in Corinthian, and which makes it one of our very best Chapters.

I visited St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton, on 16th Nov., along with Ex. Comp. T. A. Simpson, and Companion John Ritchie, of Grimsby Chapter. The Chapter has not been making very much progress until recently, but I have strong hopes, with the new officers elected at that meeting, that it will go forward. They have just added some very good members to its roll—young, active Masons, who have taken great interest in Craft work.

R. Ex. Comp., the Rev. W. I. Wilkins, one of the oldest of its past Z's, still takes a very warm interest in its affairs, and with the recent additions I am quite confident of its future success.

The Royal Arch degree was conferred by Grand Supt.
Colden, who is a most effective and active worker. It is a pleasure to meet a Companion who takes such a deep interest in the work of his district. It only bears out what I have always known, that our Grand Chapter owes so much of its success to the good work of its district officers.

I paid a visit to St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton, on the 18th November last, and was accompanied by M. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid, P.G.Z.; R. Ex. Comp. Moore, G. Supt.; R. Ex. Comps. Walter and Davis; Ex. Comps. Wilson, Bain, Stanton and Comp. Langhorn. This Chapter has been making little or no progress for some time, and has given the District Supt. a great deal of concern, as its affairs were allowed to fall into a chaotic state, and the attendance poor. However, R. Ex. Comp. Moore and a number of the Hamilton Royal Arch Masons paid the Chapter frequent visits during the past year, and on the night of my visit to the Chapter, owing to the good work already done by the District Supt. and R. Ex. Comps. Panton and Fraser, I am pleased to say that I had little trouble in straightening out the matters in dispute, and amicably arranging everything to the satisfaction of all the members.

With its new officers elected, fresh life has been given to the Chapter. They are getting a goodly number of applications and will soon have plenty of work to do at its meetings. I may be permitted to say that the Hamilton District has every reason to be gratified in having such a good officer as R. Ex. Comp. Moore as its Superintendent, who has not only visited all the Chapters in his district, but has taken a personal interest in the welfare and success of every one of them.

Our Resources.

Twelve months ago your Committee on Audit and Finance recommended that two thousand dollars of the balance then in the bank be invested in interest-bearing bonds. The heavy payments occasioned by the grants for benevolence, the reprint of Constitution and other current expenses, were pointed out by the Grand Scribe E., who observed that until late in the year there would be no revenue from the Chapters. He communicated with the Grand Treasurer counselling delay and action was stayed, with my approval, until the present.

It must not be overlooked that while our condition as a Grand Chapter is healthy and encouraging our needs are growing with it. A few years ago it was decided not only to
reduce the registration fee but to lower the per capita as well. This, at the time, may have been wise or otherwise, but certain it is that an important source of revenue was materially curtailed. Then, under the impression that the Chapters were, to a certain extent, relieved, it was further decided to reduce the minimum fee. This, too, may have had its doubtful features which I am not prepared just now to discuss. What I desire to point out is that as Grand Chapter gains in strength the labor necessary to conduct it efficiently increases with it, and the demands upon our resources must, of course, grow in proportion.

In the laudable desire to live up to the principles of our fraternity we donate certain sums annually to those whom we deem deserving. A few years ago, and when our sources of income were greater, as I have already explained, these grants totalled just half of what they are to-day.

I am not quite clear as to whether it was ever intended originally that Grand Chapter funds should be called upon in this systematic manner even for so praiseworthy a purpose, and I believe ours is about the only Grand Chapter on the continent in this position. Nevertheless, if we desire to continue the good work, which has grown with us into a system, the means to maintain it should be provided, and this cannot be done effectively upon the extremely low tax levied on the Chapters.

In view of the fact that our Constitution is under revision, I thought it my duty to offer these views for your consideration, not so much for present needs as for what may lie in, what gives every indication of being, a prosperous future.

Chapters U.D.

I am glad to say that the confidence reposed in those Companions who applied for letters of dispensation to establish Chapters at Wiarton and Southampton has not been misplaced. They have been doing good work, and the Committee on Warrants will doubtless report in such terms as to merit your favorable consideration.

In September last a number of Companions at Gananoque petitioned for and received my dispensation to institute a Chapter in that thriving town, believing it to be a growing Masonic centre. I have every reason to believe that Leeds Chapter will in a short time be one of those which may be held up as an example for emulation.
From a number of places in Ontario and Manitoba enquiries have been made as to the probabilities of receiving permission to establish Chapters, but I have left these in the hands of the respective Grand Superintendents in order that before proceeding, a full knowledge of present conditions and future prospects may be acquired. In some cases of this nature it is as well to make haste slowly.

**Grand Representatives.**

It gave me much pleasure during the year just passed to recommend the appointment of the following Companions to represent the Grand Chapters opposite their respective names near the Grand Chapter of Canada:

- **Alabama**—R.E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, Ottawa.
- **Kansas**—R.E. Comp. J. M. Gibson, Hamilton.
- **New Mexico**—R.E. Comp. William Rea, Ottawa.

It was also a source of pleasure for me to sign the appointments of the following distinguished Companions to represent this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapters to which they respectively belong:

- **Alabama**—R.E. Comp. Lew Lazarus, Birmingham.
- **Kansas**—R.E. Comp. John R. McLaurin, Ellsworth.
- **New Mexico**—R.E. Comp. H. P. Marcus Eldodt, Santa Fe.
- **Texas**—R.E. Comp. W. A. Scott, Floresville.

I would again impress upon our own Companions who are honored with commissions as Grand Representatives the necessity for punctual attendance at the annual convocations of this Grand Chapter. It is not pleasant when reading the reports of sister jurisdictions to observe how the absence of their Representative is duly noted year after year. Of course, where great distance is a barrier there is always an excuse, but in numerous cases this plea cannot fairly be advanced.

**By-Laws.**

Notwithstanding my recommendation last year that the private Chapters furnish the Grand Scribe E. with a copy of their printed by-laws for filing, I learn that in only two instances was there a response.

This is not as it should be, for where authority for amendments is applied for, the original ought to be easily procurable.
for reference. I would again request that this matter receive the prompt attention of the Chapters.

It is usual to forward proposed amendments to by-laws through the Grand Superintendent of the district. I would urge upon that officer the necessity of seeing that in every instance the alteration and the occasion therefor are made clear and distinct, with certified and sealed extract from the Chapter minutes, before transmitting for approval.

In several cases during the past year it has been found necessary to return to the Chapters incomplete or ill prepared documents of this kind.

During the year I have approved new and revised by-laws, or sanctioned amendments to the existing codes of the following Chapters:—Wawanosh, No. 15; Oxford, No. 18; Grand River, No. 70; King Solomon's, No. 8; Tecumseh, No. 24; Revelstoke, No. 128; St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4; Keystone, No. 127; Prince Edward, No. 31; Georgina, No. 56; Antiquity, No. 91; Occident, No. 77; Algonquin, No. 102; Grimsby, No. 69.

Dispensations.

It has become a practice with some Chapters to make application for the Grand Z.'s dispensation to change night of convocation or for some other purpose, without forwarding with the same the fee required by the Constitution. Sec. 3, article 4, sets forth the amounts necessary to accompany each and every application for Chapter requirements, and no demand should be made upon the Grand Scribe E. for any of these, nor should that officer comply, unless the fee accompanies the application.

By attention to this matter much unnecessary labor and possible confusion and delay may be avoided.

I have issued a number of dispensations for various legitimate purposes, not one being of such an extraordinary nature as to call for particular mention.

The M. E. M. Degree.

By a resolution of the Grand Chapter at the last annual convocation I was requested to name a committee to consider the restoration of the Most Excellent Master's degree to its original form. In accordance therewith I appointed R.E. Companions Aubrey White, George Moore and J. B. Nixon for that purpose, and they will doubtless report to you the result of their labors.
The M.E. Grand Z. was also authorized to appoint a committee to revise the Constitution, and that proofsheets, showing all changes and amendments recommended by that committee, be sent by the Grand Scribe E. to the constituent Chapters on or before the 1st day of December.

In accordance with that resolution I appointed R.E. Companions A. Shaw, D. H. Martyn, W. Roaf, J. A. Macfadden, D. F. MacWatt, W. G. Eakins, and the Past Grand First Principals of this Grand Chapter. The committee met at the call of the R.E. the Grand H., and the result of their deliberations was embodied in a circular sent to the Grand officers and to each constituent Chapter by the Grand Scribe E.

In the meantime that officer had, as authorized, prepared an edition of the Constitution embracing all amendments to date, to meet the current needs of the Chapters.

I was pleased to learn that the Revision Committee did not find their task so formidable as they were led to expect, and that the changes recommended are in no case of a radical type.

Lawrason et al. v. Wilson.

At the last Annual Convocation, E. Comp. S. F. Lawrason stated that he had lodged an appeal against the decision of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, in the above case with the Grand Superintendent of the District, but it had apparently not been forwarded to the office of the Grand Scribe E., and therefore asked that steps be taken to bring it to light. I thereupon appointed R.E. Comps., D. F. MacWatt and J. S. Dewar a commission to enquire into all the facts and report direct to me. I also instructed the Grand Scribe E. to forward to R.E. Comp. MacWatt all the documents in his possession relative to the matter and furnish the commission with any other information necessary to carrying out the enquiry.

On the 26th February, R.E. Comp. MacWatt reported to me that the correspondence in the case revealed the fact that in the matter of filing the appeal the provisions of the constitution had not been observed by the appellants, who in consequence forfeited the right of appeal and were therefore "out of court."

The Commission's duties were thus checked at the outset, and under the circumstances there was nothing left for me but to confirm the report and dismiss the appeal.

I then instructed the Grand Scribe E. to advise all the
Companions directly interested of the decision, which he did on the 3rd March.

On the 15th of the same month, the Grand Scribe E. received notice of the intention of the appellants to further appeal to this Grand Chapter from my decision.

Conclusion.

Two years ago you honored me with your confidence in electing me First Grand Principal of this Grand Chapter and again last year with a renewal of that confidence, an honor which I appreciate to the full. I have been most loyal supported by all the officers you selected to assist me in the government of this Grand Body, and whilst I feel grateful to all, I am especially indebted to the Grand H. and Grand J., in addition to the willing help given me by the Grand Scribe E., whose interest for the Royal Craft rather increases than diminishes as the years roll by and to whose watchful care the affairs of Grand Chapter are intrusted. Nothing is left undone by that conscientious and painstaking officer to conserve the best interests of the Royal Craft in every part of the Dominion. Prompt and courteous to all, with a kind greeting for everyone, it is such as he that make the wheels of Grand Chapter revolve smoothly and noiselessly, rendering the work of the Chief Officer a labor of love and pleasure. Such has been my pleasant experience during the past two years.

In returning to you, my Companions, the sceptre of Grand First Principal so generously placed in my hands two years ago, I regret to say good-bye; but I know that in my successor you will have an able, energetic and conscientious Mason, who will discharge his full duty to Grand Chapter, and with whom I have been on terms of the closest friendship, and I bespeak for him for the coming year a period of continued success. I shall as long as I am able take the same deep interest in the welfare of the Royal Craft in future as it has been my great privilege to do in the past. And may God's richest blessing be with you all during the coming year.

Grand Z.
It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved—That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z, be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were then presented.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of St. Clair District, I take much pleasure in presenting my report for the past year. I am glad to state that Capitular Masonry in this district is in a very progressive condition, and wherever I have visited in my official capacity or otherwise I have always found great enthusiasm displayed. I am sorry that I was not able to visit all the Chapters, but I am glad to state that notices of meetings were, on all occasions, forwarded to me at the proper time, and for which I sincerely thank the Scribes E. of the Chapters in my district.

MacNabb Chapter, No. 98, Dresden.—I visited this Chapter on October 2nd, and was accorded a hearty welcome by the officers and companions. Ex. Companion E. Worth is First Principal, who, with his efficient staff of officers, performed the work in a most satisfactory manner. The total membership last return, 40; present membership, 39; petitions accepted, 3; candidates initiated, 3; withdrawals, 0; suspensions, 0; average attendance, 12; visitors, 4; number of meetings held, 9; annual dues per member, $7.80; prospects, good. Companion J. B. Carscallen's, Scribe E., books are in a very neat condition, and the Chapter is to be congratulated in having such an enthusiastic member in that position.

Erie Chapter, No. 73, Ridgetown.—I visited this Chapter the 7th of October, and witnessed the R. A.
Degree conferred in a most satisfactory manner. The Principals and all the officers performed their duties in a most creditable manner. The Scribe E.'s books are kept in a most neat and correct manner, and all the officers display great enthusiasm in the performance of their duties. Number of meetings held, 9; average attendance, 15 to 20; annual dues $1.50; number of members last return, 57; degrees conferred, R. A., 1; degrees conferred, M. M. M., 1; suspensions, 2; members in arrears, 23; cash on hand, $22.14; property, $300; number of members, 53; amount of insurance, $200; prospects of the Chapter are good.

King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, Leamington.—I visited this Chapter on Nov. 5th, and witnessed the R. A. Degree conferred in a most satisfactory manner. Although this is the youngest Chapter in the district, it stands second to none in work and enthusiasm. Ex. Comp. Hillier as Z. gave the beautiful work of this degree in a very satisfactory manner, and he is to be congratulated on his staff of officers, who are all able to perform their several duties. Too much praise cannot be given to the Scribe E., Comp. Greenhill, who is an enthusiast and takes an active interest in the welfare of the Chapter. Number of meetings held, 6; emergent, 1; annual dues, $2; attendance, 12; members last return, 45; petitions, 3; initiations, 3; affiliations, 2; total membership, 50; degrees conferred, M. M. M., 2; M. E. M., 2; R. A., 1; assets, $300; cash, $100; property, $200; insurance, $125; prospects of Chapter, very good.

Ark Chapter, No. 80, Windsor.—I am sorry that I was not able to visit this Chapter, as it is one of the most progressive in the district. The Ex. Z. Comp. White is the First Principal, and has an able staff of officers to assist him in the discharge of his duties. I have received the notices of meetings from Scribe E., Companion Edgar, very punctually, of every meeting they have held. Number of meetings, 11; emergent, 3; total, 14; average attendance, 15; visitors, 5; annual dues per member, $3; petitions accepted, 8; initiations, 8; restorations, 3; withdrawals, 3; deaths, 2; present membership, 98; degrees conferred, M. M. M., 8; M. E. M., 8; R. A., 8;
members in arrears, 26; assets, $1,071.84; cash, $309.34; property, $500; outstanding dues, $162.50; insurance, $300; prospects of Chapter, very good.

Prince of Wales Chapter, No. 71, Amherstburg.—This Chapter is in a most satisfactory condition, and the notices of meetings have been sent to me with promptness during the year by the Scribe E., Comp. Thos. Hobley, whose books are kept in a neat and perfect manner. Although I did not have the pleasure of paying them an official visit owing to not being able to through pressure of other business, however I can predict bright prospects for the ensuing year. The total membership is 41; increase, 4; petitions accepted, 10; candidates initiated, 9; withdrawals, 0; suspensions, 5; average attendance, 15 to 20; number of meetings held, 17; annual dues per member, $2; degrees conferred, M. M. M., 9; M. E. M., 9; R. A., 4; number of members twelve months in arrears, 19; cash or securities, $36.28; property, $300; outstanding dues, $85.84; prospects, very good. Ex. Z. can work all degrees.

Wellington Chapter, No. 47, Chatham.—This is the Chapter of which I am a member, and which I have attended regularly, but paid my official visit on Dec. 9th, when my Chapter honored me with the privilege of inviting King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, to pay us a visit, on that occasion to work the R. A. Degree, and also invitations were sent to the various Chapters to be present, and we had a large attendance. Ex. Z. Comp. Hillier and his officers worked the R. A. Degree in a most satisfactory manner, after which a banquet was held, when a pleasant and fraternal time was spent. Wellington Chapter has just closed a very successful year, and Ex. Z. Comp. Tillson, with his efficient staff of officers, has cause to feel proud of the work done during the year. Number of meetings, regular, 11; emergent, 7; total, 18; average attendance, 15; visitors, 3; annual dues, $2; petitions, 15; candidates, 12; restorations, 2; withdrawals, 2; suspensions, 7; total membership, 75; degrees conferred, M. M. M., 12; M. E. M., 14; R. A., 15; arrears, 42; cash and securities, $200; dues outstanding, $176; insurance, $200; prospects of Chapter,
excellent. The books are kept in a very neat and correct manner, and the Chapter is to be congratulated in having in Scribe E., A. Gregory, one who takes great interest in Wellington Chapter.

In conclusion, I desire to return my sincere thanks to all the officers and companions of St. Clair District for the many acts of kindness and courtesy extended to me during my term of office, and also to Right Excellent Companion T. C. MacNabb for his very able help and advice, which will always be looked back upon by me with pleasure, and I trust that the incoming year may be one of success to all the Chapters in the jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. H. Bensen,
Grand Supt., St. Clair District, No. 1.

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 2.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of this district, it affords me great pleasure to report peace, harmony and progress. The returns as a whole, show a substantial increase in membership, some of them having done exceedingly well in that respect.

I have received regularly, with one exception, notices of several of the convocations from the Scribes E. of the different Chapters, and have, by this means, been kept posted in the work being done.

St. John’s Chapter, No. 3, London.—I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter on Nov. 5th, in their rooms in the new Masonic Temple. These rooms are occupied also by St. George’s Chapter, No. 5, and I must say they have very comfortable quarters, beautifully and splendidly furnished. The work of the evening was the conferring of the R.A. Degree on two candidates, which was very ably and impressively done by Ex. Comp. Graham and officers of the Chapter. The books of the Chapter were presented for my inspection, and I found them in good shape, and very neatly kept. The Chapter shows
a very large increase in membership, and taken altogether, the prospects of this Chapter are exceptionally bright.

St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London.—I visited this my mother Chapter on the evening of Nov. 28th. There were about one hundred present; among them were a number of visitors from St. John's No. 3, Palestine No. 54, St. Thomas, and several who accompanied me from Aylmer Chapter, No. 81. After routine business, I had the honor of presenting a Past Grand Superintendent's regalia, on behalf of St. George's Chapter, to Rt. Ex. Companion A. G. McWhinney, who made a suitable reply. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred on two candidates by Ex. Comp. Wilson and his officers in a pleasing and instructive manner.

Wawanosh Chapter, No. 15, Sarnia.—I made my first official visit to the above Chapter on Sept. 12th, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Rutherford and Companions Moore and McCallum, of Aylmer Chapter. The night was very unpropitious, but for all that there was a fairly good attendance of the Companions, who received and entertained us in a right royal manner. The R. A. Degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Wenino and his officers on one candidate in a fairly satisfactory manner, especially so in the light of this being the second time only that this degree had been given by these officers. This Chapter, according to returns, shows a very healthy growth, as may be seen by the number of petitions received and degrees conferred during the past year.

Bruce Chapter, No. 53, Petrolea.—This Chapter was visited by me on Oct. 15th. The work for the evening was the conferring of the R. A. Degree by Ex. Comp. Stinson and officers on two candidates, which was fairly well done. I examined the books, and found them in good shape, and very neatly kept. This Chapter shows a slight loss in membership; otherwise the prospects for Bruce Chapter, No. 54, may be said to be good.

Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas.—Visited the above Chapter on Oct. 9th, accompanied by Companions of Aylmer Chapter, No. 81. The work for the
evening consisted in conferring the M. M. M. and M. E. M. Degrees on two candidates, which was done in a most creditable manner by Ex. Comp. Ingram and his officers. This Chapter, by the returns, seems to be in a very prosperous condition, and Capitular Masonry appears to be a live issue in this as well as other Chapters of this district. On the occasion of my visit, the attendance was about forty, with an average attendance, as per return, of twenty-four.

Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, Parkhill.—My official visit to this Chapter was paid on the night of the 16th of October. This was an emergent meeting, called at my request, and I take this opportunity of thanking the Companions of Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, for their kindness in complying with my request. An enjoyable and, I trust, profitable evening was spent. The R. A. Degree was exemplified in a most satisfactory manner by Ex. Comp. Sutherland and his staff of officers. The Chapter stands well in the district, and its future prospects seem bright.

Aylmer Chapter, No. 81, Aylmer.—My official visit to this my own Chapter was paid on the night of Dec. 19th. This was the night for the election of officers for the coming year, which was duly held, after which the R. A. Degree was conferred on two candidates. The work was well done, and it was my privilege to clothe the newly exalted candidates with the regalia of the degree, which was furnished as a present to each of them by their respective fathers, Ex. Comp. Richardson and Comp. Richards, S.E., both members of this Chapter, and both present on this occasion. It is not often that we are able to see two fathers present on the occasion of the exaltation of their sons, and I feel as if I could not refrain from mentioning it in this report. The work is well in hand, and, given the material to work upon, this Chapter is in the position to do a large amount of good work.

In conclusion, I may say that the greatest harmony and good-fellowship prevails throughout the district, no complaints of any kind having been brought to my notice during the whole term. Three dispensations have been
applied for, and, on my recommendation, were promptly granted by the Most Ex. the Grand Z. The district, as a whole, shows a net gain of 58 members. The gain has been made by five of the Chapters; one remains stationary, and one shows a small loss. The work, as a whole, as it has come under my observation, has been very well done, particularly in the case of the Principals, the weakest part being usually found in the work of the subordinate officers.

My thanks are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Grand Scribe E. for advice and assistance on one or two occasions. I am under obligations to Rt. Ex. Comp. Rutherford, Ex. Comp. Burdick and all other Companions of Aylmer Chapter, No. 81, who accompanied me on the occasions of my visits to the several Chapters. I am also under great obligations to Rt. Ex. Companions Butler, McWhinney, Munson and Dewar, of London, Rt. Ex. Companions Sinclair and Cooper, and Ex. Comp. Stinson, of Petrolea, Ex. Companion Wenimo, of Sarnia, Ex. Companions Sutherland, McLeod and Dr. Caw, and Companion Dr. Wilson, of Parkhill. also Ex. Companions Graham and Wilson, of London, and Rt. Ex. Companion Roe and Ex. Comp. Ingram, of St. Thomas, for the many kindnesses and courtesies extended to me while making my visits to the several Chapters during the past year, and I feel sure my successor will meet with a like reception.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. F. CLARK,
Grand Supt., London District, No. 2.
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<th>Property</th>
<th>Cash or Securities</th>
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<th>M. M. M.</th>
<th>Pres. Number</th>
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**London District, No. 2**
To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I beg leave to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district, which consists of the following Chapters: Ezra, No. 23, Simcoe; Oxford, No. 18, Woodstock; Mount Horeb, No. 20, Brantford; Harris, No. 41, Ingersoll, and Brant, No. 115, Paris.

I am pleased to be able to state that peace and harmony prevail; that every Chapter within the district is making progress numerically and financially, and that the officers are able to exemplify the various degrees satisfactorily. The prospects are bright for every Chapter in the district.

Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 20, Brantford.—I made my official visit to this Chapter on the first Friday of November, and was accompanied by Ex. Companions Smiley and Inksater and several of the Companions of Brant Chapter. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred by Ex. Companion McCormick and his staff of officers on two candidates in a very careful and impressive manner. The junior officers performed their several duties with promptness and despatch, thus showing that they had been carefully drilled in their work. Much of the success of this Chapter in due to the counsel and assistance rendered by Rt. Ex. Comp. J. H. Spence, a Past Grand Superintendent of the district. The books of Comp. Kerr, S.E., are models of neatness and accuracy. A sumptuous banquet closed a very enjoyable and instructive evening.

Oxford Chapter, No. 18, Woodstock.—Accompanied by Ex. Comps. Smiley, Thomson, Inksater and a large number of the Paris Companions, I visited Oxford Chapter, on the evening of their regular meeting in November, and, after having been royally received by the Companions, had the pleasure of witnessing a rendering of the Royal Arch Degree in a most accurate and painstaking manner by Ex. Comp. Watt and his staff of officers. V. Ex. Comp. Karn, a P.D.D.G.M. in Craft
Masonry, was present, and takes a very active interest in the Chapter, and is always ready with his assistance and advice whenever it is required. Visitors were present from Toronto, Brantford and Norwich. The proceedings of the evening were concluded with banquet, speech and song.

**Brant Chapter, No. 115, Paris.**—My official visit to this my mother Chapter was made on the evening of the regular meeting in December. Although the evening was a very stormy one, a large number of the officers and Companions of Mount Horeb Chapter drove over to join with the Paris Companions on this occasion. The attendance was probably the largest in the Chapter's history, there being 25 present out of a possible attendance of about 30. This is only one of the many evidences which may be mentioned, of the enthusiasm and interest which the officers of Brant Chapter have aroused in the work of Capitular Masonry. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred on two candidates in a highly commendable manner. Every officer did his work exceedingly well. Particular reference is due Comp. Smoke, Principal Sojourner of the Chapter. His clearness, accuracy and expressive rendering of one of the most beautiful parts of our ritualistic work was beyond criticism. The books of Comp. Whitehead, S.E., are neatly and accurately kept, and the promptness with which every detail of the work is attended to might well be imitated by others who fill this very important office. Brant Chapter has established the practice of electing officers every two years, which, in my opinion, is a good one. The future prospects of this Chapter are exceedingly bright.

**Harris Chapter, No. 41, Ingersoll.**—I made my official visit to this Chapter on the second Friday of December. There was a very fair attendance of the Companions, some of whom live several miles out of town, and, owing to the severity of the weather, were not present. I was introduced to the Companions by Most Ex. Comp. Walsh, P.G.Z. To his counsel and assistance is due much of the prosperity attendant upon Harris Chapter in the past. The Mark Master Mason's
Degree was conferred on one candidate in a satisfactory manner. Rt. Ex. Comp. Partlo ably fulfilled the duties of S.D. The Chapter room is a beautiful one, and affords every facility for doing good work. Comp. Williams, S.E., gives every attention to the work of this important office. The usual banquet and toast list completed a very pleasant and enjoyable visit.

**Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe.—** This Chapter is strong in numbers, material and equipment, and is growing rapidly. It is fortunate in the possession of such experienced, enthusiastic and capable workers as Rt. Ex. Comp. Christie and others who are faithful in their attendance, and by their counsel and support, aid the work of the Chapter. On Dec. 18th, the evening of my official visit, I had the pleasure of witnessing the work of the Royal Arch Degree performed by Ex. Comp. Atkinson and his officers in such a manner as should satisfy any Grand Chapter officer. Capitular Masonry will doubtless flourish in Ezra Chapter in the future, as it has for many years in the past. The banquet which followed was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the Companions of Wilson District for the honor conferred upon me at the last convocation of Grand Chapter, as well as for the most cordial welcome extended by the officers and Companions of the various Chapters which I had the pleasure to visit.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Y. Taylor,

*G. Supt., Wilson District, No. 3.*
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Annual Dues per member.

- Regular: 
- Emergent: 
- Total: 

Meeting Attendance:

- No. of Mem. Dec. 31, 1901
- Petitions accepted.
- No. of Candid's Initiated.
- Affiliations.
- Restorations.
- Withdrawals.
- Suspensions.
- Deaths.

No. of Mem. Dec. 31, 1902

Degrees Conferred:

- M. M. M.
- M. E. M.
- Royal Arch.

Liabilities of Chapter:

- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00
- $1200.00

Assets of Chapter:

- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00
- $1200.00

Cash or Securities:

- $100.00
- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00

Property:

- $100.00
- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00

Dues Outstanding:

- $100.00
- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00

Amount of Insurance:

- $100.00
- $200.00
- $300.00
- $400.00
- $500.00
- $600.00
- $700.00
- $800.00
- $900.00
- $1000.00
- $1100.00

Prospects of Chapter:

- Good
- Fair
- Poor

Can Ex. Z. work all degrees?
To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent, I beg to submit this, my brief report, on the condition of Capitular Masonry, in Wellington District, No. 4, which is composed of the following Chapters: Waterloo, No. 32, Galt; Guelph, No. 40, Guelph; Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston; Ionic, No. 83, Orangeville, and Berlin, No. 117, Berlin. I regret exceedingly that, owing to circumstances, over which I had no control, I was unable to visit one of the Chapters, but, knowing the good Right Excellent Companions who are members of that Chapter, I have no hesitation in stating that the work will be well done, as is the case generally throughout the district.

Enterprise Chapter, No. 67, Harriston.—I visited this Chapter on the 7th of July, and, after the very severe storm we had that evening, I was surprised to find such a large attendance. I was also very much pleased to meet among the Companions, Right Excellent Companion Hepburn, one of the first Grand Superintendents of the district, and a personal friend. This Chapter is in a flourishing condition, making an increase last year of eleven members. The books are well kept, and dues fairly well paid. The officers performed the duties of their respective offices with credit, and I consider the prospects of this Chapter even brighter for the future than they have been in the past. After the meeting, we adjourned to the banquet room, where a pleasant hour was spent in speech and song.

Guelph Chapter, No. 40, Guelph.—My official visit to this Chapter was on Nov. 14th, and I was pleased to find this old Chapter keeping up its high state of efficiency, and steady growth of membership. I may say that a Chapter which has among its members so many worthy Past Right Excellent Companions can hardly fail but to do good work, and I am confident that the officers this year, with Excellent Companion Law as First Principal, will do the work as well as it can be done. This
Chapter has installed a complete new set of books, and I congratulate Excellent Companion Law for the efficient manner in which they are kept. The prospects of this Chapter are exceedingly good.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83, ORANGEVILLE.—As I stated previously, I was unable to visit this Chapter, but I am confident that the officers, with the able assistance of such worthy Companions as Right Excellent Companions McLaren, Irvine and Mann, cannot fail but to do excellent work. I was very sorry that business interfered both times I intended going to Orangeville. In fact, once I got as far as Toronto, and then had to return, without completing my visit. I trust the good Companions will pardon me for not entirely fulfilling my duty.

BERLIN CHAPTER, No. 117, BERLIN.—I notified this Chapter that I would make my official visit on November 21st, and, accompanied by several Companions from Waterloo Chapter, journeyed to Berlin on that date, but on arriving there we found no quorum. It is too bad that the Companions of Berlin do not take more interest in their Chapter. They have an excellent suite of rooms and all the conveniences, and should be one of the best in the district. I learned from some of the Companions present that evening that there were several applications waiting to be received, but, being unable to hold a meeting, they consequently had to wait. I strongly urged them to make an extra effort and get a quorum for their next meeting, which, I understand, they did, and elected their officers and received two applications. The officers of Waterloo Chapter have kindly offered to assist Berlin in their work, and we hope ere long that this Chapter will again take the front rank in Capitular Masonry. The dues are well paid up and books neatly kept, and I sincerely trust the members will attend regularly and assist the officers, and thereby put new life in their work.

WATERLOO CHAPTER, No. 32, GAL'T.—This being my mother Chapter, I was at nearly all the convocations, but visited officially on Jan. 12th. All the officers in the various chairs, from Excellent Companion Lockhart, First Principal, to the Junior Sojourner, know their work well. A great deal of the success of this Chapter is due
to Right Excellent Companion Taylor, who is always present at the meetings and ever ready to assist and instruct the new officers, and, in fact, do everything to further the interests of this Chapter. At the last regular convocation they received ten applications, and there are several more waiting to be received. The prospects are excellent, and, although there are a number behind in their dues and the Chapter may have to make some suspensions, it should increase largely during next year.

In conclusion, I must thank the Scribes of the several Chapters in the district for their promptness in their official work, and also I desire to return my sincere thanks to the Companions of Wellington District for the honor conferred upon me at last convocation of Grand Chapter, and the kindness extended to me during my term of office, and I sincerely trust that the harmony and good-feeling now existing may long continue to prevail throughout the district.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Porteous,
Grand Supt.
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| Name of Chapter. | Wellington District, No. 4. | |
HAMILTON DISTRICT, No. 5.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Hamilton District, No. 5, during the year 1902. The district is composed of four Chapters, namely: The Hiram, No. 2, Hamilton; St. John's, No. 6, Hamilton; St. Clair, No. 75, Milton; White Oak, No. 104, Oakville.

Immediately after my election to office, I tendered the office of District Secretary to Right Excellent Companion Fred. Walter, who accepted, and during the year I had the greatest assistance through his untiring efforts to aid me in every possible manner.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, No. 75, MILTON.—My first act was that of installation. At the request of the Ex. First Principal, I visited this Chapter on March 11th, accompanied by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, R. E. Comps. F. Walter, W. Birrell, T. M. Davis, W. H. Speers, Ex. Comp. J. T. Wilson and Comps. J. Hooper, A. G. Bain and D. R. Gibson. The officers-elect were duly installed, and the meeting closed harmoniously. On April 24th I again visited, unaccompanied, for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, the causes which were retarding the progress of the Chapter, and to endeavor to remedy the evil. I at once found that the books were in a very unsatisfactory condition, and advised the appointment of a committee to examine them, and to place a statement in the hands of each Companion, showing the amount due the Chapter by him, the committee to have power to make the most satisfactory settlement possible. The committee was duly appointed by Ex. Principal Sitzer; and consisted of R. E. Comp. Panton, Ex. Comps. Somerville and Bates. At this meeting the M. M. M. Degree was conferred, and I was satisfied that the officers could do their duty satisfactorily. On Sept. 18th I again visited, and was pleased to find Comp. James Hooper waiting my arrival. It was fortunate that he had decided to stop over, as he assisted in the conferring of the M. E. M. Degree, the officers of St.
Clair Chapter performing the ceremony acceptably. In November I again visited, but, owing to the terrible condition of the roads, there lacked the attendance, and no meeting was held. The special committee having promised to report at the annual convocation in December, and also that a statement would be given by the Past Scribe E., I arranged that the Hamilton Companions would accompany me and confer the Royal Arch Degree, and I also promised to induce M. E. the Grand Z. to be present. He was only too glad to be of any assistance, for he has been all year in constant touch with me concerning the welfare of the Milton Companions, and he was only waiting for the proper moment to arrive when he would visit them. Accordingly, Dec. 18th was the date appointed for my official visit, and a jolly party set out, consisting of M. E. the Grand Z., Hon. Wm. Gibson, M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, R. E. Comps. F. Walter and T. M. Davis, Ex. Comps. J. T. Wilson, F. Staunton, A. G. Bain, and Comp. Langhorn. We were met by R. E. Comps. Panton and Fraser, Ex. Comps. Sitzer, Somerville, Bates, and Comps. Bridgeman, McGibbon and others. The report of the special committee was received, as was also a statement from the Past Scribe E., and after careful scrutiny by M. Ex. the Grand Z., he decided that no intentional wrong was done to the Chapter, and, as there was no unfriendliness exhibited among the members, a settlement in this matter was effected, and a resolution duly recorded was carried. Thus in a happy and fraternal manner was ended one of the causes which has been a detriment to the progress of St. Clair Chapter. The other cause which affects the Chapter is that the greater portion of the Companions reside outside the town, and having to drive miles often through almost impassable roads it can easily be imagined how enthusiastic one must be to undertake such an ordeal. I have endeavored to enthuse the brethren in the town itself, so that a number of resident officers could be obtained, thereby making the Chapter less dependent on the outside members. I am glad to say that the indications now point to a goodly number of applications, and I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that St. Clair Chapter. No. 75, will in due time be in a healthy prosperous condition.
White Oak Chapter, No. 104, Oakville.—I visited this Chapter on March 4th, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. William Birrell. The degree of M. M. M. was conferred acceptably by Ex. Comp. J. C. Ford and his officers, and a good attendance made the visit a pleasant one. I again visited on Sept. 30th, but a rain and wind storm prevented a large attendance. Nevertheless, the officers conferred the M. M. M. Degree on one candidate. On November 25th I paid an official visit, accompanied by the large delegation of 28 Companions from Hamilton, including M. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid, R. Ex. Comps. F. Walter, T. M. Davis, V. Ex. Comps Fred. Miller, Ex. Comps. Staunton, Wilson, Peene, Lannigan and others. The convocation was an extremely pleasant one, the officers and Past Principals being out in goodly numbers. The M. M. M. Degree was conferred on three candidates in the usual impressive manner, the veteran R. Ex. Comp. Speers and V. Ex. Comp. Robinson assisting. I had the pleasure of congratulating Comp. Scribe E. W. O. Joyce on the splendid condition of his books. The hospitality of the White Oak Companions is well known, and a splendid banquet was served by Comp. Williams, where short speeches and songs were given until warned that train time had arrived. This Chapter is progressive, the members always working for its welfare, and there need be no doubt but that it will in the future maintain its reputation.

The Hiram Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton.—This is my mother Chapter, and while it is natural that I should at all times be pleased at her progress, yet this year particularly I have watched her advance till to-day she stands forth as an example of what willing, loyal hearts and hands can accomplish. Early in the year, owing to the absence of the First Principal, the duties of that office were accepted by V. Ex. Comp. F. Miller, and the Chapter certainly owes much of its success to him and its whole-souled Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. F. Walter, who alone is a tower of strength in that capacity. The members rallied around the officers, and at every meeting it was a treat to enter the Chapter room and see the harmony that prevailed. The officers determined at once that at every convocation degrees would be conferred, and this decision was carried out to the letter. It was
also decided that after the Chapter was closed, refreshments would be served. This was also strictly maintained, so that with prompt opening, strict attention to business, immediate conferring of degrees and early closing, with an hour's refreshment and crisp speech and song, the Companions returned home at a seasonable hour, thoroughly satisfied and enthused. I have attended every meeting during the year, and it affords me great pleasure in saying that it would be difficult to find a more competent and efficient body of officers anywhere. Death has unfortunately been busy among the members of this Chapter, no less than five having gone to their reward. On November 28th the annual convocation and election of officers took place, and I paid my official visit that evening. The Companions were honored by the presence of M. Ex. the Grand Z., Hon. Wm. Gibson; R. Ex. the Grand Scribe E., George J. Bennett; R. Ex. the Grand Treasurer, Hugh Murray; M. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid and many other distinguished Companions. The convocation was one long to be remembered. The members were delighted at having the M. Ex. the Grand Z. with them, for they always have a warm spot in their hearts for him. During the evening a (surprise) ceremony was introduced, which consisted in M. Ex. the Grand Z., Hon. Wm. Gibson, and R. Ex. Comp. George J. Bennett, on behalf of the members of The Hiram Chapter presenting R. Ex. Comp. George Moore and V. Ex. Comp. Fred Miller each with a magnificent clock. The election of officers followed, after which the Chapter was closed, and all repaired to the banquet room, where all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The new year will find the officers-elect hard at work, and I venture the prediction that the Hiram Chapter will at the end of 1903 be again in the front rank.

St. John's Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton.—During the year I have attended nearly every convocation. Comparing the progress of this Chapter with the previous year, it shows a decrease in every particular, and also increases its outstanding dues. The reason is plain, and arises from the lack of zeal shown by its officers, thereby causing the members to become listless and disinterested. The Past Principals, however, must assume the greater responsibility for placing in the chair a Companion who
unwillingly accepted it on promises made to him that the Past Principals would assist him in directing the affairs of the Chapter and conferring of degrees. However, having realized that this was to some extent a mistake, the probability is that it will not occur again. At the annual convocation in December, which was called "Past Principals' Night," and which was largely attended, I paid my official visit, and received a hearty welcome. I presided at the election of officers, which resulted in re-electing to the office of First Principal, R. Ex. Comp. Donald McPhie, who a quarter of a century ago occupied that exalted position. The degree of Royal Arch was conferred by R. Ex. Comp. Donald McPhie as Z., assisted by R. Ex. Comps. R. A. Hutchison, J. Malloy, Hugh Murrav. W. F. Miller, W. Birrell, C. Munro and others. The M. Ex. the Grand Z., the Hon. Wm. Gibson, intended being present, but a telegram was received stating that illness prevented his attending the convocation. A splendid banquet followed, at which the usual toasts, with stirring speeches and song, were rendered. Thus was ended a night with "the old boys and the old work." The books of the Scribe E. were, as usual, in good condition, R. Ex. Comp. McAllister being well skilled in that office. This Chapter has also suffered severely, death having claimed eight Companions, including their beloved Treasurer, R. Ex. Comp. John Moodie. The prospects for St. John's Chapter are now excellent, as the officers-elect are fully determined to leave nothing undone to advance the interest of the Chapter, and I bespeak for them a prosperous year.

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to M. Ex. the Grand Z., Hon. Wm. Gibson, for many kindnesses. He has frequently attended the meetings of the several Chapters, and by his helpful addresses he has done much to instruct and encourage the Companions; also R. Ex. the Grand Scribe E., George J. Bennett, for many acts of kindness done. To the Companions in the Hamilton District I return my sincere thanks for the honor conferred on me of Grand Superintendent, and I pray that the blessings of the Great Jehovah may ever be with us.

Geo. Moore,

Grand Supt., Hamilton District, No. 5.

Hamilton, Dec. 31, 1902.
| Year | Can Exc. Z. work all degrees? | Prospects of Chapter | Insurance | Property | Assets | Outstanding Dues | No. of Members in Arrears | Dues | Royal Arch. | M.E.M. | M.M. | M.S. | Petitions Accepted | No. Members Dec. 31, 1901 | No. Candidates Advanced | No. of Candidates | No. of Visitors | No. of Members | No. of Members in Arrears | Dues | Royal Arch. | M.E.M. | M.M. | M.S. | Petitions Accepted | No. Members Dec. 31, 1901 | No. Candidates Advanced | No. of Candidates | No. of Visitors | No. of Members | No. of Members in Arrears |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|------|-------------|--------|------|------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1900 | Good                        | 100 00               | 00 00     | 00 00    | 00     | 00               | 00                        | 00   | 00          | 00     | 00  | 00   | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               |
| 1901 | Good                        | 00 00                | 00 00     | 00 00    | 00     | 00               | 00                        | 00   | 00          | 00     | 00  | 00   | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               | 00                          | 00                        | 00                  | 00           | 00          | 00 00               |

**George Moore, No. 5, Grand Superintendent, Hamilton District, No. 5.**

Hamilton, Dec. 31, 1902.
GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

HURON DISTRICT, N. 6.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Huron District, No. 6.

In this district there are nine Chapters, constituting it, in this respect, the largest in the jurisdiction. It is worthy of consideration whether the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry would not be promoted by a division of the district. The Chapters situated within the limits of the North Huron District, viz., Havelock, No. 63, Kincardine; Lebanon, No. 84, Wingham; Saugeen, No. 50, Walkerton; Chantry, U. D., Southampton, and Amabel U. D., Wiarton, would form a compact district, convenient for working. The convenient railway connections and proximity of Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston, and Georgian, No. 56, Owen Sound, suggest that they might with advantage be included. Harriston is a point easily reached from the present district, or the new district suggested, and must be passed through by the Grand Superintendent more than once.

I am pleased to report that Capitular Masonry is generally in a fairly satisfactory condition in District No. 6. All the Chapters are working efficiently, and there has been a fair increase in numbers. A gratifying feature of my year of office has been the harmony that everywhere prevails. I have not been called upon to adjust any difficulties, and in my tour throughout the district I never heard of any jar or difference, or any evidence of lack of peace or co-operation.

In several Chapters I was pleased to note the advancement of young Companions to the Principals' chair. In the interest developed in the junior members much of the prosperity of every Chapter lies. I was able to visit all the Chapters in the district, at least once, and regret that the pressure of private affairs prevented my doing more to promote the interests of the Royal Craft.

As will be seen from my report of my visit, Chantry Chapter, which is working under a dispensation, has
fully equipped itself, has a very respectable membership, and has excellent prospects. I believe that this Chapter will be more than ordinarily successful, and have much pleasure in recommending that a warrant be issued.

May I conclude these general remarks by thanking the Companions of Huron District for the great honor done me by electing me their Grand Superintendent, and by expressing my gratitude for the kind reception I everywhere received.

Elliot Chapter, No. 129, Mitchell.—I made my first official visit to this Chapter on June 24th, accompanied by a number of the good Companions from Stratford, including R. Ex. Comp. C. McLellan, V. Ex. Comp. Bews and Ex. Comps. W. J. Mooney, Cassels and Stevenson. This initial visit was a very pleasant one. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred on two candidates in a highly creditable manner, by Ex. Comp. Shafer. The work of all the officers was very good indeed. Considering the small membership, the attendance was very good, and there was every evidence that the Chapter is in good condition. To R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Elliott, whose skill, zeal and personal influence are well known, is due much of the efficiency of this Chapter. I had much pleasure in confiding to the Principals of Elliot Chapter their new warrant, the warrant under which they were originally constituted in Mitchell having been restored to the resuscitated Saugeen Chapter at Walkerton. After the closing of the Chapter, a banquet was held, and a most enjoyable hour spent. The membership of this Chapter is small, and it has a very limited field from which to draw its support. So long, however, as its interests are in the hands of the present membership it is assured of a useful career.

The Malloch Chapter, No. 66, Seaforth.—On Oct. 20th I visited this Chapter, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. C. McLellan. There was a fairly good attendance. The work, an exaltation, was done in a very satisfactory manner. This was all the more creditable as Ex. Comp. Pearce, who presided, had practically no previous experience in working Masonic ritual. The membership of
this Chapter is small, and has not increased during the year, but its condition is very satisfactory. Ex. Comp. R. S. Hays is a model Scribe E., and R. Ex. Comp. Rev. J. W. Hodgins and Ex. Comp. Jackson are two enthusiastic and gifted Companions, who will see that the hearth fire is kept burning. At the close of the Chapter we were royally entertained.

**Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford.**—On Nov. 17th I had the pleasure of being received by my official capacity in my own Chapter. A candidate for advancement, who was expected to be present, failed to appear, but, at my request, Ex. Comp. Hurrell and his officers exemplified in a very satisfactory manner the working of the Mark Degree. The Ex. Z., who is an experienced Past Master, does his work with exemplary precision, and is well supported by his officers. The history of this Chapter during the year has been uneventful. There has been little increase in membership. Only a fair amount of work has been done, and the attendance, considering the large membership, has been small. A gratifying feature is the loyalty and regular attendance of the Past Principals, among whom Tecumseh Chapter is proud to number that model Mason and accomplished ritualist, R. Ex. Comp. Chris. McLellan. Tecumseh Chapter is in a sound condition, and has excellent prospects for the new year.

**Lebanon Chapter, No. 84, Wingham.**—I visited this Chapter on Nov. 18th, and I found something like a revival in progress. The anticipations of my predecessor regarding the prospects of the Chapter are being fully justified. New members are being added to the roll, and of these a number are residents of the town, improving the prospects for a good attendance and an effective working of the Chapter. The Mark Degree was conferred upon two primary candidates. Stalwarts like R. Ex. Comp. Tamblyn and Ex. Comp. Vanstone will be encouraged by the improving prospects.

**Havelock Chapter, N. 63, Kincardine.**—On Nov. 20th I visited Havelock Chapter. Arriving in Kincardine rather late in the evening, I was greeted on stepping off the train by R. Ex. Comp. Martyn, Grand J., and
conducted to the comfortable room in which the Chapter meets. The work of the Chapter had indulgently been held, awaiting my arrival. The attendance was not large, but of such a character as explains the reputation of Kincardine as a good town Masonically. The work of exaltation was done correctly and impressively. After the closing of the Chapter, supper was served in a commodious banquetting room, and a very pleasant hour was spent. Though this Chapter reports a considerable falling off in membership, and has done very little work during the year, its condition need not occasion any anxiety. Most of the loss is due to withdrawals, incident to the formation of a new Chapter at Southampton. Havelock Chapter is destined to a long and honorable career of usefulness.

St. James’ Chapter, No. 46, St. Mary’s.—My visit to this Chapter on Nov. 24th was a very pleasant experience. There was a small attendance. The membership is not large, and many are non-residents. It is therefore at some self-sacrifice that the few loyal Companions in the town carry on the work. No candidate was available, but the Principals and officers demonstrated their ability to do impressive work by exemplifying the Royal Arch Degree. The work was done with accuracy, and in a manner that was very effective and satisfactory. St. James’ Chapter has a limited field for support, and cannot look for any considerable growth in membership. The Chapter property is not insured. I hope to see this done.

Huron Chapter, No. 30, Goderich.—On the occasion of my visit to old Huron Chapter I found that it was practically reorganizing after being called off for the summer months. There was a good attendance. Ex. Comp. Naftel and his officers conferred the Mark Degree in a generally satisfactory manner. After the work, refreshments were served, and a social hour in the supper room concluded a very pleasant evening. This Chapter enjoys the advantage of including in its membership such veterans in Capitular Masonry as R. E. Comps. R. Radcliffe, C. A. Humber and Jos. Beck, all of whom I was glad to find present. I found ample evidence of
vitality and efficiency, and the outlook is very bright. A substantial increase in the membership has been made. The large amount of dues outstanding deserves the serious consideration of the Chapter.

**Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, Walkerton.—** I visited Saugeen Chapter on Oct. 21st, and found almost all of the small membership present, and one visitor, Ex. Comp. Col. Scott, now a resident of Walkerton. This Chapter was resuscitated a year ago, and I had the great pleasure of returning to the Companions of Walkerton their old warrant, which for a number of years gave authority to the proceedings of the Companions of Mitchell. I found some deficiencies in the paraphernalia, which the Chapter will doubtless soon make good. Two candidates were exalted in an exemplary manner, V. Ex. Comp. R. C. Cheswright, to whose zeal and self-sacrifice the Chapter owes its existence, presiding. Saugeen Chapter is as yet small in numbers. It has, however, an excellent field from which to draw material, no less than five Craft Lodges being within its jurisdiction, and, while it will be some time before the future of the Chapter can be regarded as assured, it has excellent prospects. I carried away very kindly recollections of the good-fellowship of the Walkerton Companions.

**Chantry Chapter, U. D., Southampton.—** I visited Chantry Chapter on Dec. 19th, having been unable to arrange for an earlier date. Notwithstanding the compartmentively small membership and the difficulty experienced by some of the merchants in leaving their business so near Christmas, there was an excellent attendance. From the acquaintance I formed, I judge that Chantry Chapter is to be congratulated upon the quality of its membership. As the Chapter is young, and many of the Companions but slightly experienced in Capitular Masonry, the First Principal invited me to be present at the opening. In the opening and closing in all the degrees, and the working of the Mark and M. E. Degrees, which I witnessed, I found very little to correct. The several officers were well drilled, and all the work was given not only correctly, but impressively. In no Chapter in the district did I witness better work.
try Chapter has nearly doubled its roll in the past year, and its prospects for further additions are excellent. The financial condition of the Chapter is excellent, there being a comfortable sum in the treasury, with no dues outstanding. The Companions of Chantry Chapter are good workers and royal entertainers. My visit was in every way gratifying and a happy conclusion to a pleasant official year.

Fraternally submitted,

J. Russell Stuart,
Grand Superintendent.
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NIAGARA DISTRICT, No. 7.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of the Niagara District, I have the honor to submit my report on the general condition of Capitular Masonry in said district, consisting of the following Chapters, namely: Mount Moriah, No. 19, St. Catharines; McCallum, No. 29, Dunnville; Niagara, No. 55, Niagara-on-the-Lake; King Hiram, No. 57, Port Colborne; Wilson, No. 64, Welland; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby; Mount Nebo, No. 76, Niagara Falls South.

Niagara Chapter, No. 55, Niagara.—On Nov. 20th I made my first official visit to Niagara Chapter, Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Royal Arch Degree was exemplified, the work being done in a creditable manner. Our Niagara Chapter is to be congratulated upon having Rt. Ex. Comp. J. Clement, one of the oldest Masons in the Niagara District, and whose enthusiasm is increased by many Masonic years.

Wilson Chapter, No. 64, Welland.—On the evening of Nov. 26th I visited Wilson Chapter, Welland. There was no work for that convocation. On Dec. 10th a special convocation to confer the Royal Arch was held. This I attended, and am able to speak very favorably of the officers of Wilson Chapter.

King Hiram Chapter, No. 57, Port Colborne.—My official visit to King Hiram Chapter was made on Dec. 4th. I find that, while their progress had not been commensurate with that of Capitular Masonry throughout the Niagara District, new life, however, has been infused into the Chapter, and from present indications I am of the opinion that this Chapter will once again take its place of being one of the brightest in the district.

Mount Nebo Chapter, No. 76, Niagara Falls S.—As Mount Nebo is my own Chapter, I have been at many of its meetings, but paid my official visit on Dec. 5th. The Mark Master Mason Degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. Fraser and the officers of the Chapter, and
I am pleased to report Mount Nebo Chapter has made very favorable progress during the year.

Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines.—This Chapter was visited by me on Dec. 12th. One candidate was advanced to the Mark Master Mason Degree, and too much praise cannot be given Very Ex. Comp. Kilmer and his staff. Mount Moriah has long been known as the leader of Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District, and present indications point to the maintenance of that position.

McCallum Chapter, No. 29, Dunnville.—I paid my official visit to Dunnville on Dec. 19th. The Royal Arch Degree was conferred, and the work as exemplified was all that could be desired. The increase in membership during the past year has not been so large as might be wished, but the prospects for the coming year point towards a considerable addition.

Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby.—On the evening of Jan. 7th I witnessed an exaltation to the Holy Royal Arch, conferred by Very Ex. Comp. Lipsitt and his efficient staff of officers. The addition to the membership of Grimsby Chapter during the past year has been very satisfactory, and future prospects promise a continuation of prosperity.

I am pleased to report that the condition of Capitular Masonry throughout the Niagara District is good, and feel assured my successor in office will be able to report still more favorably for 1903. In conclusion, I have to thank the many Companions in the different Chapters for their kind and generous hospitality, and for their assistance in my visits among them. I thank them for the honor conferred upon me, the superintendency of the Niagara District being an honor of which any Companion may feel proud. All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. C. ROTHERY,
Grand Superintendent, Niagara District, No. 7.
TORONTO DISTRICT, No. 8.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As the Grand Superintendent of this district, I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of the Royal Craft since I assumed the duties of the office in January, 1902.

The Chapters comprising the district are: St. Andrew’s and St. John’s, No. 4; King Solomon, No. 8; Doric, No. 60, Newmarket; York, No. 62, Eglinton; St. Paul’s, No. 65; Occident, No. 77, Orient, No. 79, and Antiquity, No. 91.

I have visited all the Chapters in the district several times, with the exception of Doric, No. 60, and it is with the greatest pleasure I am able to report that in every instance I found good work, zealous activity, harmony, and a most laudable ambition to further the tone and render the “kudos” of the Royal Craft pre-eminent.

All the city Chapters are now provided with banners and ensigns, which not only are an embellishment to the ceremonies, but are an absolute essential to the proper interpretation of the Royal Arch rite.

During the months of May and June I had the pleasure of visiting several Chapters in Ireland and England, and was proud to find that as regards the interpretation, manners and forms of the Royal Arch ceremonies, the Toronto District occupied a foremost position.

Throughout the whole district there has been an evident exertion to render the Mark Degree in a dignified and impressive manner, as well befits the keystone degree of Capitular Masonry. This has been especially gratifying, as in nearly every case has this difficult degree been worked by the Second and Third Principals, which shows that when their turn comes to exemplify the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch they will not be “weighed in the balance and found wanting.”

My first official act was the appointment of V. E. Comp. William J. A. Lake as my District Secretary, who, I may state, has performed the duties of his office with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of myself and the district.
I regret to state that the regulation of Grand Chapter as regards the choosing and registration of Marks is "more honored in the breach than in the observance," and I would suggest that the same should either be repealed or stringently enforced. The degree of Most Excellent Master has on the whole been fairly worked, but in its present form there is very little interest taken in its rendition, either by the dramatis personae or the neophytes, who look upon the same as merely a prerequisite stepping stone to the Royal Arch Degree.

I impressed on all the Chapters that every visit I paid was official, and that I would base my report as regards the work, attendance and general rendition of degrees as ordinarily performed, and not on an especial exposition for the benefit of the Grand Superintendent. I also stated that as "first impressions were always the strongest," it was most essential that the Mark Degree should be exemplified at least up to the standard of the average blue lodge, as the candidates were perfectly qualified to criticize the same, and, indeed, have done so in many instances. This suggestion was loyally carried out, and I have no hesitation in stating that in this district this beautiful degree was done ample justice to.

There is some laxity throughout the district in not opening at the time called for in the by-laws. I have repeatedly directed the attention of the Principals and officers to this, showing them that it keeps many of the Companions from attending through fear of late hours, and also adding and increasing current expenses in running the Chapters by rendering emergency meetings necessary. Most of the Chapters now supply their candidates with the proper regalia, which certainly adds to the appearance of their convocations, and if they were to go a step farther and make it obligatory for every Companion to wear the beautiful symbolic jewel of the degree, it would, in my humble opinion, add additional uniformity.

There has been a growing tendency of late years to gradually drop the distinctive clothing and jewels of Royal Arch Masonry in many of the Chapters, but I am glad to state that throughout the whole of this district there is a manifold revival of "proper clothing." The fraternal visiting is not what it should be. Nothing does
so much to keep uniformity of work and bring the Com-
panions into that bond of friendship which should dis-
tinguish all who have the honor of belonging to the Royal
Craft. The musical portion of the ceremonies is not the
strongest feature in this district. There is a decidedly
funereal tone, both to the singing and style of circum-
ambulation.

Orient Chapter, No. 79, Toronto.—I visited this
Chapter on January 23rd, at their regular meeting, and
found an excellent attendance. One candidate received
the Mark, and several others were balloted for and ac-
cepted. This Chapter is exceptionally fortunate in hav-
ing a beautiful and commodious hall, in which to hold
their convocations, and at a very moderate rent. Ex.
Comp. Corley is indefatigable in his efforts to make the
convocations interesting and instructive, both to the
members and visitors, and he is ably seconded by the Ex.
Second and Third Principals. Ex. Comp. Anderson, as
Scribe E., cannot be surpassed in the district. His books
are models of neatness, and his minutes are admirably
written up in a most clear and comprehensive style. I
again visited this Chapter at a special convocation
called for the purpose of presenting regalia to my pre-
E. H. Briggs. There was no work on this occasion, but
the evening was entirely taken up with receiving city
Chapters and fraternal greetings. Rt. Ex. Comp. Ben
Allen made the presentation to Comp. Mason in his usual
happy and genial tyle, and I had the honor of making
a similar presentation to that most indefatigable of
workers, Rt. Ex. Comp. Briggs. Short addresses on in-
teresting subjects were also made by Rt. Ex. Comps. Geo.
and James Bicknell. A very large gathering partook of
the hospitality so warmly tendered by the Companions
of Orient Chapter, and a delightful time was experi-
enced, enlivened with speech and song. I visited this
Chapter again on March 27th, and had the pleasure of
seeing the Mark Degree exemplified in a most satisfactory
manner. This Chapter has very bright prospects, and is
exceptionally fortunate in having Past Principals who
not only are regular attendants, but also are ready, cap-
able and willing of filling any officer's place who may be absent. Pre-eminent among these are Rt. Ex. Comp. Mason and Briggs, V. Ex. Comp. Ira Bates, and Ex. Comp. Anderson, S.E. I endorse highly the latter's system of reading the names of all candidates which appear on the other city Chapter circulars, reporting to the Companions as regards their eligibility, and I would strongly recommend this practice to be observed throughout the jurisdiction.

King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on Feb. 5th. Found a good attendance of members and visitors, and had the pleasure of seeing the M. E. M. Degree worked in a faultless manner. I cannot speak too highly of the opening and closing in the Royal Arch, which was exemplified in letter perfect style, and clearly showed the careful rehearsals that must have taken place, to secure such a degree of proficiency. Ex. Comp. Wilkinson and his officers are to be congratulated on the new life they have infused into this old Chapter, and their skilled work and energy will doubtless keep on producing good results even after their time of office has expired. In the working of the M. E. M. Degree the S.D. deserves the highest commendation. This is the only Chapter that examines the candidates for advancement as regards their proficiency in the preceding degrees, and on this occasion the candidates answered with credit both to themselves and the Chapter. I visited again on March 5th, and found a good attendance. The Mark Degree was excellently worked, and I especially commend the individual efforts of the S.D. and overseers. There was a good attendance of Past Principals, among whom may be mentioned M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, R. Ex. Comp. Alexander Patterson, Ex. Comps. W. A. Lyon, Porteous and Macdonell. I may state that Rt. E. Comp. Patterson is indefatigable in his Masonic duties, and that there is scarcely a convocation of this Chapter at which he is not only present, but taking an active interest and share in the administration of its affairs. I visited again on April 2nd, and saw the Royal Arch Degree exemplified with the dignity and precision due to the supreme degree. I found especial cause for commendation (although the work of all the officers was good), in that of
Ex. Comp. Wilkinson, Z., William Cooper, H., and Comp. William Stinson, Principal Sojourner. One of the features, however, of the convocation was an admirable and instructive lecture on the banners by Ex. Comp. Henry T. Smith, which was a marvel of painstaking enquiry, and only one demerit, viz., that of being too short. I cannot commend too highly the practice of having papers read and discussions on the origin and meaning of Masonic usages; but unfortunately it is only once in a generation we have a "Moses" like Ex. Comp. Smith, who appears in addition to his other multifarious duties to take all his recreation in delving into Masonic lore. This Chapter has certainly taken a new lease of life under Ex. Comp. Wilkinson, and I predict, with pleasure, for it a prosperous and successful future.

St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on Feb. 12th, and found a large attendance of members and visitors. The Mark Degree was exemplified in an admirable manner, and fully up to the high standard for which this Chapter has always been pre-eminent. Ex. Comp. Dr. Anderson, as W. M., did his work well, and was especially worthy of commendation, as this was the first time he had filled the chair. He was also ably supported by all the subordinate officers. This Chapter is fortunate in always having a good attendance of Past Principals, most of whom are, or have been, pre-eminent in other branches of Masonry, and who are always ready and willing to undertake any portion of the "work," and by their presence and example keep up the high degree of excellence for which they have attained such a distinguished reputation in the past. Rt. Ex. Comps. Ponton, Allen, Postlethwaite, Manley, Eakins, and Ex. Comp. Webster are towers of strength to this Chapter, and it is very pleasant to see the younger Companions emulating their example and keeping up the traditions of this institution. The Chapter is fortunate in having luxurious quarters, and all their furniture and paraphernalia is strictly in accordance with the regulations. I especially noticed a beautiful veil of Oriental and curious workmanship presented by the late Ex. Comp. Frank Robertson, than whom no Companion was more beloved, as he was not only an earnest and skilled Mason, but
"one in whom there was no guile." Right Ex. Comps. Mason and Briggs accompanied me on this visit. I again visited this Chapter on March 14th. I found a large attendance, but unfortunately the Principals were all from unavoidable causes absent. The chairs, however, were filled by Past Principals, and the Mark, Most Excellent Degrees were exemplified admirably. I can especially commend the work of S. D. Comp. Snider. The books are models of neatness, and the minutes are written up with accuracy and clearness. There is no Chapter in the jurisdiction more hospitable, or which pays more attention to the welfare of their visitors, and I only wish they would see their way in the future to do more fraternal visiting than they have been in the habit of doing. It is needless to state that the prospects of this Chapter are of the highest degree excellent. I might state that at the beginning of the year I had the pleasure of seeing Rt. Ex. Comp. Postlethwaite have the pleasant and honorable function of installing his son as Second Principal.

Occident Chapter, No. 77, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on March 14th, and found a large attendance of officers, members and visitors, and was accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comps. P. T. Lee and John Hetherington. The Mark Degree was exemplified accurately and with the greatest vim, on three candidates of exceptional ability, one being a clerk in holy orders, and another a legal luminary. The degree was exemplified by Ex. Comps. Meadows and Fred. Prince, both of whom are skilled ritualists. The floor work was well done, and the greatest care given not only to the rendition of the various forms and ceremonies, but also to the spirit of the work. Ex. Comp. Luke is an indefatigable worker, and is ably assisted by the I.P.Z., Ex. Comp. John Drew. I had previously visited this Chapter on February 14th. On that occasion, however, there was no work, but the opening and closing was rendered with accuracy, and in an impressive manner. The books are models of neatness, and reflect the greatest credit on Ex. Comp. Geo. K. Clemens. I had the pleasure of being present at an at-home given by this Chapter on February 27th. There was a most enjoyable concert, with talent of a very high order,
ANNUAL CONVOCATION, TORONTO, 1903.

and afterwards a dance and supper served in a most recherche manner. These social gatherings do a lot towards making the members' families better acquainted, and are calculated to popularize the institution with the fair sex, as it compensates them to some extent for the necessary absence on certain evenings of their husbands and brothers. I again visited on August 8th, accompanied by Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith, and had the pleasure of seeing three candidates receive the Mark Degree in a most impressive manner. This Chapter has a beautiful set of banners, and their lodge quarters are exceptionally good. I may mention that one of their customs is to present the candidates with a "special token for receiving wages." There is no Chapter in the jurisdiction where the members take a more active interest or lively pleasure in work, and Ex. Comp. Luke, who is a host in himself, may feel justly proud of the rapid and exemplary progress made by this Chapter. The financial condition is good, and the arrears of dues comparatively small.

Antiquity Chapter, No. 91, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on Feb. 21st, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comps. Mason and P. T. Lee, and had the pleasure of seeing the M. E. M. Degree exemplified, Ex. Comp. Verral occupying the chair. The work was well done, Ex. Comp. Verral proving himself a good presiding officer, and a careful and accurate ritualist. The Royal Arch was then worked, all the Principals being present. Ex. Comp. Ross is an excellent and talented exponent of Masonic work, and spares himself in no respect in rendering all matters connected with the Chapter according to a high standard. I may mention that on the night of his installation he worked the Royal Arch Degree almost letter perfect. Ex. Comps. Luke and Verral gave their lectures accurately and impressively. Comp. Porte, in the absence of Comp. Lawless, acted as Principal Sojourner, and I have no hesitation in stating that by no possibility could the work of this difficult and important office be rendered in a more accurate or comprehensive manner. The books are a credit to Comp. Till, who spares no trouble in keeping them in a most business-like manner. The Companions are fortunate in having beautifully furnished quarters, and are equipped for all the work with
correct and expensive paraphernalia. I am only reiterating the remarks of my predecessors in alluding to the faithful service of the "father of the Chapter," Rt. Ex. Comp. William Walker. He has been a constant worker and a faithful and generous adviser since its inception, present at all the convocations, and in troublous times in the past he has been a very bulwark of security. In fact, his influence, unassuming good nature, tact and geniality have had a large part in bringing Antiquity Chapter to its present high position in the district. The arrears of dues are small, a great deal of "dead wood" having been cut off previous to the meeting of Grand Chapter.

St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter, No. 4, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on March 21st, and found a large attendance of members and visitors. Indeed, one of the features of the evening was a visit from Antiquity Chapter, who turned out to the number of twenty-eight. The M. E. M. Degree was exemplified well by Ex. Comp. H. S. King, ably assisted by his officers. This Chapter is fortunate in its selection of officers. Ex. Comps. Sutton and Blight are energetic and capable. Rt. Ex. Comp. "Joe" King is, and has been identified with this Chapter as Treasurer, always present, always ready with the hand of fellowship, and always ready to help a Companion in distressed circumstances. Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith, I.P.Z., is assiduous in his attendance and assistance. The by-laws have been tastefully and even elegantly got up, and are embellished with a cut of the beautiful and universally regretted Chapter room in Toronto street, an historical sketch by Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith, of the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry into Toronto, and portraits of Comps. Gowan and Irving. The affairs are in a good condition, although this Chapter and that of King Solomon are handicapped by a high rent, and quarters which are certainly in need of a "renaissance" as regards comfort, decoration and general suitability for Chapter work. I cannot close my remarks on this Chapter without making some allusion to Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith's services to all the Chapters in the city. He has always been ready and willing to assist the convocations by the elucidation of Masonic problems and customs in
a manner easy of comprehension, and ripe and rich in an array of interesting archaeological and historical facts.

York Chapter, No. 62, Eglinton.—I visited this Chapter in February, March and April. At the February convocation, owing to the severe weather and impassable condition of the roads, the installation of officers had to be postponed until the March convocation. On March 6th I found a small attendance, and assisted in the installation of officers. I was accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. P. T. Lee. On April 3rd I found a fair attendance, but owing to the climatic conditions no candidates materialized. This Chapter has very up-hill work to hold its own, as the sources for candidates are small, and cover a very large area. Indeed it is wonderful how well this institution has been and is holding its own. The opening and closing was well done, and Ex. Comp. Gibson showed himself a good presiding officer and a careful ritualist. The books are admirably kept by the Scribe E. Rt. Ex. Comps. Fisher, W. Roaf and Hull are, and always have been, good and tried friends to this Chapter, and their interest, although extended over a period of so many years, still retains its pristine vigor.

Finally, I would ask the kind forbearance and indulgence of the district. I had made all arrangements for returning to Toronto in November, and staying until the end of February. My father, however, was taken dangerously ill in November, and died on the 7th of December. Being the only son, everything has devolved on me, and all my plans for again visiting the district have been frustrated. I can only say that I hope in the very near future to be again with my Masonic brethren in Toronto for a short season, and that the remembrance of their kindness, courtesy and sympathy will always remain green in my heart.

Fraternally submitted,

Francis Blackburne,
Grand Supt., District No. 8.
Rathfarnham Castle, Dublin, Dec. 11, 1902.
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GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have to report that Georgian District, No. 9, has passed through the past year without any occurrence to disturb the harmony of Capitular Masonry within its borders.

I visited all the Chapters, with the exception of St. John’s, No. 103, the farthest from my home, and Macpherson, No. 86, the nearest.

The two dates I appointed for St. John’s proved inconvenient for its Companions, and the date selected by them proved inconvenient for me.

The second date appointed for Macpherson Chapter was accepted by its Companions, but upon reaching the place I was informed by the Ex. Z. that he could not get a quorum. I told him to set a time later for my visit, and I would try and be present, but have not as yet had any notification of such date.

Manitou Chapter, No. 27, Collingwood.—This Chapter is doing fairly well, and the work is invariably well done.

Signet Chapter, No. 34, Barrie.—Signet Chapter is full of work and enthusiasm, and is bidding fair to become the banner Chapter of this Grand jurisdiction.

Georgian Chapter, No. 56, Owen Sound.—Georgian Chapter, on the occasion of my visit, did the work fairly well, but to my mind is not doing all that its opportunities seem to require.

Grand River Chapter, No. 70, Bracebridge.—This Chapter has a number of faithful Companions, who had been somewhat discouraged, but since my visit they have had a large number of applications.

Amabel Chapter, U. D., Wiarton.—Amabel has all the enthusiasm of a new Chapter. It has doubled its membership, and did the work well. While the multiplication of Chapters too rapidly has to be guarded against, I must heartily recommend that a charter be granted for Amabel.
I regret that, although I have kept this report back much longer than I should, I am unable to complete the table attached or form any conclusions as to the progress of Capitular Masonry in the district as a whole in the absence of reports from Georgian Chapter, No. 56, Owen Sound, and Macpherson Chapter, No. 86, Meaford. I have written twice and telephoned once specially for each of these reports, and they have as yet not come to hand. This dereliction of duty renders the report practically useless, for which I can only express regret.

Fraternally submitted.

Geo. M. Aylsworth,
Grand Superintendent.
December 1st, 1901, to December 1st, 1902.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT, GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.
ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

At the last annual meeting of Grand Chapter the Companions of Ontario District elected me District Superintendent for the ensuing year. My presence at Grand Chapter was due to my having been storm-stayed at Toronto while Grand Chapter was in session. When I accepted the office I did so appreciating it as an honor to the Chapter of which I was a member, as well as a mark of esteem and favor from the Companions of the district, and that it carried with it added appreciation, as well as increased responsibility.

It affords me great pleasure to report that harmony and peace have prevailed in the district throughout the year. The returns will show a considerable increase in membership, and the Chapters generally have done exceedingly well. I have received notices of convocations held by the different Chapters, with but one exception. The work seen by me on my visits was exceptionally good, and the Companions seen evinced a feeling that would impress you that Capitular Masonry in the district has before it a bright and prosperous future.

Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope.—I visited this Chapter on October 10th, and had the pleasure of seeing the Royal Arch Degree exemplified in good style by the officers, Ex. Z., Dr. Might, in the chair. This is a healthy Chapter, and has new material coming in, which insures its future prosperity. Too much cannot be said in favor of the retiring Z., Rt. Ex. Comp. Dr. Might. It was with pleasure I noticed the honor conferred on him by the Companions of his Chapter. He has, while holding all the honors, remained with the Chapter to keep up its good name, and no effort on his part is spared to keep Victoria Chapter to the fore. Ex. Companion J. W. Sanders is a very efficient officer, and keeps his books in neat form, a loyal Companion who deserves much credit. Victoria Chapter has many Companions who rank high in Capitular Masonry. I shall always retain pleasant recollections of my visit to this Chapter.
Annual Convocation, Toronto, 1903. 67

Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne.—I visited this Chapter on October 21st, when the R. A. Degree was conferred in an excellent manner by the officers. The Ex. Z., W. Bellamy, is untiring in his efforts for the good of the Chapter. This is one of the very best in the district; its prospects are bright. Companion Jas. Thorne, Scribe E., keeps his books neatly, and has had much to do with the good financial condition of the Chapter. There are many Excellent Companions belonging to this Chapter, and Capitular Masonry is safe in Colborne.

Warkworth Chapter, No. 110, Warkworth.—I visited this Chapter on October 22nd. Owing to the very inclement state of the weather, there were but few of the Companions present, and through unfortunate circumstances the Chapter did not meet with due regularity during the year. This Chapter is taking on new life, and its prospects can safely be said to be good. Its finances are all right. The material coming into the Chapter will make it much stronger. It has depended too much in the past on assistance from Campbellford. Should the latter place have a Chapter of its own, Warkworth will not feel the want of the Companions from there, but will become more self-reliant, and one of the best Chapters in the district. When looking over Grand Chapter’s reports I shall look forward with much pleasure to seeing my prediction re Warkworth verified.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterboro.—It is a matter of deep regret to me that I was unable to visit this Chapter. Upon the evening at first appointed I learned from the Chapter that, owing to the hunting season, it would not be convenient for them to have me visit them, and to which postponement I agreed. The next engagement, owing to pressure of business, I was unable to keep (one whose time is not at his own disposal is liable to fall into errors in making engagements for the future). From all that I have heard and know of this Chapter, its future prospects are of the best, and satisfactory in every way. It was visited by the Most Ex. Grand Z. and Grand H. during my term of office.

Midland Chapter, No. 94, Lindsay.—This is my own Chapter. It has an efficient set of officers, who can work
all the degrees. The Z., Ex. Companion J. J. McMann, is an enthusiastic R. A. Mason, and is bringing the standard of the Chapter up to be one of the best in the district, and nowhere can you find a more able or correct Scribe E. than Comp. G. S. Patrick, of Midland Chapter, which has received this year a large number of enthusiastic Masons, who will greatly assist the Ex. Z., who has been re-elected.

Pentalpha Chapter, No. 28, Oshawa.—This Chapter has sent me notices of their regular and emergent convocations held during the year, and their work shows that they have done much better than last year, and from reports I understand that the officers are making vigorous efforts to have the Chapter one of the best in the district.

St. John's Chapter, No. 48, Cobourg.—I have not received any notices of convocations from this Chapter during the year. I hope to be able to visit Cobourg before Grand Chapter meets.

In closing this report and my term of office, I must express the pleasure I have experienced in my several visits. The Companions wherever I have been extended to me the kindest and most generous treatment. I desire to thank the Companions of the district for the great honor conferred on me, and at the same time express my deep regret that owing to unavoidable circumstances I was unable to visit all the Chapters in the district.

Fraternally submitted,

G. H. M. Baker,
Superintendent Ontario District, No. 10.
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Can Ex. Z. work degrees

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Property

Cash

Assets

Liabilities

M. M. M. Degrees Conferred

M. A. A. Degrees Conferred

M. A. M. Degrees Conferred

Present Membership

No. of Mem. 12mo. in Arrears

No. of Suspensions

No. of Restorations

No. of Candidates Initiated

No. of Petitions Accepted

No. Members per last return

No. of Members, 12mo. in Arrears

No. of A. M. Degrees Conferred

No. of M. M. Degrees Conferred
PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district for the present year of 1902.

At the last annual convocation of Grand Chapter I was elected to the office of Grand Superintendent of this district without my knowledge or consent, I being absent at the time. At a subsequent date I was duly installed at a regular meeting of Prince Edward Chapter by Rt. Ex. Comp. John Waring, a Past Grand Superintendent of this district.

St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton.—In due course of time a copy of the Proceedings for 1902 was forwarded to me by the Grand Scribe E. In perusing the same I found by the report of my predecessor, Rt. Ex. Comp. Henry Pringle, that St. Mark's Chapter was not in as good condition as one would wish. He also recommended Grand Chapter to place the matter in the hands of his successor to put forth an effort to revive the Masonic zeal of the members of this Chapter. Accordingly, I wrote a letter to the First Principal regarding the state of the Chapter, when he informed me he would call a meeting and see what could be done. He had summonses issued for the month of April, and was successful in having a meeting. He then requested me to visit the Chapter in May, which I did, when I found a good number of the Companions present to greet me, and was also glad to find that there were four applicants to be balloted for. There being two of the candidates present, we had work in the M. M. M. Degree, one of them being advanced by Rt. Ex. Comp. Wilkins, and the other one by myself. I visited this Chapter again on the evening of December 16th, and by my invitation the Most Excellent Grand Z., Wm. Gibson, was also present, for whose visit the Companions were more than pleased. The work of the evening was the Royal Arch Degree, given by myself at the request of the First Principal. After the work was completed the Most Ex. Gr. Z. delivered a stirring address to the Companions, which was highly appreciated.
by them. While this Chapter is not all that could be desired, yet it is more promising than it was last year, and as I have a promise from the new officers that they will get up their work and leave no stone unturned to make this Chapter a success, I have the hope a still better report may be given next year.

Moira Chapter, No. 7, Bellville.—I visited this Chapter on the evening of November 4th. I was accompanied by several Companions of Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, Picton. I found a good attendance of Companions, although the evening was somewhat rainy. The Royal Arch Degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. Rev. D. F. Bogart and his able and efficient staff of officers in a highly creditable manner. They report an increase in attendance of both members and visitors. This Chapter is blessed with a first-class Scribe E. in the person of Ex. Companion William McKeown, who keeps a nice set of books, is always prompt in his correspondence, and appears to be well versed in the work. It is an assured fact that there is a bright and prosperous future in store for this Chapter. At the close of the Chapter we were royally entertained in the refreshment room.

Keystone Chapter, No. 72, Stirling.—On Wednesday, December 10th, I visited Stirling. A large number of the Companions were present, it being their election of officers. The Mark Master Degree was conferred on one candidate in an acceptable manner by the officers in charge. This Chapter has to labor under the difficulty of a scattered membership, some of them having to drive fifteen or sixteen miles to be present, which, in bad weather, they are sometimes deterred from doing. But they are getting some new members, who reside in close proximity to the Chapter, who will be of great assistance in the future. Rt. Ex. Comp. J. Earl Halliwell fills the office of Scribe E. in a manner which is satisfactory to the members and creditable to himself. The interests of this Chapter are well looked after by this able and efficient officer. I am consequently able to report that the prospects of this Chapter are very encouraging.

Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 44, Napanee.—On December 17th I proceeded to Napanee. Shortly after my
arrival I chanced to meet a familiar figure in the person of Rt. Ex. Companion A. Shaw, Grand H. It is needless to say he received the glad hand from me. When I informed him of my business in the town of course anyone may know where he spent the evening. There was a candidate for the M. E. M. Degree, but as he failed to put in an appearance, consequently there was no degree work. It being their night for installation, Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw and myself were invited to instal the officers, which we did according to ancient usage. This Chapter reports an increase in membership, and also in attendance, over last year. From the character of the members who go to make up this Chapter, who are all zealous in their efforts, I cannot help but think that Mount Sinai Chapter is bound to succeed, and rank with the best of the Chapters of this Grand jurisdiction. The Scribe E., Comp. J. G. Fennell, has his books in good shape, and looks well after the dues. Ex. Comp. Wm. Rankin wields the sceptre for another term.

Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, Picton.—I have paid no official visit to this Chapter as yet, for this is my mother Chapter, and I have attended every meeting during the year, and consequently I am as well acquainted with its workings as though I visited it officially. This, I think, is one of the most prosperous Chapters to be found under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter. It meets regularly each month, has an average attendance of about forty, which goes to show the zeal displayed and the interest taken in our Royal art by the Companions of Picton. The officers are well up in their work from the First Principal down. The Ex. Z. and Scribe E. are fully alive to its interests, it dues (except a small amount) are all paid up, and the prospects of the Chapter for the future are of the very brightest. The above Chapter held an at-home on New Year’s Eve, 1902, for the purpose of making a presentation and address to Very Ex. Comp. Wm. Smeaton, who was the first candidate exalted in the Chapter after its formation some thirty-five years ago. Comp. Smeaton is about to remove to Ann Arbor, Mich., and Prince Edward Chapter loses one of its most valued members.

In conclusion, I would say that during my visitations
to the various Chapters I was pleased to see so many young men taking an active interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and I express the hope that they will "proceed not in lightly, but pursue it steadily, ever remembering the great objects of our institution."

I desire to return my sincere thanks to the Companions of Prince Edward District for the honor conferred upon me at the last convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the many courtesies and kindnesses extended to me by the various Chapters in this district during my year of office, and I sincerely trust that the good-fellowship existing at the present time throughout the district may continue for evermore.

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. Colden,

Grand Superintendent, District No. 11.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 12.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I beg to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in St. Lawrence District, No. 12. On assuming the duties of Grand Superintendent for this district I first intended to hold a Chapter of Instruction, but on account of one late last year and a very large meeting of a higher degree in Brockville, I abandoned the idea, but have kept in close touch with the Chapters of my district, and have visited each one officially, and have also, with the assistance of the Second Grand Principal, Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, opened Under Dispensation what I consider the making of a live Chapter at Gananoque.

I wish to express my most sincere thanks to the S.E.'s of the Chapters of this district for the prompt way they have replied to my letters, and also for the regularity their summonses have been sent to me.

I also wish to extend my thanks to Rt. Ex. Comp. N. J. Fraid, of Cornwall, and Rt. Ex. Comp. Wm. Thomson, of Kingston, for their advice and assistance on entering on my duties as Grand Superintendent.
Covenant Chapter, No. 133, Cornwall.—On the 19th of March I paid my official visit to this live Chapter. I was met at the train by Rt. Ex. Comp. N. J. Fraid and Ex. Comp. E. H. Elridge, and I must thank the officers and Companions of this Chapter for their great kindness to me on my first official visit to any Chapter. I found the books of the Chapter kept in a correct and perfect manner, and I must congratulate S. E., F. Bisset, not only on his books, but for the way he keeps the dues collected up to date. The Holy Royal Arch Degree was conferred by the officers on several candidates in a manner equal to any Chapter work in this district, showing that the officers of this Chapter have the good of Royal Arch Masonry at heart, and they have had a good Masonic year. At the close of the Chapter we adjourned to a splendid banquet in the supper hall and a good time spent in speech and song until it was train time, alas! all too soon.

Grenville Chapter, No. 22, Prescott.—On June 1st I paid my official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. C. H. Fitzsimmons, V. Ex. Comp. W. H. Mowat and Ex. Comp. G. K. Dewey, of Brockville, and R. E. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson and V.E.Comp. John Hewton, of Kingston. The officers of the Chapter conferred the Mark Master Mason’s Degree on two candidates in a most creditable manner, showing they were good ritualists. The books of the Chapter are kept in a good manner, and the Chapter is to be congratulated on having so bright a S.N. in the person of Comp. J. S. Rosebrook, who is doing the clerical work in the unavoidable absence of Comp. John M. Graham, S.E. At the close of the work the visiting Companions were banqueted by the members of the Chapter, and some good addresses were made by the Companions from Brockville and Kingston, and by Ex. Comp. Logan, Z. of the Chapter, and Ex. Comp. Brouse, who always makes every visiting Mason to Prescott both welcome and happy.

St. John’s Chapter, No. 112, Morrisburg. —On June 24th I paid my official visit. This Chapter has the disadvantage of having its members scattered, some being in Iroquois, and others in the surrounding
The Royal Arch Degree was to have been conferred, but on account of the roads being almost impassable, the candidate was unable to get in. The officers opened and closed in the degrees, and showed they were capable of doing their work. The books of the Chapter are kept in a proper manner by Comp. John Warren, S.E. I trust that the three Principals of this Chapter, assisted by Ex. Companions Farlinger, Harkness and Kennedy, will keep up their endeavors to make this Chapter second to none in the district. The Chapter had prepared a splendid banquet, and had expected the Second Grand Principal, Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, to have been present, but he was unable to come at the last hour. A most enjoyable evening was spent, with profit and pleasure to all.

Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, No. 1, Kingston.—I have attended every regular convocation of my own Chapter but one, twice officially, first June 20th, accompanied by the Second Grand Principal, Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw and the Grand Scribe E., Rt. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett. I was first received and then had the honor of receiving our Grand Chapter officers. This is Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw's mother Chapter, and his worth is estimated by his zeal for Royal Arch Masonry here and by the love every Companion of Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter has for him. In welcoming Rt. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand S.E., it was a pleasure to be able to convey to him personally our deep appreciation of his kindness and painstaking zeal in the manner he performs the duties of Grand Scribe E. The night was a Past Z.'s night. The chairs were filled by Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw, Z.; Ex. Comp. J. A. Minnes, H.; Rt. Ex. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson, J.; V. Ex. Comp. J. Hewton, S.E.; Most Ex. Comp. R. Hendry, S.N., and Rt. Ex. Comp. Wm. Thomson, P.S. The Holy Royal Arch Degree was conferred on five candidates in a most efficient manner, showing that the Chapter has for a long time to come no lack of officers to do the work. The books of the Chapter are kept in a perfect manner by Rt. Ex. Comp. Wm. Thomson, S.E., who has labored hard for the last two years to lift this Chapter to a sound financial basis. At the close refreshments were served in the sup-
per hall, when the toast of the Grand Chapter of Canada was responded to by Second Grand Principal Rt. Ex. Comm. A. Shaw and Grand Scribe E. Rt. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett in a capable and instructive manner. "Auld Lang Syne" was sung about one-thirty in the morning, and Rt. Ex. G. J. Bennett was accompanied to his train and given three times three.

On November 21st twenty-seven members of Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, G. R. C., Picton, visited, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Jas. H. Colden, Grand Superintendent Prince Edward District, No. 11; Ex. Comp. Dr. Piatt, and Second Grand Principal, Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw. After they had been received by the officers and Companions of the Chapter, the officers of Prince Edward Chapter filled the chairs, V. Ex. Comp. R. A. Williamson, Z.; Ex. Comp. G. W. Morden, H.; Ex. Comp. E. Wright, J., and Comp. Boulter, Jr., P.S., and conferred the Holy Arch Degree on several candidates in a most perfect and finished manner. After some very able discussion on the work, all adjourned to the British American Hotel, where a neat banquet was served and a pleasant couple of hours spent in speech and song. I think this spirit of Chapters visiting each other should be more encouraged by the Craft. Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui has had a prosperous year, and has a splendid set of officers for 1903, with Ex. Comp. Jas. Minnes as Z.

Sussex Chapter, No. 59, and St. Lawrence Chapter, No. 100, Brockville.—A joint emergent convocation of these two Chapters was held on Friday evening, Dec. 5th, when, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Second Grand Principal, and V. Ex. Comp. W. H. Mowat, I paid my official visit. I examined the books of each Chapter, and found them regular and well kept, and I congratulate Ex. Comp. A. H. Gilham on doing the duty of S.E. for some time for Ex. Comp. G. K. Dewey, S.E., who has been very low with a severe attack of typhoid fever, but I am pleased to state T. G. A. O. T. U. has spared his life for a long term of usefulness to Masonry in Brockville, I trust. I called, with V. Ex. Comp. W. H. Mowat, at the hospital on Ex. Comp. Dewey, and found him sitting up and glad to see us. The work of the evening was the conferring of the Holy Arch Degree
on several candidates by officers from both Chapters, and the work was done in a most finished manner, both as to ritual and impressiveness. At the close a splendid banquet was tendered the visiting Companions in the spacious Masonic banquet hall. The chair was filled by Ex. Comp. Gilham, Z. of Sussex Chapter, supported by Ex. Comp. Graham, Z. of St. Lawrence Chapter. The toast, The Grand Chapter of Canada, was replied to in a most able manner by Second Grand Principal Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw and V. E. Comp. W. H. Mowat. There were also splendid addresses given by Ex. Comp. W. H. Waddell, H. of Maitland Chapter; Ex. Comp. Logan, Z. of Grenville Chapter, and Comps. Derbyshire and Booth, of Brockville. A most successful, instructive and pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

MAITLAND CHAPTER, No. 68, NORTH AUGUSTA.—On Dec. 12th, accompanied, by V. E. Comp. W. H. Mowat, I drove from Brockville to North August, and paid my official visit to Maitland Chapter. We were received on our arrival in a most hearty and welcome manner by the Companions, and I must confess, after all I had heard about this old Chapter, I was agreeably surprised to find they had such a good Chapter and capable lot of officers. The H. R. A. Degree was conferred on four candidates by the officers in a way that left nothing to be desired, and under the present staff, J. B. Love, Z.; Dr. W. H. Waddell, H.; G. B. MacGee, J., assisted by Ex. Comp. Chapman, Maitland Chapter will give a good account of itself in future. I cannot close my report of this Chapter without congratulating Comp. J. H. McCully, S.E., on his work for the past year in the way he has issued the summonses of the Chapter and kept the books. At the close of the work we were given a splendid supper in their own supper hall, after which we started for Brockville, arriving there about 4 o'clock in the morning. I felt I had been well repaid for going out to see this good old Chapter.

LEEDS CHAPTER, U. D., GANANOQUE.—On Sept. 18th, 1902, I received word from the Most Excellent the Grand Z., through the Grand Scribe E., that the prayer of the
Gananoque Companions, asking to be allowed to open a Chapter at Gananoque under dispensation, had been granted. On Sept. 23rd, accompanied by Second Grand Principal Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Rt. Ex. Comps. Wm. Thomson and H. J. Wilkinson, we went to Gananoque and opened the Leeds Chapter according to constitution, and the following Companions selected as the officers of the Chapter took charge: Comp. F. J. Skinner, Z.; Comp. R. H. Graham, H.; Comp. Geo. E. Fales, J.; Comp. S. McCammon, S.E.; G. N. Asselstine, S.N.; Comp. J. B. McMurchy, Treas.; Comp. Dr. J. A. Black, P.S.; Comp. Wm. McKenzie, S.S.; Comp. Geo. A. Whitemarch, J.S.; Comp. James Howard, Janitor. After several petitions were read and instructions given to the officers, the Chapter was closed. On October 21st I went down, accompanied by E. Ex. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson, when the Chapter was opened by its officers, candidates balloted for, and more petitions read. The Chapter was closed, and a lodge of M. M. M. was opened, and seven candidates received that degree separately. On November 18th I again went down, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw and R. Ex. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson. The Chapter was opened by its officers, and its work done in a regular manner. The Chapter was closed, a M. M. M. lodge opened, seven candidates receiving the degree. The lodge was closed, and an M. E. M. lodge opened and the seven brethren received that degree. The officers were encouraged in the work they were doing, when the lodge was closed. On Dec. 16th, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. H. J. Wilkinson and Comp. Maund, of the Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, I again visited. The Chapter was opened and the Holy Royal Arch Degree conferred on seven candidates, the greater part of the work being done by the officers themselves. At the close of the Chapter we were given an oyster supper by the Companions of this young Chapter. While the work of opening this Chapter has taken up almost more time than I could lawfully give, yet I feel the account Leeds Chapter will give of itself in the future will more than repay me for doing my duty, and I would recommend that at the coming convocation of Grand Chapter they be granted a warrant.
I cannot close without again thanking the Grand Scribe E. for his assistance and advice in opening this Chapter, and also to Second Grand Principal Rt. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, R. Ex. Companions H. J. Wilkinson and Wm. Thomson and Comp. Chas. B. Maund for their very kind assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. R. Murch,

Grand Superintendent, St. Lawrence District, No. 12.
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W. S. R. MURCH, Superintendent.
OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Having been nominated as Grand Superintendent for the Ottawa District at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, I reluctantly allowed myself to be installed. The ceremony of installation was performed in a most impressive manner by Rt. Ex. Comp. W. B. McArthur, at a largely attended meeting of Carleton Chapter, held on the 21st of February, 1902.

I have to report all the Chapters in the district, with the exception of Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, at Mattawa, as being in a very flourishing condition. A number of new members have joined during the year. The finances are satisfactory, and the dues in some are promptly collected.

The officers of the Chapters I have been able to visit are well skilled, and performed their work in a very precise and correct manner.

The schedule accompanying this report will show more fully the progress made by the several Chapters, and there is certainly a very encouraging outlook for the coming year.

Carleton Chapter, No. 16, Ottawa.—This Chapter has had a prosperous year. Ex. Comp. T. E. Burnside, who was elected as Z. last year, was unavoidably absent a great part of the year, owing to his removal from the jurisdiction, but Rt. Ex. Comp. Luke and Ex. Comp. Garrioch were able to act as substitutes. This Chapter reports an increase of twenty new members. The Chapter is well equipped with all the necessary paraphernalia, and especial attention has been given to the musical exercises in the several degrees. If any complaint can be made in reference to this Chapter, it might be charged that the attendance at the meetings is not what might be expected. There has not been an eagerness on the part of a large number of the Companions to encourage by their presence the officers in the discharge of their several duties. It is hoped there will be a great improvement in this matter during the coming year. Punctuality
in opening the meetings at the hour specified on the summons would help materially to induce members to attend the meetings more regularly.

Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, Mattawa.—This Chapter has not been able, for some reason or other, to make the progress which was hoped for. As the District Superintendent for 1903 will, in all probability, be in a better position to visit and help this Chapter than I have been, I trust that under his supervision the report for the ensuing year will be more satisfactory.

Granite Chapter, No. 61, Almonte.—This Chapter has not been able, for some reason or other, to make the progress which was hoped for. As the District Superintendent for 1903 will, in all probability, be in a better position to visit and help this Chapter than I have been, I trust that under his supervision the report for the ensuing year will be more satisfactory.

Bonnechere Chapter, No. 114, Renfrew.—I visited this Chapter on the 17th of November. The attendance is good. The officers are zealous and faithful in the discharge of their duties, and the work is well done. The Scribe E. in particular is a model officer, and collects the dues promptly. On the occasion of my visit three candidates (one a clergyman) were received and exalted as Royal Arch Masons in a most impressive and dignified manner. This Chapter has had several emergent meetings during the year for the purpose of conferring degrees and perfecting themselves in the work. There were twelve new members added during the year.

Maple Chapter, No. 116, Carleton Place.—Visited on the 1st of July. Being a holiday, it was a matter of much surprise, as well as a great pleasure, to meet a very large gathering of the members. The Companions are
very loyal and enthusiastic, and are deserving of commendation for the support and assistance they render to the officers by their faithful attendance at the meetings. Three candidates received the degree of M. E. M. at the above meeting, and the manner in which the work was rendered by Ex. Comp. Dr. A. S. Gorrell, First Principal, and the other officers was certainly very creditable. This Chapter reports an increase of eleven new members.

In closing, I must express my regrets at not being able to visit Pembroke Chapter at Mattawa. It was my earnest desire to be able to do so, but my duties prevented me leaving Ottawa at the time of their meetings.

I thank the officers and members of the Chapters I was able to visit for the very cordial and hearty welcome I received in each case, and shall look back with pleasure to the opportunities I had of meeting those who for many years I have been able to greet at our meetings, as well as to form new friendships which will not soon be forgotten.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Rea,
Superintendent, Ottawa District, No. 13.
# OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

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ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 14.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

In presenting my report as Grand Superintendent on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Algoma District, No. 14 for the year 1902, permit me to point out that, although there are only four Chapters, viz., Shuniah, No. 82, at Port Arthur; Golden, No. 90, at Rat Portage; Tuscan, No. 95, at Sudbury, and Algonquin, No. 102, at Sault Ste. Marie, in the district, still the distances between them are so great that it is a difficult matter for any Grand Superintendent to visit them more than once during his term of office. Rat Portage on the west being upwards of one thousand miles distant from Sudbury on the east, the nearest Chapter to my residence being at Port Arthur, three hundred miles distant. I have, however, endeavored as far as I was able to perform my duties of Grand Superintendent as faithfully as circumstances would permit.

Tuscan Chapter, No. 95, Sudbury.—Immediately after my election as Grand Superintendent I communicated with the Scribe E. of this Chapter, and endeavored to arrange to visit them upon my way returning home, when I learned that they had not made returns to Grand Chapter since 1898, and, in fact, were somnolent, so that I was then unable to visit them. I, however, at once proceeded to correspond with Ex. Companion C. R. Reid, the First Principal, whom I found to be a most capable and efficient officer, with the result that within one month after my first communication to him all arrears of dues from December, 1898, to December 1901, were remitted to the Grand Scribe E., and six applications for membership were received. During the year fifteen new members have been admitted, nine of whom have been exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, and the Chapter is now, I am pleased to say, in a flourishing condition; indeed eight meetings have been held since July, and the officers can confer all the degrees in a very creditable manner. They have no liabilities, and have a nice balance to their credit.
in the bank. Their future prospects are very good. I have not as yet had the pleasure of visiting them, but hope to do so before the meeting of the Grand Chapter.

Shuniah Chapter, No. 82, Port Arthur.—I am pleased to be able to report this Chapter, which is the oldest in the district, as in a most flourishing condition both financially and otherwise. During the year they have held eleven regular and two emergent meetings, and increased their membership by six, all of whom have been exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, which, when compared with the previous year, shows a progress they have just reason to be proud of. Their assets amount to $755.03; cash or securities, $488.48, and property, $100, and their dues outstanding, I am sorry to say, to $166.55. It is to be regretted that the amount of outstanding dues is so great, and it would be a matter of good business policy if some effective method could be devised to mitigate this evil. Experience has taught us that members much in arrears are not noted for regular attendance at the meetings. I have strongly urged upon them the advisability of collecting in these arrears, and also of insuring their property. I paid my official visit to this Chapter on the 19th of December, when a large attendance was present to welcome me. The M. M. M. Degree was conferred upon a candidate, and the officers for the ensuing year elected. The officers are all most enthusiastic and efficient, and appear to be imbued with the same spirit as R.Ex. Comp. Col. S.W. Ray, a most zealous and experienced officer, under whose fatherly guidance the work was done, and whose presence in any Chapter is a sufficient guarantee of efficient work. I have seldom seen the work more correctly exemplified than it was by Ex. Comp. Morgan and his officers, and was in keeping with the reputation of the Chapter. The books are all kept in a very neat and correct manner by Comp. J. Ritchie, Scribe E., who takes an active part in looking after the finances of the Chapter. There is no doubt about the prosperity of Shuniah Chapter.

Golden Chapter, No. 90, Rat Portage.—This is my own Chapter, and the Companions have done me the honor of electing me as their First Principal for three
successive years, but I am sorry that circumstances are such that I am not able to report them to the Grand Chapter in the way that under more favorable circumstances they would have deserved. For many years the Chapter lay dormant, but in the year 1901, by the efforts of a few Royal Arch Masons, it was resuscitated, and within a very short time twenty-one applications had been received, fifteen of whom had become members, and six had been exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, when a disastrous fire occurred in the town, and our Chapter, amongst other buildings, was totally destroyed. The minute book was about the only relic left, it fortunately being in the possession of the Scribe. On behalf of the Companions of the Chapter, I take this opportunity of thanking the Grand Chapter for their kindness at their last meeting in granting Golden Chapter a duplicate warrant free of charge, to replace the original destroyed by fire. And, although we lost the whole of the past year, our Chapter has now been rebuilt. We have more commodious and comfortable rooms than before, have got settled down to work, and our prospects for the year 1903 are exceedingly bright, there being six candidates, on whom it is intended to confer the M. M. M. Degree at our next meeting. I hope our work in the quarries will meet with the approval of the Grand Chapter at its next meeting.

Algonquin Chapter, No. 102, Sault Ste. Marie.—This Chapter, like the city in which it is situated, is in a most prosperous condition, and has made rapid strides during the past year. I had the pleasure of paying my official visit on the 5th of September, when forty Companions were present, and four were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. The Chapter is under the guidance of Ex. Comp. C. W. McCrae, Z., who is a very able and efficient worker and an enthusiastic Royal Arch Mason. In degree work he is careful and impressive, and is most ably assisted by the other officers of the Chapter, who did their work with a vim, which plainly showed that all were interested in the welfare of their Chapter. The work done by the officers was most praiseworthy, and with the material at the command of this Chapter, I hope
in the near future to see it one of the most flourishing in the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter.

During the year I had the honor of submitting several amendments to their by-laws to the Most Excellent the Grand Z., which he was pleased toapprove of. And also of granting them dispensation to remove their Chapter to more commodious and suitable premises.

I am very sorry that I have not received from their Scribe E. a report for the past year, although I have delayed for ten days in making this my report, expecting to have received same, as I would then have been able to give a much fuller report than I am now able to do, but I am of the opinion that there are few Chapters within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter that have brighter prospects for 1903 than Algonquin Chapter.

I desire to point out to Grand Chapter that New Ontario is a vast territory, much more so than many in the east are aware of, that it is daily growing in importance, and, in my opinion, it would be in the interests of Capitular Masonry to have more Chapters established within it, as the great distance between the present Chapters prevents many good Masons from joining who otherwise would.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the officers and Companions of the District for the glad hand of welcome extended to me on all occasions, and also for the honor they conferred upon me in electing me to the position of Grand Superintendent, and hope that my humble efforts will not be without some fruit for advancement of Capitular Masonry in Algoma District.

Fraternally submitted,

T. W. CHAPPLE,

MANITOBA DISTRICT, No. 15.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit, for your information, my report as Superintendent of Manitoba District, No. 15. As there is only one active Chapter outside of Winnipeg, viz., Corinthian, No. 101, Boissevain, of which I am a member, my duties during the year were not onerous.

In April a number of applications were received from brethren at Hartney and surrounding district for the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, and as it seemed to me to be in the interest of Capitular Masonry, I recommended the application of Corinthian Chapter for a dispensation to hold its regular convocation in May in the Masonic Hall at Hartney, to confer the M. M. M. Degree on these brethren. A large number of the members attended this convocation, and the result was beyond our expectations.

I have within the past month received a communication from the W.M. of Oriental Lodge, No. 52, at Melita, stating that a number of the members of that lodge were desirous of instituting a Chapter, and wanted information as to what steps were necessary. As there are some ten members of Corinthian Chapter residing at Hartney, which is only some twenty miles from Melita, and as those Companions have been advised by me not to think of starting a Chapter until there were a larger number of Companions at that point and surrounding district, I did not think it would be fair to these Companions for me to hold out any encouragement to the brethren at Melita, until the Companions at Hartney had been consulted, it being my opinion that a strong Chapter might be formed at either point, providing all were agreeable.

In the meantime I wrote the W.M. of Oriental Lodge at Melita, that the better way would be for the brethren to send in their applications to Corinthian Chapter, and, if accepted, that probably the Chapter might get permission to hold an emergent at Melita and confer a portion of the degrees on them.

I also received a communication from the Grand Scribe E., enclosing another from Companion Gibbs, of
Neepawa, stating that some twenty members of the lodge at that point were anxious to institute a Chapter, but as the cost incurred in a trip to Winnipeg would be very heavy, they were of opinion that steps should be taken on their behalf by Grand Chapter.

I at once communicated with Prince Rupert Chapter, No. 52, at Winnipeg, informing them of the desire of the brethren at Neepawa, and suggested that they should write Companion Gibbs, and forward blank applications. If applications were accepted, a dispensation might be granted Prince Rupert Chapter to hold an emergent at Neepawa.

I had no doubt that Prince Rupert Chapter would come to the assistance of these brethren and accord them the same generous treatment they conferred on the Companions of Corinthian, when that Chapter was instituted by them some years ago. I have received a reply from Prince Rupert's Scribe E. to the effect that he had written the brethren at Neepawa on the lines suggested by me, and I look for good results in the near future.

Prince Rupert Chapter, No. 52, Winnipeg.—I received a request from this Chapter to pay them a visit on New Year's Day, but owing to business engagements, was unable to do so. I regret that I have never had the pleasure of visiting this banner Chapter, as I am acquainted with many of its members. From the statistical report herewith attached, it will be seen that they continue to prosper, and that their great love for the institution has not abated.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 101, Boissevain.—I am glad to be able to report that this Chapter has made good progress during the year. Great interest is taken by all the members, and the officers are well qualified, and confer the degrees in a most creditable manner. As this Chapter is nearly two hundred miles from Winnipeg and its jurisdiction very large, I believe the membership would increase rapidly, if permission were granted, as in the past, to hold special convocations at different points within its jurisdiction when deemed necessary.

Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, Morden.—Nothing has been heard from this Chapter, and, as far as I can learn,
no meetings have been held for several years. I would respectfully suggest that no steps be taken to recall the charter until another attempt has been made to get the members together.

In conclusion, I have to say that the outlook for Capitular Masonry in this province was never better, and I feel confident that dispensations will be asked for for several new Chapters before the close of 1903.

Fraternally submitted,

J. D. Baine,
*Supt. Manitoba District, No. 15.*
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J. D. BAINÉ, Superintendent.
BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 16.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of British Columbia District, I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in District No. 16 for the year 1902.

There are three Royal Arch Chapters in this district. I have visited each Chapter twice during my term of office, and found them all in a flourishing condition and working harmoniously.

Vancouver Chapter, No. 98, Vancouver.—On the 12th of March I visited this Chapter, and was installed by Rt. Ex. Comp. Gatewood as Grand Superintendent for this district. On November 12th I again paid a visit to this Chapter and witnessed the exemplification of all three degrees. The work was exceedingly well done, and the officers and Companions seem to take great interest in this Chapter, and their prospects are exceedingly bright.

Keystone Chapter, No. 127, Nanaimo.—On March 20th I visited this Chapter, when all three degrees were conferred in a highly creditable manner, and again on the 20th of November I visited, and was present at their annual election of officers. All three degrees were also excellently exemplified. This Chapter since it has been under the Grand jurisdiction of Canada is growing rapidly, and there seems to be the right spirit of enthusiasm prevailing. Great credit is due to Ex. Comp. Schofield and Companion Sykes, of Vancouver, who at great personal inconvenience have filled the chairs of First Principal and Principal Sojourner for the past year. I look for exceedingly bright results from this Chapter for the coming year.

Westminster Chapter, No. 124, New Westminster.—This being my own Chapter, I have attended almost every meeting. I visited them officially on the 16th of December of this year, and was present at their election of officers, and witnessed the Mark Degree conferred.
This Chapter has a good staff of officers elected for the ensuing year, and I look for the same, if not better, and a more prosperous year in store.

I enclose tabulated statement of the work done, and the financial standing of the different Chapters in my district.

In conclusion I wish to thank the officers and Companions of all the Chapters in my district for their courtesy, and also for the hospitable manner in which I was entertained wherever I visited.

Fraternally submitted,

F. J. Armstrong,
Grand Superintendent, British Columbia District, No. 16.
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**BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, NO. 16.**
ALBERTA DISTRICT, No. 17.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of Alberta District, No. 17, for the year ending 31st December, 1902. This district, which, although named Alberta, practically covers the whole of the North-West Territories. There are four Chapters included, viz., at Regina, Medicine Hat, Calgary and Edmonton.

Alberta Chapter, No. 106, Calgary.—I made my official visit to this Chapter at the regular meeting, Sept. 2nd, and had a most pleasant time. There were not a very large number of Companions present, owing to the fact that it was Fair week, and a busy time with them. The Mark Master's Degree was worked in a highly efficient manner. This Chapter shows an increase in membership, and is much the largest Chapter in my jurisdiction, having a total membership of eighty. In Ex. Comp. Brown the Chapter has a model Scribe E., and the success of the Chapter is in no little degree due to him.

North Star Chapter, No. 118, Edmonton.—I visited this Chapter officially at its regular meeting in December. During the past year there has not been the interest taken that has marked it in the past. This was due to the fact that the First Principal, Ex. Comp. English, resides at Strathcona, about three miles distant, and he has suffered from poor health during the time of his term of office. I have every reason to believe that the ensuing year will prove much more prosperous than the past. As this is the Chapter of which I am a member, I have been in constant attendance at its meetings.

Wascana Chapter, No. 121, Regina.—I notified this Chapter that I would visit them officially on Monday, Dec. 1st, 1902. The meeting was called, but unfortunately this was the night the Scotchmen of Regina had selected to celebrate their patron saint, and very few of the Companions came to the meeting, and some of those who came were most anxious to help in the celebration.
We postponed the meeting until the next evening at 7 p.m., as the hall was engaged by the Craft lodge at 8 o’clock. There were not enough Companions there at that hour, so I was denied the privilege of making my official visit. However, I met quite a number of the Companions, and talked over the outlook for the Chapter with them. I am pleased to say that the prospects for the future are much brighter than the past has been.

Assinibola Chapter, No. 126, Medicine Hat.—I tried on two different occasions to visit this Chapter, but was unable on one occasion to get the assurance that a quorum could be got together, and on the other the train was so late that I was unable to reach there in time. I have, however, had considerable correspondence with the Chapter, and have received their returns. They hope in the coming year to do much better than in the past, and so far as I can judge, the prospects for the future are good.

I regret that I have not been able to do as good work in my district as I wished, but owing to the "magnificent distances" in our western country I have not visited the Chapters as much as I would like. I have travelled some 1,800 miles to do the work I have done, and it is somewhat discouraging that the force of circumstances should have combined to cheat me of the results that should have followed. I feel, however, I can speak very hopefully of Capitular Masonry in my district, and with the great influx of population and the renewed activity among the Chapters, the future is assured.

I have to thank R. E. Comp. Markley, the immediate Past. G. S., for his assistance, and all the Companions for their kindness and courtesy to me during my term of office.

Universal harmony prevails throughout, and next year will see a great development.

Fraternally submitted,

Hedley C. Taylor,
Grand Superintendent.
## ALBERTA DISTRICT, No. 17.

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**HEDLEY C. TAYLOR, Grand Superintendent.**
KOOTENAY DISTRICT, No. 18.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As Grand Superintendent of Kootenay District, No. 18, I have the honor to submit my report on Capitular Masonry in that district, which comprises the following Chapters: Kootenay, No. 121, Kaslo; Rossland, No. 122, Rossland; Nelson, No. 123, Nelson; Rocky Mountain, No. 125, Fort Steele; Revelstoke, No. 128, Revelstoke.

I desire to express my thanks to the Companions of Kootenay District for the honor conferred on me, which personally I feel was entirely undeserved, but was doubtless intended as a compliment to Rossland Chapter, of which I have the honor to be a member.

The condition and prospects of Capitular Masonry in this district are particularly satisfactory in every respect. The Companions are very enthusiastic and work for the advancement of the Order, and probably no district in Canada can show a smaller percentage of members twelve months in arrears than Kootenay, No. 18. In the five Chapters in the district there are only thirteen members twelve months in arrears, which speaks well for the Scribes of the different Chapters, as well as for the members.

Peace and harmony prevail in and between the Chapters. Each of the five have made progress during the year. They are all in possession of comfortable quarters, a satisfactory bank account, and are well equipped with complete paraphernalia of excellent quality.

The amount of work done does not fairly represent the condition of Capitular Masonry in the district. Owing to the slight temporary depression in mining circles, what has been accomplished is not what it otherwise would have been. However, the outlook for the future is very bright, and I anticipate a prosperous year for 1903.

During my term of office I have endeavored to encourage social and fraternal visits between the different Chapters, with the result that on all of my visits I have been accompanied by a number of the Companions from
some of the other Chapters. This, I believe, does much to promote that bond of union and good-fellowship which is the foundation of our Masonic structure.

With the exception of Rocky Mountain Chapter, at Fort Steele, I have visited all of the Chapters several times, and installed their officers. The membership of Rocky Mountain Chapter is necessarily scattered, and they were not in a position to call a meeting on the date set for my visit. However, I expect to visit them before the close of the year.

On each and every occasion I was cordially received, and the work exemplified for my benefit was of a very satisfactory character.

Royal Arch Masonry in this district is under many obligations to Rt. Ex. Companion Chipman, of Kaslo, who is known as the father of Royal Arch Masonry in this section, he having organized and instituted every Chapter in the district. During the past year Rt. Ex. Companion Chipman has been elected Grand Master of British Columbia, an honor richly deserved.

During the year I have been under obligations to Rt. Ex. Comp. Chipman for his advice and counsel. Companion Johnstone, of Nelson, has accompanied me on all my visits, and assisted at the installation ceremonies. I am also under many obligations to the Grand Scribe E. for his instructions and assistance.

In conclusion, I wish to again thank the Companions for the honor conferred upon me, and the kindness and hospitality extended me on all my visits to the different Chapters, and express the hope that Kootenay District, No. 18, will enjoy the prosperity it so richly merits.

KOOTENAY CHAPTER, No. 120, KASLO.—On Dec. 16th, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Johnstone, of Nelson, and a number of the Companions, I visited Kaslo Chapter, and installed their officers. We received a very cordial welcome, and, after the work of installation was finished, spent a very pleasant evening in the banquet room. This is the oldest Chapter in Kootenay, and in its work and ceremonies still maintains the high standard established by Rt. Ex. Comp. Chipman. The new officers closed the Chapter in a very satisfactory manner, and I feel sure it is safe in their hands.
Rossland Chapter, No. 122, Rossland.—This is my own Chapter, and I have attended all of its meetings. Peace and harmony prevails, and they still maintain the high standard of efficiency reported by my predecessors. They are in a very satisfactory financial condition, and report only five members twelve months in arrears. The books are marvels of neatness and correctness, reflecting great credit upon Companion Lackey, Scribe E., who is now serving his fourth year in that capacity. The Companions are very enthusiastic, and work for the advancement of the Order. They are loyal to their officers, and give them every encouragement in the discharge of their duty. It would be hard to find a better lot of good fellows.

Nelson Chapter, No. 123, Nelson.—On Dec. 20th, accompanied by a number of the Companions of Rossland and Kaslo Chapters, I visited Nelson, and installed their officers. The M. M. M. Degree was then exemplified in a very satisfactory manner, after which the Companions adjourned to the banquet hall, where a very enjoyable evening was spent by the Companions of the three Chapters mentioned. The new officers closed down in a satisfactory manner. This Chapter is in a very gratifying condition. The books are well kept, and the Companions seem to have the welfare of their Chapter at heart.

Revelstoke Chapter, No. 125, Revelstoke.—On August 9th, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Johnstone, of Nelson, and twelve of the Companions of Rossland Chapter, I visited Revelstoke and installed the officers. On account of the steamer being delayed, it was late when the Chapter was opened, and in view of the fact that the officers were to be installed, I requested them to omit the work and devote the evening to a social session between the Companions of Rossland, and Revelstoke Chapters, who were entire strangers to each other, believing that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry would be best served in this way. My suggestion was acted upon, and a very enjoyable evening was spent in the banquet room. The work done by this Chapter is not a fair indication of the zeal of Ex. Comp. Procunier and his officers, as they have
been badly handicapped by the loss of their Second and Third Principals, who have moved from the city. However, the new officers are well up in their work, and I anticipate a bright future for them.

**Rocky Mountain Chapter, No. 128, Fort Steele.**—I regret having been unable to visit this Chapter, but hope to do so before the close of the year. They were anxious to have Rt. Ex. Companion Chipman and Ex. Companion Johnstone accompany me, and I was anxious to have them, but it seemed impossible to arrange a date suitable to us all, and when a date was arranged the Chapter found that a number of their Companions for business reasons could not make it convenient to attend that evening, consequently it was decided to await a later date. Rt. Ex. Companion Chipman visited this Chapter in March, and reported them in a prosperous condition. I have met several of their officers, and am satisfied the interests of Royal Arch Masonry are well looked after in that locality. They have exalted ten candidates during the year, and report no members twelve months in arrears, which is highly satisfactory.

I attach a tabulated statement, showing the work done and the standing of the different Chapters.

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. Mitchell,

*Grand Superintendent.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Chapter</th>
<th>Revelstoke</th>
<th>Kootenay</th>
<th>Rossland</th>
<th>Nelson</th>
<th>Kootenay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
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<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance.</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues.</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendees.</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues.</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
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</table>

Kootenay District, No. 18.
REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Companions:—In submitting the accompanying statement of cash received from the Chapters during the year ended 31st December, 1902, I desire to point out that Grand Chapter has concluded the most successful period in its history.

Through frequent correspondence, many Chapters hitherto reported dilatory, have this year responded promptly, and the showing at the closing of the books was the most gratifying yet recorded, seven Chapters only being behind with returns. These were:

Keystone, No. 35, Whitby; St. John, No. 48, Cobourg; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby; Zeredatha, No. 111, Morden; St. John’s, No. 112, Morrisburg; Nelson, No. 123, Nelson; Assiniboia, No. 126, Medicine Hat, and Elliot, No. 129, Mitchell.

With the exception of the Chapter at Morden, all the rest are active, and the delay in forwarding their returns has probably been due to local causes of a not serious nature. In reply to a communication from this office recently, the Companion who is the nominal Scribe E. of Zeredatha Chapter replied that the Chapter had not met for a considerable period, and that the prospect for the future gave no promise of anything like a renewal of activity.

Some months ago I issued a circular to the Chapters, pointing out the need for the prompt registration in the Grand Scribe E.’s office of newly admitted members, and requested the Scribes E., in the interests of the Chapters, of the new Companions and of this office, to forward immediately after exaltation the fees for registration and certificate, so that the congestion which has hitherto resulted annually might be relieved. Of the one hundred active Chapters but ten responded, and I would ask now that the necessity for the prompt observance of this important detail be emphasized by this Grand Chapter.
In accordance with instructions, I caused warrants to be engrossed and forwarded to the Companions working under dispensation at Revelstoke and Walkerton. The latter, through the Grand Superintendent of the district, effected the approved exchange with the Companions at Mitchell, who are now working as Elliot Chapter, No. 129, while the Walkerton Companions resumed their old name and number, Saugeen, No. 50.

During the summer Companions at Gananoque made enquiry with respect to establishing a Chapter at that place, and on the 8th of September letters of dispensation were issued. They have employed the interval so well that there is little doubt that Leeds Chapter in the future will be one of which Grand Chapter may be proud. The following are the petitioners:


The Chapters at Southampton and Wiarton under dispensation have both done well.

As already noted, the year has been a remarkably successful one, revealing figures that must be gratifying to every member of Grand Chapter. The cash received from the Chapters exceeds that of last year’s by $618.80, while the receipts have over doubled what they were only five short years ago; and whereas the net gain in membership at that time, 1898, was 163, the record of the present year shows it to be 477.

Of course, the labor necessary to keep pace with this great growth has proportionately increased, but it is nevertheless a source of much satisfaction to your Grand Scribe E., to be in a position to make such report.

The following is the financial statement and list of amounts received from the Chapters:
CASH STATEMENT.—GRAND SCRIBE B.

Dr.
From Chapters.—Certificates........................................... $ 813 00
Registration Fees........................................................ 832 30
Membership Dues.......................................................... 1474 95
Dispensations............................................................... 41 00
Warrants........................................................................ 10 00
Constitutions................................................................. 35 40
Sundries........................................................................... 44 95

$3251 60

Interest.—Toronto General Trusts........................................ 80 00
Industrial School Bonds..................................................... 680 00

Total................................................................. $4011 60

Cr.
March, 1902—Grand Treasurer.............................................. $350 00

$4011 60

ANNUAL STATEMENT, 31st DECEMBER, 1902

RECEIPTS FROM CHAPTERS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Ant. F. &amp; Cataraqui.</td>
<td>$ 29 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 The Hiram</td>
<td>96 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 St. John's</td>
<td>107 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 St. And. &amp; St. John's</td>
<td>34 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 St. George's</td>
<td>65 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 St. John's</td>
<td>57 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 The Moira</td>
<td>30 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 King Solomon's.</td>
<td>49 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Wawanosh</td>
<td>78 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Carleton</td>
<td>55 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Oxford</td>
<td>31 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Mount Moriah</td>
<td>25 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Mount Horeb</td>
<td>22 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Grenville</td>
<td>14 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Ezra</td>
<td>116 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Tecumseh</td>
<td>37 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 St. Mark's</td>
<td>16 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Manitou</td>
<td>18 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Pentalpha</td>
<td>$ 38 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 McCallum</td>
<td>10 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Huron</td>
<td>41 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Prince Edward</td>
<td>56 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 Waterloo</td>
<td>26 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Signet</td>
<td>57 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 Keystone</td>
<td>28 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 Corinthian</td>
<td>31 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>37 Guelph</td>
<td>26 90</td>
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<tr>
<td>38 Harris</td>
<td>19 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>39 Mount Sinai</td>
<td>16 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>40 Excelsior</td>
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<tr>
<td>41 St. James</td>
<td>18 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>42 Wellington</td>
<td>48 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43 48 St. John's</td>
<td>16 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>44 Saugeen</td>
<td>18 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>45 Prince Rupert</td>
<td>65 50</td>
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</table>
53 Bruce ........................ $ 24 40 | 91 Antiquity ........................ $ 50 80
54 Palestine .............................. 55 70 | 94 Midland .............................. 27 00
55 Niagara ................................ 9 70 | 95 Tuscan .............................. 49 70
56 Georgian ................................ 59 70 | 98 Vancouver .......................... 46 20
57 King Hiram .............................. 13 20 | 100 St. Lawrence ........................ 17 20
58 Pembroke ................................ 14 20 | 101 Corinthian .......................... 27 00
59 Sussex .................................. 35 00 | 102 Algonquin ........................... 87 90
60 Doric .................................. 28 40 | 103 St. John's ............................ 14 80
61 Granite .................................. 48 90 | 104 White Oak ........................... 18 40
62 York ..................................... 11 40 | 106 Alberta .............................. 29 50
63 Havelock ................................. 12 20 | 110 Warkworth ........................... 28 80
64 Willson .................................. 27 80 | 113 Covenant ................................ 25 00
65 St. Paul's ................................ 45 70 | 114 Bonnechere ........................... 38 80
66 The Malloch .............................. 12 20 | 115 Brant ................................ 19 80
67 Enterprise ............................... 43 20 | 116 Maple ................................ 34 60
68 Maitland ................................ 24 00 | 117 Berlin ................................ 8 70
70 Grand River ................................ 21 80 | 118 North Star ............................ 10 00
71 Prince of Wales ........................... 26 20 | 119 King Cyrus ............................ 17 00
72 Keystone ................................ 14 40 | 120 Kootenay .............................. 10 00
73 Erie ..................................... 50 80 | 121 Wascana ............................... 9 80
75 St. Clair ................................ 15 00 | 122 Rossland .............................. 27 60
76 Mount Nebo ................................ 27 40 | 123 Nelson ................................ 1 00
77 Occident ................................ 39 00 | 124 Westminster .......................... 28 00
78 Minnewawa ................................ 25 80 | 125 Rocky Mountain ....................... 30 40
79 Orient ................................... 38 20 | 126 Assiniboia ............................. 5 70
80 Ark ..................................... 34 60 | 127 Keystone .............................. 51 40
81 Aylmer .................................. 21 85 | 128 Revelstoke ............................ 11 30
82 Shuniah .................................. 25 80 | U.D. Chantry .............................. 42 40
83 Ionic .................................... 23 20 | U.D. Amabel .............................. 43 80
84 Lebanon .................................. 39 00 | U.D. Leeds ................................. 53 00
86 Macpherson ................................ 1 00
88 Macnabb ................................ 8 80
90 Golden ................................... 38 30

Interest.—Toronto General Trusts ................... 80 00
Industrial School Bonds .......................... 680 00

Total ...................................... $4011 60

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. J. Bennett,

Grand Scribe E.
REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER.

Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer, in Account with Grand Chapter.

1902.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dr.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan'y</td>
<td>To Balance, as per Statement at this Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>Interest, Toronto Industrial School Bonds</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>Interest, General Trusts Bonds</td>
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<td>&quot; 29</td>
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1903.

| Jan'y 2 | Interest, General Trusts Bonds | 40 00 |
| " 2 | Grand Scribe E., Cheque | 700 00 |
| " 12 |  | 450 00 |
| " 20 |  | 400 00 |
| " 27 |  | 351 60 |

$7157 25

1901.

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<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>1168, B. Cairns, Repairing seal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1167, Grand Scribe E, Rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1169, Rolph, Smith &amp; Co., Certificates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1170, D. Henderson, Engrossing warrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>1172, The Hunter, Rose &amp; Co., Constitutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>1173, Grand Scribe E, Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1174, Grand Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1171, Ambrose Kent &amp; Sons, Goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>1175, American Surety Co., bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1184, Mrs. T. D. Harington, Benevolence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1188, Fred. Mudge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1178, Mrs. Chas. N. Burdon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1187, Arch. Couper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1197, Mrs. Hugh Rankin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1196, Frank P Gassion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1189, Mrs. J. S. Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1177, Mrs. John Munro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1186, Mrs. G. E. S. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1191, Mrs. Edment Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1190, Mrs. W. B. Wallace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>1182, Mrs. John Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1176, C. W. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1193, James O'Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1185, Miss Kerr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1195, Mrs. Peter Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1194, Mrs. William Marriott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1179, Mrs. C. J. Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1180, William Hawthorne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1181, Mrs. J. F. Holman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 18</td>
<td>1197, Rolph Smith &amp; Co., Certificates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>1198, Grand Scribe E, Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1199, Grand Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>1202, D. F. MacWatt, attending Constitution Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>1201, M. Walsh, attending Constitution Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1203, Malcolm Gibbs, Insurance office cont's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1200, Henry Robertson, attending Constitution Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1205, Grand Scribe E, Rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
<td>1183, Mrs. Edment Hill, Benevolence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1204, Rolph, Smith &amp; Co., Certificates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>1210, Grand Treasurer, Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>1209, Grand Scribe E, Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1207, Hunter, Rose &amp; Co., Printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1208, Donald Bain &amp; Co., office fixtures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1206, Grand Z, Two Years' Expenses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$3,026.38
Statement of Assets of Grand Chapter,
January, 1903.

Bonds, Toronto General Trusts Company @ 4%  2,000.00
Bonds, Toronto Industrial School @ 4%  17,000.00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce  4,130.87

$23,130.87

Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Hamilton, 26th January, 1903.

We hereby certify that the above-named bonds are in the custody of the Bank for safe keeping, on account of Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and that the balance at the credit of the said Hugh Murray, as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, on the Books of the Bank, at the close of business, at this date, is four thousand one hundred and thirty dollars and eighty-seven cents.

D. R. Duncan, Manager.
F. E. Dench, Accountant.

Fraternally submitted,

Hugh Murray,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved,—That the Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, for the year 1901, be received and referred to the Executive Committee, for audit and to report thereon at the present Convocation.
COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

Letters expressing regret at inability to be present were received from R. E. Companions W. B. McArthur and Wm. Rea, Ottawa; J. A. Macfadden, Stratford; W. H. Bensen, Chatham; S. Y. Taylor, Paris; Francis Blackburne, Toronto; T. W. Chapple, Rat Portage, and Saml. Wesley, Barrie.

The Executive Committee presented the report on FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of that Committee, which, on motion of R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the Proceedings.

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Your Committee on Warrants beg to report that in view of the satisfactory progress made by Amabel Chapter, of Wiarton, and Chantry Chapter, of Southampton, which have been working under dispensation for more than a year, they be now granted warrants.

Your Committee would also recommend that Leeds Chapter, of Gananoque, which has been working under dispensation since Sept. 8th, 1902, be granted a warrant.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

WM. BIRRELL,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Birrell, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.
The Executive Committee presented the report on

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the M. E. the Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Canada:

Your Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report as follows: That we have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, and find that they agree accurately with the bank "certified" statement up to Jan. 26th, 1903.

The following is a statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the past year:

**Receipts.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Balance on hand Jan. 21st, 1902</td>
<td>$3,145.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Certificates&quot;</td>
<td>813.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Registration Fees&quot;</td>
<td>832.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Membership Dues&quot;</td>
<td>1,475.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Dispensations&quot;</td>
<td>41.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Warrants&quot;</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Constitutions&quot;</td>
<td>35.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Sundries&quot;</td>
<td>44.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Interest Toronto General Trusts&quot;</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Industrial School Bonds&quot;</td>
<td>680.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,157.25</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Disbursements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orders on Benevolence</td>
<td>$715.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary, Grand S. E.</td>
<td>800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Grand Treasurer&quot;</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Correspondence</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent Temple Building</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing—Dudley &amp; Burns Estate, Proceedings</td>
<td>281.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Hunter, Rose &amp; Co., Printing, etc.&quot;</td>
<td>113.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Dan. Rose &amp; Co.&quot;</td>
<td>6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Hunter, Rose &amp; Co., Printing&quot;</td>
<td>65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Rolph, Smith &amp; Co., Certificates&quot;</td>
<td>260.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;D Henderson, Engrossing warrants&quot;</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs to regalia, etc.</td>
<td>36.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing seal</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guarantee bonds</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses, Revision Committee—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Robertson</td>
<td>$8.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Walsh</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. F. MacWatt</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Z, Expenses two years</td>
<td>171.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Incidentals, G.S.E .......................................... 198 00
Grand Janitor ........................................... 5 00
Insurance ................................................ 3 95
Donald Bain & Co., Office fixtures ...................... 4 50

Total disbursements .................................... 3,026 38
Balance on hand in Bank of Commerce .................. 4,130 87

$7,157 25

Assets.

Industrial School Bonds .................................. $17,000 00
Toronto General Trusts ................................... 2,000 00
Balance Canadian Bank of Commerce ...................... 4,130 87

Total ..................................................... $23,130 87

Liabilities.

Benevolence ............................................. $ 565 00
Foreign Correspondence .................................. 100 00
Incidentals Advance 1903 ................................ 200 00
" Balance 1901 ........................................... 31 50

Total ..................................................... $ 896 50

The matter of printing having been referred to this Committee, we beg to report that we have looked into the matter and are not in favor of contracting for more than one year at a time, and we consider that the printing can be safely and profitably left in the hands of the Grand Council and Grand Scribe E., and we so recommend.

Your Committee takes this opportunity to point out that it is usual to compliment the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Treasurer on their books and their methods. There can be no question as to the propriety of so doing, for we are glad to testify that for accuracy and neatness both are models, and Grand Chapter is to be congratulated on possessing officers to whom may with absolute truth be applied the familiar phrase, "the right men in the right place." But something more is required if we are to maintain our reputation for just appreciation. Your Committee was struck with the statements contained in the financial reports entrusted to us for examination. We have investigated them thoroughly, and can come to no other conclusion than that Grand Chapter is not doing itself justice in permitting the present conditions to continue. In the brief period of five years the
receipts have, as truly stated, more than doubled, and Chapters and membership have grown beyond all expectations. All this has not been accomplished without close attention and much labor. If the office five years ago was worth compensating adequately, the splendid results of to-day should merit further recognition. Your Committee believes, therefore, that it is well within the limits of our obligation to deserving Companions in recommending that the emolument of the Grand Scribe E. be increased by four hundred dollars, and that of the Grand Treasurer by fifty dollars.

Your committee would further recommend that the Grand Council and the R. E. the Grand Treasurer invest, on behalf of this Grand Chapter, two thousand dollars of the balance now in the bank, in interest-bearing bonds.

Fraternally submitted,

William Walker,
Chairman.

Moved by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. W. Walker, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

To the M. Ex. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

GREENE VERSUS SUSSEX CHAPTER, NO. 59.

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom was referred the matter of R. Ex. Comp. Jonathan Greene versus Sussex Chapter, No. 59, finds as follows:

That R. Ex. Comp. Greene properly and regularly requested a demit from said Chapter on 24th July, 1902, and paid all dues to that date.

That the said Chapter has not, so far, granted said demit, although by Section 14, Art. 8, such shall be furnished when properly requested.

Your Committee recommends that the matter be
referred to the incoming and outgoing Grand Superintendents of the district, with instructions to have the demit granted forthwith.

Fraternally submitted,

D. F. MacWatt,
Chairman.

LAWRASON ET AL. VERSUS WILSON.

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of Ex. Comp. Lawrason and R. Ex. Comp. Butler from the decision of the Most Ex. the Grand Z., dismissing the appeal of said Ex. Comp. Lawrason and R. Ex. Comp. Butler from the action of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M., London, Ont., on 15th June, 1901, dismissing by a vote of 20 to 11, the charges made by the said Companions against Ex. Comp. Wilson, finds as follows:

1. That on the 15th day of June, 1901, the said charges were heard and a trial had by the said Chapter, which, by a large vote, found the accused not guilty.

2. That by Art. 5, Sec. 1, of the Constitution, "Notice of the intention to appeal must be given within fourteen days from the time the decision is made known, and the particulars of the grievance complained of must be in writing and be transmitted to the Grand Scribe E. within one month after the date of the decision appealed against."

3. That the appellants drew up a notice of appeal, which is dated 29th June, 1901, that being the last day for serving same, but as it was not mailed to the Scribe E. until the early part of July, it did not reach that office until the 3rd day of July, 1901, although the decision was made on the 15th day of June, 1901. No notice of appeal was ever received by or sent to the Grand Scribe E.

5. That no particulars were ever sent to the Grand Scribe E., and not having received notice of appeal, he had no knowledge of any appeal until the 21st day of January, 1902, over six months after the decision was made known.
Your committee therefore recommends that the action of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. in dismissing the appeal of Ex. Comp. Lawrason and R. Ex. Comp. Butler herein, be and the same is hereby sustained, approved and confirmed.

Fraternally submitted,

D. F. MacWatt,
Chairman.

Dated at Toronto this 28th day of January, 1903.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. E. Halliwell, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

GRAND Z.'s ADDRESS.

Your Committee on the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. desire to congratulate Grand Chapter upon the very satisfactory condition of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction, and in its bright prospects for the future.

Your Committee heartily concur in the expressions of thankfulness to Almighty God for the recovery to his brethren and subjects, of His Gracious Majesty the King.

The prosperity and growth of the subordinate bodies during the year, as reported, both financially and numerically, must be a source of great gratification to every member of Grand Chapter, who year by year find this branch of Masonry becoming more popular in the Dominion.

The reference to the monetary aid towards benevolence dispensed by Grand Chapter, and which is constantly widening, should, as indicated by the Grand Z., be increased in amount, and your Committee are pleased to know that during this session a scheme will be proposed which will enable this to be accomplished.

The Committee agree with the Grand Z. that the Companions who are honored by appointment or representation to and from Grand Chapter should show their appreciation of the high honor conferred upon them by punctual
attendance at the meetings of the Grand Chapter to which they are accredited.

The Committee fully concur in the recommendation of the Grand Z. in reference to by-laws and dispensation, and urge upon the officers of subordinate Chapters that whenever they write the Grand Scribe E. for dispensations or supplies, the fees in payment of same accompany the order.

The Committee congratulate Grand Chapter on the two years of faithful, zealous service given by the M. E. the Grand Z. to the Royal Craft, and believe that his able and practical administration of his high office will continue in the future to be of great service to Grand Chapter.

The many visits paid by the Grand Z. to subordinate Chapters were, we are assured by the Grand Superintendents, highly appreciated throughout the whole jurisdiction.

Fraternally submitted,

J. E. Harding,  
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. E. Grand Z. be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter:

It has been a pleasure to your Committee to peruse the reports of the several Grand Superintendents. All the reports, with one exception, were promptly sent forward to the Grand Scribe E., a marked improvement over past years. It is with pleasure your Committee reports a very substantial increase in membership throughout the jurisdiction: so far as the returns show, it is over 470. With few exceptions, the Chapters made their returns to the District Superintendent. Your Committee would
urge upon the Scribes E. of the various Chapters to attend promptly to this important matter when requested to do so by their Grand Superintendent, as it helps your Committee to form a better and more complete idea of the standing of the various Chapters.

Great faithfulness has been displayed by the Grand Superintendents in visiting their districts. Only a few Chapters were not visited, and good reasons have been assigned for their not having been visited. One or two instances have occurred where there was no quorum when the Superintendent paid his visit, and on one occasion the Grand Superintendent had to travel over 200 miles to visit the Chapter. This is very disheartening, and we trust that such an instance may not occur again. We hope the Superintendents for the coming year will be as faithful in the discharge of their duties as the ones for the present year have been.

Your Committee fails to find that any Chapters of Instruction were held this year. In our opinion it has been an oversight, which we feel necessary to draw attention to, and would urge the incoming Superintendents to have as many as possible during the coming year. The advisability of having such meetings has been referred to often in the past, so we will not now enlarge upon it.

Your Committee regret to find there are a number of Chapters not carrying any insurance, and, although there has been a great improvement in this respect during the last few years, we feel it our duty to again refer to the subject and to urge upon the executive officers of the Chapters how essential it is to attend to that duty.

It is with pleasure your Committee again refers to the work of the Scribes E. of the Chapters as reported by the various Superintendents. They are doing their work well, neatly and faithfully, and much of the success of the Chapters is due to them.

Your Committee is impressed with the large amount of dues outstanding for over a year, and would again urge the importance of this most important branch of the working of a Chapter being well looked after. In one district alone the outstanding dues at the end of the year amounted to $1,487.27, and in another to $946.50, and in one Chapter alone, with a small membership of
39, they amounted to $417. As against the foregoing figures it is with pleasure we find that one of the Chapters has no dues outstanding at all, every Companion having paid up to the end of the year, the Chapter being that of St. Paul's, No. 65, Toronto. Your Committee would like to see more of the Chapters in a similar position.

The past year has been another busy one for the Grand Council, many of the Chapters having been favored with visits by them as a body, and others by one or two of them. Great good has resulted from these visits.

Your Committee desire to place on record their testimony of the great and good work which has been done by the Grand Z., not only as the Executive head of the Grand Chapter, but for the many visits paid by him during his occupancy of the chair of Zerubbabel, and the good counsel, advice and instructive discourses given during his several visits. May the Most High be pleased to spare him to be long with us assist us in our work at the annual convocations of this Grand Chapter.

The Superintendent of St. Clair District, No. 1, in presenting his report, says: "I am glad to state that Capitular Masonry in this district is in a very prosperous condition, and wherever I have visited in my official capacity or otherwise I have always found great enthusiasm displayed."

The Superintendent of London District, No. 2, says: "As Grand Superintendent of this district it affords me great pleasure to report peace, harmony and progress in London District, No. 2. The returns as a whole show a substantial increase in membership, some of them having done exceedingly well in that respect."

The Superintendent of Wilson District, No. 3, sends a very encouraging report. He says: "I am pleased to be able to state that peace and harmony prevail, that every Chapter within the district is making progress numerically and financially, and that the officers are able to exemplify the various degrees satisfactorily. The prospects are bright for every Chapter in the district."

The Superintendent of Wellington District, No. 4, sends, as he himself says, a brief report, and the conclusion to be drawn from it is that peace and harmony prevail, and the prospects for the future are good.
The Superintendent of Hamilton District, No. 5, is to be commended for the zeal and energy displayed in the number of visits made by him to the different Chapters under his charge. His efforts to instil new life and vigor into St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, appear to have met with considerable success, and it is to be hoped that the Chapter will from this on, prosper and reflect credit upon the work of the Grand Superintendent. The other Chapters seem to be all doing well, and the prospects are quite bright. There was a small increase in membership in this district.

In the opening part of his report the Superintendent of Huron District, No. 6, says: "In this district there are nine Chapters constituting it, in this respect the largest in the jurisdiction. It is worthy of consideration whether the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry would not be promoted by a division of the district." He then suggests the Chapters which in his opinion would form a compact district. The suggestion of re-arranging the district is worthy of the consideration of the proper committee for such purpose. He further says: "I am pleased to report that Capitular Masonry is generally in a satisfactory condition. All the Chapters are working efficiently, and there has been a fair increase in members. Harmony prevails." Also: "As will be seen from my report of my visit, Chantry Chapter, which is working under a dispensation, has fully equipped itself, has a very respectable membership, and has excellent prospects. I believe that this Chapter will be more than ordinarily successful, and have much pleasure in recommending that a warrant be issued."

The Superintendent of Niagara District, No. 7, sends in a short account of his visit to each of the Chapters in his district, and in winding up, says: "I am pleased to report that the condition of Capitular Masonry throughout the Niagara District is good, and feel assured my successor in office will be able to report still more favorably for 1903."

The Grand Superintendent of Toronto District, No. 8, who was called away from his home in Toronto owing to business matters, hoped to have been back in time to visit the Chapters before sending in his report, but was
unable to return owing to his father's death. He has sent in his report from his home in Ireland, and a very able one it is. It contains much valuable matter, which your Committee would like to embody in this report, but the length of it prevents it. Its perusal will well repay anyone the time. He says: "I have visited all the Chapters in the district several times, with the exception of Doric, No. 60, and it is with the greatest pleasure I am able to report that in every instance I found good work, zealous activity, harmony and a most laudable ambition to further the true and render the 'kudos' of the Royal Craft pre-eminent."

The Superintendent of Georgian District, No. 9, visited all the Chapters except two, and it was not his fault he did not visit them, but dates convenient for all parties could not be arranged. He regrets that owing to some returns not having been sent in he could not form any opinion as to the progress of Capitular Masonry in the district as a whole, and that such dereliction of duty renders his report practically useless, for which he can only express regret, in which opinion your Committee concurs.

The report of the Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, No. 10, is a good one. He says: "It affords me great pleasure to report that harmony and peace have prevailed. The returns will show a considerable increase in membership, and the Chapters generally have done exceedingly well. The work seen by me on my visits was exceptionally good, and the Companions seen evinced a feeling that would impress one that Capitular Masonry in the district has before it a bright and prosperous future."

Your Committee is pleased on reading the report of the Grand Superintendent of Prince Edward District, No. 11, that his efforts to infuse new life into St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, met with so much success, and the hope is expressed that it will continue to gain ground and prosper. The visit of the Most Ex. the Grand Z. was highly appreciated, and resulted in stimulating the officers and members to good work. The other Chapters are all doing well, and the outlook is bright.

The report of the Grand Superintendent of St. Law-
rence District, No. 12, is very full and complete as to the visits he made to all the Chapters. He also, with the assistance of the Second Grand Principal, R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, opened under dispensation what he considers the making of a live Chapter at Gananoque, to be called "Leeds Chapter," and he recommends that a warrant be granted. In speaking of his visit to Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, No. 1, when R. E. Comp. A. Shaw and R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett were present, he says: "In welcoming R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Grand S. E., it was a pleasure to be able to convey to him personally our deep appreciation of his kindness and the painstaking manner in which he performs the duties of Grand Scribe E." All the other Chapters seem to be doing well and are prosperous.

The Grand Superintendent of Ottawa District, No. 13, says: "I have to report that all the Chapters in the district, with the exception of Pembroke, No. 58, at Mattawa, as being in a very flourishing condition. A number of new members have joined during the year. The finances are satisfactory, and the dues in some are promptly collected." Also: "There is certainly a very encouraging outlook for the coming year."

The report of the Grand Superintendent of Algoma District, No. 14, is an encouraging one, and, although the distance between the Chapter on the extreme east and the one on the extreme west is over one thousand miles, he visited them all, and reports progress and prospects bright. He says: "I desire to point out to Grand Chapter that New Ontario is a vast territory, much more so than many in the east are aware of, that it is daily growing in importance, and in my opinion it would be in the interests of Capitular Masonry to have more Chapters established within it, as the great distance between the present Chapters prevent many good Masons from joining, who otherwise would."

The Superintendent of Manitoba District, No. 15, sends in a very encouraging report as to the desire of the brethren from several places to become Royal Arch Masons. Owing to the number wanting the degrees, and considering the expense connected with a journey to Winnipeg, he recommended that a dispensation be grant-
ed by the Grand Z. to the Chapter in Boissevain to open a Chapter and confer degrees in Hartney. This was done, and the result was beyond his expectations. The Chapters in Winnipeg and Boissevain are both prospering. As to Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, at Morden, the Scribe E. writes: "We have not held any meetings since our last report. No prospects for another year now. Have no funds." In this connection the Grand Superintendent says: "Nothing has been heard from this Chapter, and as far as I can learn, no meetings have been held for several years. I would suggest that no steps be taken to recall the charter until another attempt has been made to get the members together." Your Committee recommend that it be the special duty of the Grand Superintendent to endeavor to revive this Chapter during the present year.

The Grand Superintendent of British Columbia District, No. 16, visited all the Chapters in his district twice and found them all in a flourishing condition and working harmoniously, which is pleasing news from that distant portion of our jurisdiction.

The report of the Superintendent of Alberta District, No. 17, shows that the district practically covers the whole of the North-West Territories, there being four Chapters in it. Through force of circumstances he was unable to visit them all, and to visit these he did he had to travel some 1,800 miles. He says: "I feel, however, I can speak very hopefully of Capitular Masonry in my district, and with the great influx of population and the renewed activity among the Chapters the future is assured." Also: "Universal harmony prevails, and next year will see great development."

From our latest formed district, that of Kootenay, No. 18, comes the most encouraging one of the year. The Grand Superintendent says: "The condition and prospects of Capitular Masonry in this district are particularly satisfactory in every respect. The Companions are very enthusiastic, and work for the advancement of the Order, and probably no district in Canada can show a smaller percentage of members twelve months in arrear than Kootenay District, No. 18. In the five Chapters in the district there are only thirteen members twelve
months in arrear, which speaks well for the Scribes of the different Chapters, as well as for the members. Peace and harmony prevail in and between the Chapters. Each of the five Chapters in the district have made progress during the year. They are all in possession of comfortable quarters, a satisfactory bank account, and are well equipped with complete paraphernalia of excellent quality. . . . The outlook for the future is very bright, and I anticipate a prosperous year for 1903." It is very pleasing to your Committee and also to Grand Chapter to find so much prosperity in that far distant portion of our jurisdiction.

Your Committee feel justified in expressing great satisfaction at the prosperous condition of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction as shown by the reports presented, and our hope is that it may continue.

Your Committee could not help noticing the many references made by the various Superintendents to the work of the Grand Scribe E., in the promptness with which he attended to the correspondence, to his courtesy in giving advice and assistance, and in every way doing his duty with the utmost zeal and ability. The work of his office has so greatly increased, and his time is so taken up with the work of his office that it seems to us some considerable increase in his salary would be only fair and befitting, and we feel sure would meet with the hearty approval of Grand Chapter.

It could hardly be expected that the year would pass without the "Angels of Death" coming to call some of our beloved and familiar Companions to their final rest. Let us be thankful the number has been small. We mourn the loss of two faithful Companions in the persons of R. E. Comp. John Moodie, of Hamilton, and V. E. Comp. Lachlan McCallum, of Dunnville. May their memory be long cherished by us.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

William Roaf,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.
The Executive Committee presented the report on

BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee on Benevolence has examined the applications for relief presented to it, and respectfully recommend that the following grants be made:

No. 1. Widow of Jno. Munroe ...................................... $20 00

" 3. Widow of Alex. Findlay ....................................... 30 00

" 3. Comp. William Hawthorne ..................................... 50 00

" 6. Widow of Edmond Hill ......................................... 20 00

" 6. Widow of Jno. Kennedy .......................................... 20 00

" 6. Widow of Jno. Holman .......................................... 20 00

" 16. Daughter of William Kerr ................................. 10 00

" 24. Widow of John Vaux ........................................... 10 00

" 28. Comp. C. W. Smith ........................................... 40 00

" 29. Comp. Archibald Cooper ....................................... 40 00

" 29. Widow of G. E. S. Black .............................. 20 00

" 33. Comp. Fred. Mudge ........................................... 40 00

" 37. Comp. Wm. G. Coulter ....................................... 40 00

" 37. Widow of Jonas S. Baker ...................................... 40 00

" 37. Widow of W. B. Wallace ...................................... 20 00

" 44. Widow of Hugh Rankin ....................................... 30 00

" 52. Comp. James O’Connor ........................................ 50 00

" 54. Widow of William Marriott .................................. 15 00

" 54. Widow of Peter Grant ......................................... 20 00

" 77. Comp. Frank P. Gassion ...................................... 50 00

" 83. Widow of H. D. Fraser ....................................... 10 00

$595 00

The Committee, in recommending the above applications for relief, desires it understood that it does so purely on charitable grounds. Three applications for grants were refused by your Committee from the fact that the beneficiaries were not recipients of Grand Lodge relief. At all events, no application for such assistance was placed before the Committee on Benevolence of Grand Lodge, and we are credibly informed that, had such request been made, in certain cases, it would have been refused.

Charity, from a Masonic standpoint, appears to cover a variety of circumstances, a fact your Committee feels called upon to emphasize. One of the applicants has
been in receipt of a larger sum than her companions for several years, not because she was in straitened circumstances, but rather as a matter of sentiment, as from time to time evidenced in Grand Chapter voting the applicant a specific sum from year to year. Your Committee, having had later information regarding the case under review, has concluded not to recommend to Grand Chapter the issuance of the usual cheque, for the reason outlined.

Your Committee further recommend that in respect of the three applications refused by your Committee (referred to in Clause 2 of this report), if the Inspector of Grand Lodge on investigation finds the cases worthy of relief, cheques issue for the amounts originally received by them; but that no payment of any grant be made by Grand Chapter in future until a favorable report is received from the Grand Lodge Inspector; and that such grants by Grand Chapter be in every case supplemental to a grant from the subordinate Chapter making the application.

Fraternally submitted,

J. S. Dewar,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.

R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, on behalf of the Committee appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z., to revise the Constitution of Grand Chapter, presented its report. Copies of the amendments embraced therein had previously been sent to each subordinate Chapter.

The clauses affected were read seriatum and approved, whereupon it was moved by R. E. Comp. Shaw, seconded by R. E. Comp. Martyn, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution be received and adopted, and that the Grand Scribe E. superintend the edition of the next publication, to be placed in the printer's hands forthwith.
R. E. Comp. Aubrey White, on behalf of the committee appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z. to consider the restoration of the Most Excellent Master Degree from its present reduced form to the original, presented the following report:

The committee appointed at the last annual convocation of Grand Chapter to consider the restoration of the Most Excellent Master's Degree to its original form, beg leave to report as follows:

That in the matter of the restoration of the old work the committee had regard to:

1. The lessons intended to be taught by the degree, and which work, the old or the new, best expressed and enforced them.

2. The additional mental labor which the old work imposes as compared with the new.

3. The additional time required to confer the degree according to the old, as compared with the time required by the new work.

As to the teachings of the degree, they may be shortly summarized as follows: Energetic and faithful work will bring completion of the task, rest from labor, commendation and reward. Of course, as in all other Masonic degrees, God's glory and His mercies are strongly emphasized. The Temple of Solomon is once more used as a symbol, and appropriately enough we are brought to the completion of the building and the ceremonies in connection therewith. There is a procession of the workmen, the keystone is placed in the arch, the badge of labor is put off, the Ark of the Covenant is seated, and King Solomon receives and acknowledges the workmen who were faithful and skilful during the building of the Temple.

Those who have seen the old work will remember how this beautiful and impressive ceremony was introduced in the degree, and the fine picture presented to the candidate. It has been entirely cut out of the new work. The perambulations, with the appropriate verses of Scripture, have been omitted, and the charge to the candidate has also disappeared. These are the principal
omissions in the new work, and as they helped to round out and harmonize the work of the degree, as a whole, it necessarily suffers by their omission. Upon this first branch of the matter the Committee is of opinion that the old work taught the lessons of the degree in more adequate language, and with greater harmony than does the new work.

As to the additional mental labor entailed by the old work as compared with the new, the committee desire to express the opinion that the teachings and beauty of Masonic degrees should not be cut down, or marred on the mere assumption that the presiding officers of Chapters or any considerable proportion of them will be men of very limited mental powers, and with little or no leisure.

The omitted portions of the degree would take a very short time to commit to memory. Indeed, the whole degree as it stood in the old work was neither very long nor very difficult. The Committee is therefore of opinion that the trifling additional mental labor imposed on the officers by the old work ought not to prevent its restoration.

As to the third branch, that is, the time saved by the curtailing of the old work, the Committee has compared the new with the old work, and has read slowly and carefully the portions of the old work omitted from the new, and finds that the difference in the time between the working of the old and the new degree would not exceed twelve to fifteen minutes, which certainly is not a serious period of time when a Chapter has met for the purpose of conferring degrees. The Committee is therefore of opinion that the additional twelve minutes of time required for the working of the old degree is not a sufficient warrant for leaving the degree in its present and unintelligible state.

Owing to the illness of two members of the committee, it has not been able to enter into communication with all the different Chapters. The question of the restoration of the ritual is not, however, a matter upon which the opinion of the rank and file of the Chapters is necessary. The change from the old to the new ritual was made without consulting the Chapters, and there is no
reason why the change back to the old ritual should require more than the authority of Grand Chapter, in which body all Chapters are, or ought to be, represented.

The Committee would remind Grand Chapter that in the year 1899 a circular was sent to all the Chapters, inviting them to express an opinion upon the restoration of the old work. Thirty-eight Chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter at that time passed resolutions and petitioned for its restoration. Only one Chapter declared against the restoration. Some 2,700 Royal Arch Masons petitioned for the restoration, and none petitioned against it.

Having regard to what has already been stated, and to the additional important fact that Grand Chapter at its last meeting was practically unanimous in favor of the appointment of the present committee to consider the restoration of the old work, thereby indicating its dissatisfaction with the existing degree, your Committee unanimously recommend the restoration of the old work.

Aubrey White,  
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Aubrey White, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, and

Resolved,—That the report of the committee appointed to consider the restoration, to its original form, of the M. E. M. Degree, be received and adopted.

COMMITTEE ON BENEVOLENCE.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, Lindsay, be continued a member of the Committee on Benevolence for the term of three years.

The motion being put to Grand Chapter, it was declared carried unanimously.

The following Companions comprise the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee of Grand Chapter for their respective terms:

R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, London, retires in 1904
" " " J. B. Nixon, Toronto " 1905
M. " " J. E. Harding, Lindsay, " 1906
ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. The M. E. the Grand Z. having appointed scrutineers of the ballot, the results of the elections were declared as follows:

R. E. Comp. Abraham Shaw, Kingston, Grand Z.
" " " DeWitt H. Martyn, M.D., Kincardine, Grand H.
" " " William Roaf, K.C., Toronto, Grand J.

Grand Chapter was then called off for the space of fifteen minutes to enable the districts to select their Grand Superintendents for the ensuing year.

Grand Chapter resumed labor, when the following nominations were submitted to the M. E. the Grand Z., who was pleased to approve in each case, and the selections were confirmed.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

Ex. Comp. Edward Worth, Kent Bridge, St. Clair Dist. No. 1
V. " " Wm. Caw, M.D., Parkhill, London " " 2
" " " Robt. S. McGill, Simece, Wilson " " 3
" " " John Prain, Harriston, Wellington " " 4
" " " A. T. Neill, Hamilton, Hamilton " " 5
V. " " R. C. Cheswright, Walkerton, Huron " " 6
" " " J. G. Bottomley, Niagara, Niagara " " 7
" " " James Bicknell, K.C., Toronto Toronto " " 8
R. " " Allan Cameron, M.D., Owen S'd, Georgian " " 9
" " " R. C. Smith, Port Hope, Ontario " " 10
" " " J. G. Fennell, Napanee, Pr. Edward " " 11
V. " " W. H. Mowat, Brockville, St. Lawrence " " 12
" " " W. A. McKay, Renfrew, Ottawa " " 13
" " " J. W. Morgan, Port Arthur, Algoma " " 14
" " " Robt. Magness, Winnipeg, Manitoba " " 15
" " " F. J. Schofield, Nanaimo, Br. Columbia " " 16
" " " Geo. Macdonald, M.D., Calgary, Alberta " " 17
" " " Geo. Johnstone, Nelson, Kootenay " " 18

The election of Grand Officers was then resumed with the following results:

" " " Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Treasurer.
" " " A. F. Webster, Toronto, Grand Registrar.
" " " Geo. Wenino, Sarnia, Grand Scribe N.
" " " J. H. Pritchard, Toronto, Grand Scribe E.

The following Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:

R. E. Comp. Aubrey White ......... Toronto
" " " W. T. Toner ................. Collingwood.
" " " D. F. MacWatt ............... Sarnia.
" " " R. J. Craig .................. Cobourg.
" " " Geo. Moore .................. Hamilton.
NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

Toronto, Kingston, Niagara Falls, Barrie and Bracebridge were put in nomination for the next annual convocation. Toronto was declared to be the choice of Grand Chapter by a large majority.

TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. WILLIAM GIBSON.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Michael Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved,—That a committee be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, P. G. Z., in token of Grand Chapter's appreciation of the zealous work done by him during the last two years.

PAST RANK CONFERRED.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, seconded by M. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved,—That in recognition of his devoted services to this Grand Chapter, the honorary rank of Past Grand Z. be and is hereby conferred on R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, seconded by R. E. Comp. Aubrey White, and carried, that

Whereas within a brief period after our last annual Convocation it pleased the Ever Present Jehovah, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, to take from the happy home of our esteemed M. E. Grand Z. to dwell forever with Himself in the mansions of the blest, the devoted partner of his life and loving mother of his dear children; therefore be it

Resolved that the Grand Scribe E. be instructed to convey to the Most Excellent Companion William Gibson, Grand Z., the fraternal assurance that in the hour of his sore affliction he had the heartfelt sympathy of each and every Companion owning allegiance to this Grand Chapter, and that in the irreparable loss he has sustained by reason of the death of his beloved wife, the prayer of his Companions was ever that there might be vouchsafed to him strength from On High to support him in submission to the will of "Him who was, is, and is to come, the Almighty."

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, assisted by M. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, then proceeded with the installation and investi-
ture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the usual honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

The following Companions were subsequently appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z. to office in Grand Chapter:

E. Comp. Henry T. Smith, Toronto,  
Rev. D. F. Bogart, Belleville,  
R. E.  
J. B. Nixon, Toronto,  
J. W. Prescott, Vancouver,  
Wm. J. Renton, Kingston,  
H. H. Burgess, Owen Sound,  
R. A. Mulholland, Port Hope,  
Steph. H. Murphy, M.D., Renfrew,  
W. Braden, Winnipeg,  
J. W. Seymour Corley, Toronto,  
J. T. Wilson, Hamilton,  
William O'Brien, London,  
Rev. C. A. Procunier, Revelstoke,  
John Chapman, N. Augusta,  
E. Fraser, Niagara Falls, So.,  
G. W. Moody, Ridgetown,  
H. A. Biggins, Woodstock,  
Frank Birss, Harriston,  
J. H. Scott, Kincardine,  
Alfred Chase, Port Arthur,  
Robert T. Green, Kaslo,  
David N. McLeod, Parkhill,  

E. Comp. William Walker  
John Leslie  
William Forbes  
J. Earl Halliwell  
W. S. R. Murch  

Grand Senior Sojourner  
Junior  
Lecturer  
Sword Bearer  
Master of 1st Veil  
Master of 2nd Veil  
Master of 3rd Veil  
Master of 4th Veil  
Standard Bearer  
Dir. of Ceremonies  
Organist  
Pursuivant  
Steward  

The M. E. the Grand Z. further appointed the undermentioned Companions to the Executive Committee:

R. E. Comp. William Walker  
John Leslie  
William Forbes  
J. Earl Halliwell  
W. S. R. Murch  

Toronto  
Winnipeg  
Grimsby  
Stirling  
Kingston

VOTE OF THANKS.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and are hereby tendered to the Toronto Masonic Hall Trust for the use of the rooms and to the Companions of the Toronto Chapters, for their kindly attention and fraternal reception of the officers and members of Grand Chapter, as well as for the arrangements made for the Forty-Fifth Annual Convocation of this Grand Body.
The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in *Ample Form*, at 6.30 p.m.

Toronto, January 28th, 1903.
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<td>Ancient Front, &amp; Cat'l</td>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td>Third Friday</td>
<td>Jas. A. Minnes</td>
<td>Wm. Jackson</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>The Hiram</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
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<td>A. W. Peene</td>
<td>Fred Walter</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>St. John's</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Fourth Wednesday</td>
<td>Donald Fraser</td>
<td>Oliver Ellwood</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Toronto</td>
<td>Third Friday</td>
<td>W. P. Sutton</td>
<td>Geo. A. Gribble</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>St. George's</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Fourth Thursday</td>
<td>W. A. Wilson</td>
<td>C. C. Reed</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>St. John's</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Second Thursday</td>
<td>Donald McPhie</td>
<td>W. J. McAllister</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>The Mora</td>
<td>Belleville</td>
<td>First Tuesday</td>
<td>Rev. D. F. Bogart</td>
<td>Wm. McKeown</td>
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<td>King Solomon's</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>Fourth Tuesday</td>
<td>J. W. Johnson</td>
<td>John Roberts</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Wawanosh</td>
<td>Sarnia</td>
<td>Second Friday</td>
<td>Geo. Wenino</td>
<td>W. A. Wiggins</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Carleton</td>
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<td>John Fenton</td>
<td>W. G. S. Reynolds</td>
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<td>Frede. Killmer</td>
<td>A. E. Swayzie</td>
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<td>Moses McCormack</td>
<td>Thomas Kerr</td>
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<td>Grenville</td>
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<td>J. T. Rosebrook</td>
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<td>Ezra</td>
<td>Sincote</td>
<td>Thursday af. f. m.</td>
<td>W. B. Tomlinson</td>
<td>W. P. Kelley</td>
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<td>St. Mark's</td>
<td>Trenton</td>
<td>Third Monday</td>
<td>W. H. Harrell</td>
<td>J. Russell Stuart</td>
<td>6</td>
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### CHAPTER RETURNS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

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Net gain: 477
ANNUAL CONVOCATION, TORONTO, 1903. 137

SUSPENSION U.M.C.

No. 2. R. T. Lancefield.

SUSPENSIONS N.P.D.

No. 2. Geo. E. Mason, Chas. Wakelin.
No. 3. Maurice Baldwin, L. D. Evans, Alex. McDonald, William White.
No. 63. A. P. Moore, John Tolmie, John G. Welsh, Dan Campbell.
No. 70. W. H. Brown, D. C. McKay, J. R. Reece, W. B. Gunter.
No. 73. B. Paine, Fred. Eansor.
No. 75. Conrad Hoff, Sidney Young, S. Cook, M. E. Mitchell, W. J. Reid, W. G. Congden.
No. 77. John Muir.

No. 86. W. N. Chisholm, Jas. Stockton, Wm. Bates.

No. 104. Chas. E. Culham, W. J. Breckan, O. E. Bray.

No. 113. W. M. West.


No. 120. W. W. Corner.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 2. Andrew Cowan, W. W. Lumsden.

No. 3. Edward McKenzie.

No. 6. R. S. Bradley.

No. 8. J. D. Young.

No. 27. Thos. H. White.

No. 37. E. B. C. Avery.

No. 44. Hermon Ming.

No. 47. M. J. Wilson, William Ball.

No. 63. Benjamin Smith.

No. 67. W. D. McLellan.

No. 80. A. M. Clough, Chas. Richards, E. E. Shultz.

No. 83. Archibald Neilson.


No. 103. W. T. Plummer.

No. 106. F. G. Lepenotur.

No. 113. F. Warren.
Our

Departed Companions

IN MEMORIAM
R. Ex. Companion

JOHN MOODIE

Past Grand Superintendent

Died October 19th, 1902

Hamilton.
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. De Witt H. Martyn, Kincardine, President.

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. E. Comp, J. E. Harding ........................................ Lindsy
  "  "  "  Donald Ross ................................................ Picton
  "  "  "  Robert Hendry, Jr ....................................... Kingston
  "  "  "  J. J. Mason ................................................. Hamilton
  "  "  "  J. Ross Robertson ......................................... Toronto
  "  "  "  M. Walsh .................................................... Ingersoll
  "  "  "  W. G. Reid ................................................ Hamilton
  "  "  "  Wm. Gibson ................................................. Beamsville
  "  "  "  Henry Robertson .......................................... Collingwood
  "  "  "  Kivas Tully ............................................... Toronto
  "  "  "  Hugh Murray ............................................... Hamilton
R.  "  "  "  William Roaf ............................................. Toronto

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. Ed. Worth, Kent Bridge, St. Clair Dist. No. 1
  "  "  "  Wm. Caw, M.D., Parkhill, London  "  "  2
  "  "  "  Robert S. McGill, Simcoe, Wilson  "  "  3
  "  "  "  John Prain, Harriston, Wellington  "  "  4
  "  "  "  A. T. Neill, Hamilton, Hamilton  "  "  5
  "  "  "  R. C. Cheswright, Walkerton, Huron  "  "  6
  "  "  "  J. G. Bottomley, Niagara, Niagara  "  "  7
  "  "  "  James Bicknell, Toronto, Toronto  "  "  8
  "  "  "  A. Cameron, M.D., Owen Sound, Georgian  "  "  9
  "  "  "  R. C. Smith, Port Hope, Ontario  "  "  10
  "  "  "  J. G. Fennell, Napanee, Pr. Edward  "  "  11
  "  "  "  W. H. Mowat, Brockville, St. Lawrence  "  "  12
  "  "  "  W. A. McKay, Renfrew, Ottawa  "  "  13
  "  "  "  J. W. Morgan, Port Arthur, Algoma  "  "  14
  "  "  "  Robert Magness, Winnipeg, Manitoba  "  "  15
  "  "  "  F. J. Schofield, Nanaimo, British Col.  "  "  16
  "  "  "  Geo. Macdonald, M.D., Calgary, Alberta  "  "  17
  "  "  "  Geo. Johnstone, Nelson, Kootenay  "  "  18

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Toronto.................. Grand Scribe E.
  "  "  "  P. W. D. Broderick, London .......... Grand Scribe N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp. Aubrey White ........................................ Toronto
  "  "  "  W. T. Toner ................................................ Collingwood
  "  "  "  D. F. McWatt ............................................... Sarnia
  "  "  "  R. J. Craig ................................................ Cobourg
  "  "  "  Geo. Moore ................................................ Hamilton
APPOINTED BY GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp. William Walker ........................................... Toronto
  " " John Leslie ......................................................... Winnipeg
  " " William Forbes ....................................................... Grimsby
  " " J. Earl Halliwell ...................................................... Stirling
  " " W. S. R. Murch ......................................................... Kingston

SUB-COMMITTEES.

GRAND Z'S ADDRESS.


BENEVOLENCE.


AUDIT AND FINANCE.


GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.


WARRANTS.


CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.


FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.


LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1.


No. 47, Wellington ...... Chatham | No. 80, Ark ............... Windsor
  " 71, Pr. of Wales. Amherstb'g | 88, Macnabb ............ Dresden
  " 73, Erie ............ Ridgetown | 119, King Cyrus. Leamington

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 2.


No. 3, St. John's ...... London | No. 54, Palestine ...... St. Thomas
  " 5, St. George's ...... London | 81, Aylmer ............... Aylmer
  " 15, Wawanosh ...... Sarnia | 87, Minnewawa .... Parkhill
  " '53, Bruce ............ Petrolia

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  " 15, Wawanosh ...... Sarnia | 87, Minnewawa .... Parkhill
  " '53, Bruce ............ Petrolia

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1.
ANNUAL CONVOCATION, TORONTO, 1903.

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 3.


No. 18, Oxford .... Woodstock | No. 41, Harris ...... Ingersoll
“ 20, Mount Horeb. Brantford | “ 115, Brant ...... Paris
“ 23, Ezra ............. Simcoe

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4.


No. 32, Waterloo .......... Galt | No. 83, Ionic .... Orangeville
“ 67, Enterprise .... Harriston

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5.


No. 2, The Hiram ..... Hamilton | No. 75, St. Clair ...... Milton
“ 6, St. John's ...... Hamilton | “ 104, White Oak .... Oakville

HURON DISTRICT, NO. 6.


No. 24, Tecumseh ...... Stratford | No. 66, The Malloch ... Seaforth
“ 30, Huron ......... Goderich | “ 84, Lebanon ...... Wingham
“ 46, St. James .... St. Marys | “ 129, Elliot ........ Mitchell
“ 50, Saugeen ...... Walkerton | “ 130, Chantry .. Southampton
“ 63, Havelock .... Kincardine

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7.


No. 19, Mt. Moriah .... St. Cath's | No. 64, Willson ...... Welland
“ 29, McCallum .... Dunnville | “ 69, Grimsby ........ Grimsby
“ 55, Niagara ...... Niagara | “ 76, Mt. Nebo. Niagara Fs., S.
“ 57, King Hiram..Pt. Colborne

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 8.


No. 4, S. And.& St. John.Toronto | No. 65, St. Paul's. ..... Toronto
“ 8, King Solomon's .. Toronto | “ 77, Occident .......... "
“ 60, Doric ......... Newmarket | “ 79, Orient ...........
“ 62, York ............. Eglington | “ 91, Antiquity ...... "

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

Grand Superint’—R. E. Comp. Allan Cameron, M.D., Owen Sound.

No. 27, Manitou ... Collingwood | No. 86, Macpherson .... Meaford
“ 34, Signet .......... Barrie | “ 103, St. John's .... North Bay
“ 56, Georgian ...... Owen Sound | “ 131, Amabel ...... Wiarton
“ 70, Grand River. Bracebridge

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. C. Smith, Port Hope.

No. 28, Pentalpha ...... Oshawa | No. 45, Excelsior ...... Colborne
“ 35, Keystone ........ Whitby | “ 48, St. John's ...... Cobourg
“ 36, Corinthian .... Peterboro' | “ 94, Midland ...... Lindsay
“ 37, Victoria ...... Port Hope | “ 110, Warkworth .. Warkworth
10
PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.


No. 7, The Moira……. Belleville | No. 44, Mount Sinai…… Napanee
“ 26, St. Mark’s……. Trenton | “ 72, Keystone………. Stirling
“ 31, Prince Edward……. Picton

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12.


No. 1, Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui…… Kingston
“ 22, Grenville……. Prescott
“ 59, Sussex………. Brockville
“ 68, Maitland……. N. Augusta

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. A. McKay, Renfrew.

No. 16, Carleton…….. Ottawa
“ 58, Pembroke……. Mattawa
“ 61, Granite………. Almonte

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 14.


No. 82, Shuniah…… Port Arthur | No. 95, Tuscan………. Sudbury
“ 90, Golden……. Rat Portage | “ 102, Algonquin……. Sault Ste. Marie

MANITOBA DISTRICT, NO. 15.


No. 52, Pr. Rupert……Winnipeg | No. 111, Zeredatha……. Morden
“ 101, Corinthian……Boisrevain

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, NO. 16.


No. 98, Vancouver……. Vancouver | No. 127, Keystone…….. Nanaimo
“ 124, Westminster……New Westminster

ALBERTA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Geo. Macdonald, M.D., Calgary

No. 106, Alberta………. Calgary | No. 121, Wascana………. Regina
“ 118, North Star……. Edmonton | “ 126, Assiniboia……………………… Medicine Hat

KOOTENAY DISTRICT, NO. 18.


No. 120, Kootenay…… Kaslo | No. 125, Rocky Mountain…… Fort Steele
“ 122, Rossland………. Rossland
“ 123, Nelson………… Nelson | “ 128, Revelstoke…… Revelstoke
# GRAND REPRESENTATIVES AND GRAND SECRETARIES.

## GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

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Additional notes: All addresses are listed for various states and cities across the United States, indicating the locations where these individuals are associated with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.
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REPORT ON

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

To the M.E. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Companions:—

The proceedings of the under-mentioned Grand Chapters have reached us, and the review of each, such as it is, follows. The year has been peaceful and prosperous, and the field for discussion practically barren, hence the dearth of comment. There seems to have been a general determination to agree even upon points where one would expect a conflict of opinion, but without expressing our personal views on this delectable condition of things, we will rest content with putting ourselves in the position of the traveler who found himself in a Scotch village, and, observing an ancient couple arguing and gesticulating in the road, in order to avert a calamitous result asked the cause of the dispute. "'We're no desputin' at a'," answered the man; "'we're baith o' the same mind. I hae got a half-crown in ma pooch, an' she thinks she's no gaun to get it—an' I'm o' the same opeenion.'

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

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Arizona .................. 1901
California ................ 1902
Colorado .................. 1901
Connecticut ............... 1902
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Alabama

Chapters . . 36. Members . . 1,232.

The returns show a distinct advance on the preceding year, and indicate a reawakening. Six Chapters were added, three new charters and three reinstated, bringing the membership from 856 to 1,232. To offset this, however, six Chapters for failure to pay up were dropped from the roll. It is somewhat difficult to reconcile the numerical strength as shown by the statistical table with the Grand Secretary’s figures, but as the latter should know best, we accept his as above.

During the year Grand High Priest Moore suffered severe illness, during which he was bereaved of his life’s partner, and by a sad coincidence the Deputy Grand High Priest was similarly stricken. Resolutions of sympathy with both were feelingly presented and unanimously adopted at the Seventy-fifth Annual Convocation at Montgomery, held on the 2nd and 3rd December, 1901.

Reference was made in our last report to the death of Grand Secretary Henry Clay Armstrong. The Grand High Priest refers to his sudden calling away, and pays high tribute to his career as a man, a soldier and a Mason. He appointed Comp. Lew Lazarus, Canada’s representative, as Grand Secretary pro tem.

“‘The duties of the office, however, have, with the full knowledge and consent of Companion Lazarus, been discharged by Companion George A. Beauchamp, whose position of R. E. Grand King in the Grand Chapter alone prevented me from appointing him Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, after his appointment as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge. In my opinion, the fraternity will get better service if the position of Grand Secre-
His attention having been directed to the action of a Georgia Chapter in receiving the application of a resident of Alabama, the Grand High Priest refers to the free and easy condition of affairs existing owing to defective laws:

"We cannot consistently complain that Chapters in Georgia have received and acted on petitions for the Chapter degrees by residents of Alabama when our own laws, by implication, permit our Chapters to receive and act on petitions presented by residents of Georgia, Mississippi or New York."

The Correspondence Chairman subsequently offered a resolution to the effect that concurrent jurisdiction with Georgia and Florida be accepted, the latter State having previously adopted a similar resolution with regard to Alabama and Georgia. He even went further, and wanted to take in Tennessee and Mississippi, but the Jurisprudence Committee would have none of it, and in the former cases put a limit on the residence within the boundary, and the distance from the nearest Chapter.

The same committee snuffed out a resolution to abolish substitutes in the R. A. Degree.

The "Home" epidemic has struck Alabama, and a resolution was adopted, pledging support to the Grand Lodge "in its efforts to establish and maintain a Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home in this State."

This, with a not too plethoric treasury, may be regarded as "plucky."

It was decided to have a new ritual, also new collars and aprons, the old regalia being reported missing.

M. E. Companion George F. Moore presented the Grand Chapter with a beautiful copy of his admirable work:

"The souvenir of the celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the establishment of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America."

Companion Titcomb furnishes a lengthy and comprehensive report on Correspondence, four pages of
which he gives to Canada for 1901. It is a faithful review of our proceedings, and just withal, quoting the Grand Z. on the work of the Superintendents, and the progress of the Royal Craft in British Columbia. Of the writer he says:

"Companion Bennett possesses the desirable faculty of pursuing the trail on which he hunts without deviating to right or left, and at the same time missing no chance to 'let fly' at any game which may bob up within the range of his keen sight, and, too, he never forgets to be courteous."

Much as we may have desired it, and our search was not hasty, we could not discover anything to "let fly" at in Alabama.

Wisconsin's reviewer commented thus on Alabama's action in admitting clergymen without money and without price:

"A self-respecting preacher does not like to be placed in the category with recipients of charity, and one who is not self-respecting we do not want. If the preacher cannot command sufficient salary to afford the degrees, if he desires them, he has mistaken his vocation, and had better retire."

To which Companion Titcomb replies:

"Companions Swain of Wisconsin, Perkins of Vermont, Henderson of Pennslyvania, Bennett of Canada, and a few others, have essayed to 'make it warm' for the Grand Chapter of Alabama, about that resolution admitting ministers free: when we are convinced that they hold the correct view, we will 'own up like a little man.' Candor compels us to admit there is force in what they urge, but while the law remains on our Capitular statute book—we shall remain loyal thereto."

If expressing an opinion on a matter of legislation which was considered a violation of principle, and therefore objectionable, be interpreted as "making it warm," we must be content to let it be so regarded, but such was not the intention. Alabama's resumption of what Companion Drummond describes as "an old practice" was no doubt originated with the very best of motives, but where the practice is wholly unknown it is natural to view it with less favorable eyes.

George F. Moore, Montgomery, Grand High Priest.

George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.
It was apparently an easy time in Arizona for the Grand High Priest, the year of grace 1901, for he announced to the Twelfth Annual Convocation at Prescott, on the 13th November, that he had "made no decisions," "received no communications," and was "unable to visit the subordinate Chapters":

"However, nothing has arisen to disturb the peace and harmony existing between them, and all are in a very properous condition."

Something to be grateful for, at any rate. He then gives a list of the departed, and of appointed Representatives, and closes "with thanks."

The Grand Treasurer exhibited a balance of $1,322.40.

The Committee on the address reported:

"Though the duties of the M.- E.- Grand High Priest have been neither arduous nor onerous, we feel that the thanks of this Grand Chapter are due him for his careful supervision over the affairs of the Royal Craft in Arizona."

The other committees had nothing to do, and therefore nothing to report, so the Grand Representatives were "lined up," presented to Grand Chapter, and received with Grand Honors.

For his "careful supervision over the affairs of the Royal Craft," the outgoing Grand High Priest was presented with a jewel.

Officers were elected and installed, standing committees named, and Grand Chapter closed in Ample Form.

Frederick A. Sweet, Bisbee, Grand High Priest.

George J. Roskruge, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

One new Chapter was added to the many already possessed by Arkansas. It was instituted by the Grand High Priest himself, and under the historic cognomen, "Hiram." May it go on and prosper.
It was the Fifty-second Annual Convocation, and in the City of Little Rock, that on the 20th November, 1901, the announcement of this addition was made by Grand High Priest Jones, who at the same time directed attention to five Chapters which were delinquent.

Yet he congratulated Grand Chapter on a peaceful and prosperous year.

Under the now generally accepted heading, "Necrology," a word that harries the soul of the man in Tennessee, he pays tribute to the distinguished dead of other jurisdictions.

But what is in a name, after all? A Chapter that wished to change its domicile to Bald Knob was successful, while another which desired to remove from Snowball to St. Joe, failed.

Of the sixty-six Chapters on the roll, he saw three of them officially.

He announced that Little Rock desired the next Convocation of General Grand Chapter, and a committee was appointed to that end.

The Grand Chapter of New Mexico was accorded recognition.

The following resolution was adopted:

"That the Grand High Priest shall arrest the charter of any Subordinate Chapter which shall fail to execute the resolution of 1900, regarding the sale of intoxicating liquors by Royal Arch Masons."

A little over two pages embraces Companion R. J. Laughlin's report on Foreign Correspondence. In it he finds space to say:

"In Canada, they seem to be doing well since the elimination of the Past Master's Degree. We do not exactly understand the minutes, but get the impression that there was an effort made to drop the Most Excellent Master's Degree also. As usual, Companion Bennett's report is the readable part of the book."

No, Companion, the M. E. M. Degree for some years had been reduced to "communicating" proportions. The effort to restore it to full measure failed to carry.

Of Arkansas' resolution to exclude vendors of intoxic-
eating liquors, he says there has been much criticism, favorable and otherwise. Of the latter:

"Companion Henderson, of Pennsylvania, gives us the severest criticism. Evidently he does not consider it either good work, true work, or square work, and entirely unfit for the building of the Temple, but fortunately for the Masonry of this country he is not one of the overseers."

R. M. Carter, Batesville, Grand High Priest.
John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary.

California

Chapters .. 71. Members .. 6,620.

Again a notable increase in membership is recorded at the Golden Gate, and Grand High Priest Samuel Hopkins Wagener cheerily greeted the Companions at the Forty-eighth Annual held, as usual, in San Francisco, on the 15th April, 1902, and congratulated them on a period, "marked by peace and prosperity." The year was uneventful in the matter of "grievances" and "decisions," but he was not otherwise inactive:

"I have visited quite a number of the outlying Chapters, where Grand Officers seldom, if ever, go, and am satisfied that my visits have been productive of much good. I believe that if the Grand Officers made a practice of visiting the smaller and weaker Chapters, it would help greatly to strengthen and upbuild them. It is an encouragement to officers as well as members to know that the Grand Body is warmly interested in them."

A description of one of these visits is interesting reading:

"On the 7th of November, I started by stage with excellent company (Comp. Field), for the trip to Eureka. It is my habit in taking sea voyages to experience a slight feeling of seasickness at the moment I secure my ticket, which increases in intensity with amazing rapidity until the end of my journey and solid land is reached. Hence my selection of a land route to Eureka. We had heard before going to Ukiah that it was a daylight ride from there, but after we had bought our tickets we learned that there was no stopping for rest anywhere. The interior of the mud-wagon, which was to be our conveyance, was entirely filled with mail sacks, so passengers were invited to take outside seats, which we cheerfully did in the bright sunshine of a November day. But it is different when the cold and the dark of a November night drops down upon you and your imagination dwells lovingly upon
the thought of cheery fireplaces and warm, comfortable beds, until, overcome by sleep, you awake with a start to save yourself from falling off the stage. We survive to tell the tale of two days and two nights’ ride through forests, over hills, fording streams, and through canyons, to ‘Camp No. 8,’ where we took a dummy engine ten miles to Scotia, at which point we arrived at 6 o’clock in the morning of the third day.

“If anyone thinks we felt fresh and gay, let him ride for forty-eight consecutive hours and find what are his sensations at the end of that time. We did not feel so. If we could have left our bodies behind us it would have been a glorious ride, for the road traverses a magnificent country, with scenery grand beyond description, but having them along makes all the difference in the world, and I was not surprised to hear Comp. Field remark that he would not take $100 for the experience of that ride, but he would shoot any man who suggested his going back by that route. As for me, if those Eureka Companions have any faith at all in my veracity, they must believe that I am still in that vicinity or walking home, for I declared I could never stand the sea voyage, and I know I would never take the stage ride again.

“But if we had a somewhat tedious trip to reach Eureka, we were compensated many times over by the warmth of the welcome that awaited us, and by our surprise and pleasure at finding there, in the far-away Humboldt, a Chapter which in every respect is one of the banner Chapters of the State.”

A Companion representing the Grand Chapter of California, in a sister jurisdiction, had sent him a report of the doings of the latter, and he takes pains to acknowledge the courtesy, the rarity of which appeals to him:

“I mention this because it is an unusual thing for a Grand Representative to extend this courtesy to the Body that appointed him to represent them. Many think it an empty honor, which they accept without a just appreciation of the obligations involved.”

Grand Secretary Davies presents a brief but cheerful report, as did Grand Lecturer Day.

The closing up of the door leading from the Grand Secretary’s office to the library room in the Masonic Hall was accepted as “an unfriendly act” on the part of the landlord, the Masonic Hall Association, and a resolution recommending that Grand Chapter provide suitable quarters for the Grand Secretary in a central location was adopted.

Permission was accorded to the Chapter at Shasta to move to the City of Redding.
Three hundred dollars was appropriated as the salary of the Grand Lecturer.

A proposition to raise the minimum fee from thirty to fifty dollars was not smiled upon by the Jurisprudence Committee, and the report of the latter was agreed to.

The problem of how to deal with an objectionable element in a Chapter was solved in this wise: The Chapter membership was over ninety. A dozen or so petitioned for a dispensation to start a new Chapter in a neighboring location, and were successful, of course. The new body U.D. accepted petitions for affiliation from members of the old Chapter to the number of seventy or more, and as only seven resided in the old location, the majority carried a resolution to surrender the Charter. This was accomplished, and as the new Chapter embraced the membership of the old, with the exception of the few—too few to hold the warrant—the new body asked permission to resume the old name and number, and, as expected, was again accommodated.

The operation was probably tedious, and perhaps involved a good deal of thinking and labor, but, as fablist Ade would say, for a genuine, all-round, four-ply "freeze-out" it was an eminent success.

In the report of the Committee on New Chapters the following appears:

"The present Chapter is simply a reconstruction of the old Chapter, the membership being practically the same; and we recognize the fact that the companions who have successfully carried out this reconstruction have done a splendid work, and are entitled to the thanks of the Grand Chapter not only for their success in establishing a new source of revenue for this Grand Body, but for the removal from Chapters and the Royal Arch Fraternity of a prolific subject of discontent and recrimination. Our companions the petitioners are deserving of great praise, in addition to the consciousness of duty well performed, for the temperate manner in which they have proceeded in this matter."

Companion Davies presents an excellent review of the Grand Chapters, and gives Canada for '91 a couple of pages, quoting M. E. Comp. Gibson in full on the Grand Representative matter.

He had only received our volume the preceding day, and concludes:
"We are obliged to suspend our conversation with Brother Bennett for a twelvemonth or so, and will close with a few words of acknowledgment.

"Comp. Bennett's notice of California in his report is of the Forty-seventh Annual. He quotes the salient points of the rulings of the Grand High Priest, and commends his observations in regard to measuring a companion's franchise by the dollar he happens to owe for dues, as in the 'miserable wit' often displayed in making fun out of the solemn ceremonies of the Royal Arch Degree.'

Lewis Cass Wittenmyer, Martinez, Grand High Priest.

William A. Davies, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

Colorado

Chapters . . 34. Members . . 2,739.

Grand High Priest Roe was able to announce a substantial increase to the membership, when Grand Chapter met in Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation at Denver, on 19th September, 1901, but he had also to announce a heavy loss in the death of Grand Secretary Ed. C. Parmalee, on the 10th May previous. The deceased Companion was Secretary of all the Grand Bodies, and acted in that capacity for the Grand Lodge for thirty-five years:

"In his demise Masonry has lost a zealous, true, fervent and painstaking member. His relatives have lost a loving companion, and the community an upright and honorable citizen. What better of one can be said, what more could be expected?"

Past Grand High Priest Edward H. Collins was another devoted Companion whose loss Grand Chapter had occasion to mourn.

It is a law of Colorado that a Companion making application for affiliation must before presentation of the petition, have visited the Chapter. He was called upon to decide in a case where this enactment was violated.

He approved an amendment to a by-law of a Denver Chapter, providing a salary of $300 per annum for its Secretary.

He made a half dozen visitations, and regretted that 'business' interfered with that pleasant duty.
Grand Secretary Todd was not long in discovering that Chapters can be tardy with their returns:

"I believe that our laws should be made so stringent that reports not received in the time required by our by-laws should not be recognized at all. The result would be that the officers of the various Chapters would see that their returns were made as the law requires.'"

Past Grand High Priest Dean presented Companion Roe, the retiring Grand High Priest, with a Grand High Priest's jewel, which was received by Companion Roe with language evidencing his appreciation of the regard of his Companions.

Companion Breckel, of Steamboat Springs Chapter, in behalf of Egeria Lodge, No. 106, A. F. & A. M., then presented to the Grand Chapter an onyx pedestal slab, which was received on behalf of the Grand Chapter by Grand High Priest Bush, who returned thanks for the beautiful gift.

Companion Foster, in a ninety-page report, presents an enjoyable review of forty-seven Grand Chapter proceedings, which includes Canada for 1901.

On the rotation in office topic he thus replies to a Companion who chooses to defend the practice:

"Ambition and desire for promotion is a most laudable thing, that we would not place a straw in the way of anyone thus desirous of serving the Craft, but at the same time, he should remember he is not the only one with the same fire burning within him, and that if in the wise counsel of his Companions he is placed aside for a time, he has no just cause for complaint. His advancement to the lower official position may have been due to circumstances, the desire of a personal friend who has attained the highest rung in the ladder to see his friend advance, or the circumstances of location making it advisable for the sake of harmony to advance one rather than the other equally capable. The rotation in office plan places it in the hands of the Grand Council to say who shall step on the official ladder, and often takes away from the Companions the choice that is their birthright. We therefore say never let it become such a rule, that anyone can say it is a right and feel injured and wronged, if perchance they should be dropped from the line.'"

On New Mexico's failure to reduce the minimum fee he says:

"We are opposed to cheap Masonic Degrees, for whilst temporarily they may bring money into the coffers of the Chapters,
they also bring undesirable material, therefore let the motto of Royal Arch Masons be 'Quality before Quantity.'

William D. Todd, Denver, Grand Secretary.

Connecticut

Chapters ... 40. Members ... 6,247.

Grand High Priest James Callan's kindly and intellectual features beam a greeting as we open the volume containing a record of the One Hundred and Fourth Annual Convocation, held at Hartford, on the 13th May, 1902. He was pleased to report that death had passed by the jurisdiction, and that within the confines of the latter all was peace.

He called a special Convocation of Grand Chapter to dedicate a new Chapter at Seymour in the preceding June.

He made ten visits, and found all in good condition.

He recommended that a resolution passed in 1900, which at present left action optional, be made mandatory thus:

"That a Chapter shall strike from the roll the name of any Companion who is not in good standing, and a member of a Lodge of Master Masons."

He devotes some space to the apparent lack of interest in Companions of the Chapters, and lays the blame on the officers:

"If they would see to it that all who come to the meetings were made welcome, and a little notice taken of them, and would themselves be prompt in their attendance, get to business at the hour called by the by-laws, and when there is work to be done do it in a prompt and business-like manner, and not let it drag along until the latest hour. Not in any spread-eagleism, as that would be out of place in our beautiful and impressive ceremony, but in a way that would reach the heart of the listener. But when the officers are lax in their attendance, as I have had to listen to the excuse a great many times, that some of our regular officers were absent owing to some musicale or some church fair, that they could not be present. It seems to me it is too important a matter—an office in a Chapter—to throw it lightly aside for every little thing that comes along, and any member who looks at it in that light and only accepts it for the honor that is in it, should leave it to some one who will take a deeper interest in the institution."
Grand Chapter appropriated the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250) to the Masonic Charity Foundation for the expenses of the Masonic Home, and one hundred dollars was added to the salary of the Grand Secretary.

Companion Barlow, one of the veterans of the Guild, furnishes his twenty-fifth annual report on Correspondence, embracing forty-nine jurisdictions. It is replete with interest and information.

Under North Carolina, he has this to say on the 'striking from the roll' question:

"We think Companions do not fully realize what striking from the roll means. It severs membership with the Chapter, and restoration means affiliation which requires a clear ballot. We believe the refusal to pay dues when able is a crime, and his final notice should be in the form of a charge giving him an opportunity to be heard in his defence. If wilful refusal, it merits punishment—not expulsion, but suspension, which can be terminated at any time by a two-thirds vote."

He gives a page of fraternal review to Canada for 1901. Closing, he says:

"From the proceedings before us we find that to Royal Craft the past year has been one of uninterrupted peace and harmony, and the increase of members more than any previous year. It is also a gratifying fact that the cases of discipline, and the number of grievances brought before the Grand Convocations has been less than in almost any year of our history, and we have good reason to believe that the standard of work and qualifications for membership has been raised, and we trust the day is not far distant when the name Freemason will be synonymous with pure and lofty manhood."

Edgar W. Latham, Suffield, Grand High Priest.
James McCormick, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

Delaware

Chapters .. 4. Members .. 745.

By reason of the prevailing "Harmony, Friendship and Brotherly Love," Companion Joseph Row, the M. E. Grand High Priest, had very little to say to the Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation, which assembled at Wilmington, on the 15th January, 1902. "The man," said
he, "who is dominated by the spirit of love is like the magnet to fragments of steel; his thoughts are deep and pure; his words are like the music of a stream."

His thoughts were no doubt as described, but he let few of them escape into the musical stream.

By the Treasurer’s statement, the receipts about met the outlay, with $1.49 to the good.

Most of the committees reported having nothing to do, and there was little for Grand Chapter to transact but elect and install.

The cream of the volume, like the lady’s postscript, is to be found at the end. A dainty report on Correspondence is furnished by Companion V. V. Harrison, and might have been lengthier, but, like ourselves, he finds new material scarce, and then, too, he is handicapped by "controlling influences."

Under Connecticut he says of the Past Master:

"General Grand could take the initiative and recommend its removal. As we have stated many times, we do not see, nor can we be convinced, that anyone has a right to it, except the W. M. of a Symbolic Lodge, and on him and him only should it be conferred."

His review of Canada is concise. He appears to favor our system of district superintendence.

The furnishing of bonds by secretaries makes him weary, yet he gives it the right name. He says, under Indiana:

"This 'bonding business' is now, always has been, and always will be obnoxious to us, from a Masonic standpoint; it should never be necessary for a Mason to bond for the faithful performance of duty, but alas for poor weak human nature, we suppose that it is necessary."

He touches the P. M. question again in reviewing Mississippi:

"He agrees with us that Canada did a wise thing in eliminating the P. M. Degree. General Grand came very near doing so, there is little left but the shell; they may as well have finished the job and let the Grand Lodges take charge of and foster it for the benefit of the Masters-elect of Lodges to whom of right it belongs, and to no others."
To the Vermont reviewer, who had remarked: "If the emasculation of the Degree by the General Grand has not practically divorced it from anything and every-thing under the heavens, we are mistaken," he rejoined:

"You are right, Companion; it is only a shadowy thing of the past as far as it relates to the Capitular system."

All the officers of Grand Chapter are this year located in Wilmington. Then the old title of "Grand Chapter of Wilmington" was not misplaced.

J. Paul Lukens, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.
Jas. H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

District of Columbia

Chapters . . 11. Members . . 2,702.

The consideration of a communication relative to a proposed Masonic Fair and Exposition, and exemplifica-tion of the Capitular Degree, were the object of a special Convocation of Grand Chapter on 17th May, 1901, at which the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Grand Chapter heartily commends the action of the Board of Managers of the Masonic Temple Association of the Dis-trict of Columbia in proposing a fair and exposition to be held in the spring of 1902, for the purpose of raising funds to complete payment for the site purchased, and urges the constituent Chapters to take an active part in making the fair a success."

The Thirty-third Annual was held in Washington, on the 11th December following, when M. E. Companion Robert Armour, Grand High Priest, observed in his opening sentences of welcome:

"The perfect harmony prevailing when I assumed the office of Grand High Priest has continued without interruption."

Reference was made in last report to the serious ill-ness of the veteran Companion, William Reynolds Single-ton, the gifted Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee. His death on 23rd February, 1901, was an announcement that brought sorrow to many:

"His interest in every branch of our fraternal system was undivided, and in all he manifested unremitting zeal and activity. For many years did he serve this Grand Chapter as Chairman of
the Committee on Correspondence, bringing to that position the best efforts of ripe scholarship and thorough knowledge of the customs and usages of our Order. Notwithstanding a long and busy life, he was active physically and mentally to a degree that is unusual in one of his years. His genial disposition and earnest desire to be helpful to his fellow-men endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. Wherever he could aid a Brother in any undertaking, no effort was left untried. Pure in character, unassuming in manner, and happy in heart, his life brought sunshine to those about him.

With pride the Grand High Priest referred to the growth and standing of the Chapters in the jurisdiction, all of which he visited:

"The financial condition of the Chapters is also most satisfactory. On October 31, 1900, the aggregate balance of the eleven Chapters was $9,870.16. That balance has now grown to $10,698.48, an increase over last year of $828.32, in addition to which several thousand dollars have been invested by the Chapters, increasing their assets to that extent."

A very healthy showing, but it appears that it was somewhat at the expense of the Grand Body, which he thought should share in the prosperity.

"It is to be noted, however, that while success, financial and otherwise, has attended the constituent bodies in great measure, the assets of the Grand Chapter in the last five years have decreased from $5,547.61 in 1896 to $4,432.42, showing an expenditure annually in excess of income of about $225—not a healthy condition, certainly, if due to extravagance."

He recommended that the tax on exaltations be raised to $3, remarking that formerly it was as high as $5. Subsequently an amendment to the Constitution, embodying the recommendation, was submitted for the consideration of Grand Chapter next year.

The Committee on Grievances announced that no case of any kind had been submitted for its consideration.

The Committee on Work recommended that the calling of special Convocations for the exemplification of the Capitular Degrees be discontinued, as their objects and purposes "have been practically defeated by the failure of a majority of the officers of the constituent Chapters to attend and witness the rendition of the work." The recommendation was agreed to.
The Committee on Jurisprudence saw no reason to interfere with the standing resolution prohibiting the use of substitutes.

It was decided to change the date of the Annual Convocation from December to February.

The salary of the Grand Lecturer was increased by fifty dollars.

Fifty dollars was appropriated for the Singleton monument fund.

Companion A. W. Johnston again takes up the pen laid down by the late Companion Singleton. Of him he writes:

“Among his co-workers in moulding Masonic thought and opinion, he will be sensibly missed. To Masonry in this jurisdiction his demise is the irreparable loss that the death of the father is to the family. Ere the flowers bloomed over his grave, William R. Singleton Lodge, No. 30, sprang into existence, to be his perpetual monument, more enduring than the shaft of marble or tablet of bronze that his brethren will erect over his mortal remains.”

To Canada he gives two pages of his attention, quoting largely from the writer, of whom he kindly says:

“"There is so much that is interesting and instructive in Companion Bennett’s report that it is with reluctance we lay it down."

To our remark on the mouth-to-ear method of acquiring the ritual, he says:

“"But still, Companion, is not a slightly imperfect ritual preferable to the danger of having cowans and eavesdroppers learning our valuable secrets? In this jurisdiction it is the duty of our most capable Grand Visitor and Lecturer, as it is his delight, to see and hear the work rendered faithfully."

We can imagine the "delight" of the "most capable" Grand Lecturer, if his duties took him to this jurisdiction of magnificent distances, and he was called upon to "see and hear" at one meeting to the accompaniment of the Chaudiere's "hoarse roar" and the next away through the vast territory intervening between that and the prairies of Manitoba and the Northwest, and thence through the Rockies to the province by the blue Pacific. Even a fifty dollar increase in his salary, we fear, would fail to enhance his "delight."
We like this comment on the pamphlet sent out by England, purporting to be a transcript of the proceedings of the Convocations in the Motherland:

"With much detail the financial affairs are set forth, and they don't seem to care a rap about the burning questions that agitate us on this side of the pond. If they have a choice between a wooden-headed man and a wooden-legged man, nowhere do they manifest it. If they have any greater prejudice against publicans than they have against other sinners, they shrink from unbosoming themselves to the Capitular world. If they are unwilling that a Companion shall cut loose from the bodies through which he passed from the profane state to the magnificent heights of the Royal Craft, they conceal the fact. If they prefer no R. A. Degrees to R. A. Degrees by the use of substitutes, we will never know it. We only know that certain most illustrious Companions with magnificent titles keep ward and watch over Capitular interests in the 'tight little isle,' and that they do this business in the way they have always done it."

In a jurisdiction that frowns on the use of substitutes, it is refreshing to read the following, under Maine:

"While substitutes are not necessary in large cities, where the practice is, as here, to borrow or lend a M. E. M. to complete a team, in small places and where Chapters are widely separated and do little work, it certainly conduces to the welfare of the Chapter to permit them. It can never be justice to keep a candidate waiting for weeks, months, or even years, until two others are ready."

It is a conscientious review throughout, and most instructive. The Companions of his Grand Chapter have contributed an acquisition to the Guild in the person of the Grand Secretary, and we trust they will appreciate his labors.

Henry Standiford, Washington, Grand High Priest.
Arvine W. Johnston, Washington, Grand Secretary.

Florida

Chapters .. 20. Members .. 824.

There is little for the outside reviewer to cull from the Proceedings. All seems to be happy and serene, and the Companions assembled at the Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation at Jacksonville on the 13th May, 1902, congratulated one another upon the fact.
Grand High Priest A. M. Cushman was unable to be present on account of the recent death of his mother, but his address was presented by Past Grand High Priest Wright.

He made an heroic effort to resuscitate a Chapter bearing the ominous number "13," and succeeded in arousing a faint flicker of animation. It proved, however, but the spark before dissolution.

He had no question requiring official interpretation "propounded" to him during the year, and attributes the condition of affairs to the "high order of intelligence among the officers and Companions of the several Chapters."

The visiting officers, with one exception, did well. The G.H.P. expressed "very great regret" that he could not do likewise, but he sent out a couple of Companions to represent him, and is happy in the knowledge that they too did well.

Recognition of concurrent jurisdiction having been expressed by Alabama, the Grand Secretary reports thereon with pleasure, and the Jurisprudence Committee's report on same was adopted.

That this Grand Chapter recognizes concurrent jurisdiction with the Grand Chapter of Alabama over all material residing within five miles of the State line, provided there be no recognized Chapter of his own Grand Jurisdiction within ten miles of petitioner's residence."

The volume lacks a Correspondence report, although a committee for such is provided.

John R. Wetherell, DeLand, Grand High Priest.
Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

Georgia

Chapters .. 112. Members .. 3,865.

There is no hesitation in this jurisdiction in arresting the charter of a Chapter which fails to meet the financial demands of the parent body. The Grand High Priest took this summary action with no less than seven. When they pay up, of course, the charter is restored, but if the
interval is of extended duration the method sometimes betrays some inconveniences. One of the committees reports thus:

"We observe from the correspondence of the Grand Secretary, that upon the resuscitation or rehabilitation of Chapters which have lain dormant for a time, that some of the Companions who belonged to these Chapters before their misfortune befell them are lost sight of, and their names do not appear upon the rolls of the reinstated Chapters. The utmost diligence should be exercised in recovering, or at least, accounting for these lost Companions. The revived Chapter owes it to its own children; the history of the records of the Grand Chapter is incomplete without them."

Eight new Chapters were, however, born, and two revived, while the total membership had increased by over four hundred. Grand High Priest Henry Banks, who proved an active worker during his term, was, of course, correspondingly elated, and to the Eightieth Annual Convocation at Macon on the 30th April, 1902, he said:

"When pleasure walks with duty, time flies faster than the weaver's shuttle."

"It is with pleasure that I announce that the standard of Capitular Masonry has not been lowered the past year in this Grand Jurisdiction, but, if possible, it has been advanced to a higher plane. Looking upon her banner as it floats unfurled in the gentle breeze of this joyous springtime, I can with pardonable pride place it in the hands of my honored successor, and bid him shout to the Craft in Georgia, the signal of our Companion, the hero of Santiago, 'Clear for action! Close up and follow the flag!'"

He visited frequently, granted dispensations by the score, and delivered no fewer than sixteen decisions, all of which are more or less familiar.

He congratulated Grand Chapter on the healthy condition of the financial department, which, for the first time in years, enabled the committee in charge to proceed without "borrowing." That not a little of the credit for this happy condition is due to the G. H. P. is gathered from that committee's report:

"Other jurisdictions have their Banks, but there are none the equal of our own Henry Banks; for by his untiring energy, zeal and faithful services, assisted by other Grand Officers, he has pulled this Grand Chapter out of debt; this being the first time in six years that we have been able to carry on the affairs of the Grand Chapter without borrowing money. After all expenses of this Grand Convocation have been paid, instead of going to the banks
for a loan, we have by the business judgment of Henry Banks, ample funds to pay next year’s expenses, and at the opening of the next Annual Convocation we will have about $1,100 in bank.

"In closing our report we must commend the business methods of Grand High Priest Banks, in doing so much work at so little expense to this Grand Body; he only using $142.24 out of an appropriation of $250."

Referring to the "Masonic Home" project, he remarks: "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick," but the ray of hope encourages him, and he still can see somewhere in the future "this grandest benevolence."

Representatives were exchanged with Scotland, and in referring to the matter he urges the attendance of Companions holding commissions or to make known the cause of absence.

He is not satisfied with Georgia’s ritual, and recommends a uniform work. The creation of the General Grand, he could not speak of because his applications therefor had failed to elicit a response.

The "ten dollar" minimum finds in him an advocate:

"At the last Convocation of this Grand Chapter there were 109 Chapters with a total membership of 3,450. There are 17,394 Master Masons in Georgia who should receive more light in Masonry. I am not in favor of cheap Masonry, but when a Brother has been brought to light in the Third Degree, he should have the privilege of receiving all the light in Masonry at the minimum cost. It costs more in some Chapters than in others to give this light. I believe that if this Grand Chapter will permit new Chapters to receive as many as 25 candidates at a membership fee of ten dollars Capitular Masonry in Georgia will flourish as it never has."

The committee, however, did not agree with him, as the regulations of the General Grand Chapter were adverse.

Disapproval was also expressed with his recommendation that Master Masons might petition for new Chapters.

The committee, however, approved his proposal for concurrent jurisdiction with contiguous States for Masons living not more than five miles from the border, and the nearest Chapter being over ten miles from their homes.
The Grand High Priest closed an admirable address with a dissertation on "The Book of the Law."

A worthy meed of justice was done to the memory of the late Companion Rev. W. S. Ramsay, who up to the time of his lamented death was Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee.

Companion E. J. Fuller submitted the following resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote and ordered printed in the Proceedings:

Dublin, Ga., April 15, A.D. 1902, A.I. 2432.

Whereas, Our late Companion, Rev. W. S. Ramsay, late County School Commissioner of Laurens County, was charged with being short in his accounts by the Board of Education of Laurens County; and

Whereas, A Board of Arbitrators, chosen by the said Board and the representatives of Companion Ramsay's estate, after a careful and impartial investigation of the books and papers in his office, have found that no shortage did exist, and have also completely exonerated him of any charge whatever of misappropriating any funds in his hands;

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Grand Chapter and each Subordinate Chapter in Georgia be notified of Companion Ramsay's full and complete vindication; that this resolution be placed on the minutes of this Chapter, and a copy of same sent Companion Ramsay's family.

Adopted by Harmony Chapter, No. 56, Royal Arch Masons, at regular Convocation, April 22, A.D. 1902.

A committee of three was appointed to confer with a similar committee from the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters on the following resolution emanating from the latter body:

"Whereas, It is desirable to increase our membership by all lawful means, so that Blue Lodge Masons and Royal Arch Masons may receive all the Masonic light which was originally diffused in the Blue Lodges, before the organization of Chapters and Councils, whereby the original Blue Lodge Masonic work has in that body been divided among the other bodies,

And whereas, There should be no sort of conflict between any of these bodies, and they should all work together for the common purpose of doing all the good they can.

And whereas, The membership of the Subordinate Councils would be largely increased, by making the Council Degrees a necessary prerequisite to the Chapter Degrees or by the Council not making the Chapter Degrees a prerequisite to the Council Degrees, which could easily be done by a slight change in our ritual;

Now therefore, be it Resolved, That the Thrice Illustrious
Grand Master appoint a committee, to consist of three, whose duty it should be to present this resolution to the Grand Chapter at its Grand Convocation to-morrow, and ask that it appoint a similar committee to confer with them, and see what can be done, if anything to bring about the much-desired end proposed, and that said committee report to our next Grand Assembly.'"

Companion Lambdin's 75-page report on Correspondence is interesting if concise, embracing, as it does, forty-six Grand Jurisdictions. One of those pages is given to Canada for 1902, and notes everything of value.

"Much time and attention is given to official visitations. Nearly every Chapter was thus looked after. Wherever this plan is adopted we see that good results in the form of increased interest and membership follow."

Robert L. Colding, Savannah, Grand High Priest.
W. A. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

Illinois

Chapters .. 185. Members .. 18,959.

Growing in strength and influence, this Grand Chapter's Proceedings are most interesting. The Fifty-third Annual Convocation was held, as usual, in the City of Chicago's lofty Masonic Temple, on the 30th October, 1902, and the printed record thereof was sent out by that most indefatigable of Grand Secretaries, Comp. Gil. W. Barnard, in an incredibly short period.

Companion Alfred A. Whipple was the acting M. E. Grand High Priest, death having summoned the elected ruler of the Royal Craft. M. E. Companion Charles H. Patton, two months after his installation as Grand High Priest.

The departed Companion, who died at his home at Mount Vernon, where he practised law for many years, worthily represented the Grand Chapter of Canada, and his occasional communications always breathed a most fraternal and kindly spirit.

"As a man, Freemason, Christian and citizen he had the confidence, respect and highest regard of all who knew him. In his untimely death the Royal Craft in general and this Grand Chapter
in particular has suffered a loss for which we can obtain compensation only in the precious heritage he has left to us of a noble example and the record of an honorable and unsullied life.''

The Acting Grand High Priest, in his address, said:

"At the request of the bereaved family we were present at the burial, and there, clothed as Royal Arch Masons, we bade our last farewell to him we loved and held in such high esteem."

Two dispensations for new Chapters were issued for Rossville and Gilman.

Under "'Decisions," he says: "In my opinion it is as important to become familiar with the laws governing your Chapter as it is to familiarize yourselves with the work of conferring Degrees." Nevertheless, he proceeds to give a couple of pages of decisions which might have been spared to the Proceedings if his opinion held good.

To a request for permission to confer the Mark Degree on an applicant who was minus a thumb on the right hand, but whose ambition it was "'to get his Degrees in both Chapter and Commandery,'" he replied as follows:

"'If on statement of the case in open Chapter, there was no objection, I think your Chapter would be justified in conferring the Degrees upon him. If objections were made, I think you should return the fee and petition and yield jurisdiction. The Grand High Priest has no authority to grant dispensation in this case.'"

A decided case of conflict 'twixt duty and inclination. In our humble opinion the above can hardly come under the category of decisions or rulings. If the G.H.P. could not, as such, grant a dispensation, neither should he have given expression to his thoughts. It was clearly impossible for the aspiring Brother who wanted to reach Knighthood to comply with the requirements of the Degree, and to our thinking no "'consenting'" Chapter should be given the power to admit such. However, we cannot all agree on those niceties, for it is observed that the Jurisprudence Committee endorsed the "'opinion.'"

Three Chapters were suspended "'from all Masonic functions'" for good and sufficient reasons, and their charters and property shipped to the Grand Secretary.

He explains the "'Temple of Fraternity'" project for the St. Louis Exposition or World's Fair:
It is the purpose of this organization to erect a building on the Exposition grounds, to be an adaptation of the famous Parthenon of Athens, the standard of Greek Architecture, not less than 200x300 feet in size, with broad porches surrounding it, and an immense interior court, with fountains, flowers, etc., in which each society co-operating will have separate and distinct headquarters and many conveniences in the way of free dispensary for the sick under a medical commission which is being organized, with branch postoffice, telephone service, check-room, etc.; in fact, the purpose is to have headquarters and conveniences for the entertainment of the Masons of the world who may attend the World's Fair."

Two cases of invasion of jurisdiction engaged his attention, and both were adjusted satisfactorily.

Kentucky's advances with reference to border reciprocity in the matter of jurisdiction were rejected by the Committee on Jurisprudence:

"In relation to the proposed concurrent jurisdiction along our lengthy State border, your committee does not believe that the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry would thereby be promoted, and do not recommend it for adoption."

A touching feature of the proceedings was the decision to present to the widow of the deceased Grand High Priest the distinguishing jewel usually given to the holder of that office on retirement. Mrs. Patton's acknowledgment of the gift was received in time to be incorporated in the record.


Past Grand High Priest Geo. W. Warvelle presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

"That this Grand Royal Arch Chapter does hereby declare that the Great Lights of Royal Arch Masonry, which are hereby ordered to be displayed in every Chapter in the obedience of this Grand Chapter, shall consist of the Holy Bible, Square, Compasses and Equilateral Triangle."

Five hundred dollars was the amount donated to the Masonic Orphans' Home.

In the matter of appropriations, the seductive "Temple of Fraternity" at St. Louis was passed by, as the
Grand Lodge had voted one thousand dollars towards the scheme, which was considered generous enough for Illinois.

The Committee on Chartered Chapters reported a net gain of 981.

Notwithstanding the large constituency, the Committee on Grievances reported perfect harmony.

Companion Geo. W. Warvelle, P.G.H.P., takes up the duties of Correspondence Chairman, which the worthy and well-beloved Companion John M. Pearson relinquished after seventeen years' service.

Companion Warvelle's exordium reveals his characteristic modesty, as the following extracts will demonstrate. They are reproduced because of the notoriety achieved by the Companion, not only in this particular field, but from the fact that he has recently come before Capitular circles as the author of well-written and instructive pamphlets dealing with the Royal Arch, notably "The Book of Law."

"Comp. Pearson prepared his reports after his own fashion, and we all know they were models of their kind. I could not imitate them if I wanted to, and I don't want to. Like our venerable Companion, I propose to strike out a line of my own."

"From my experience as a reporter for other bodies, I have reached certain conclusions respecting the relative worth and worthlessness of certain correspondence reports, the manner in which they should be compiled, and the field that they should cover. In some respects these conclusions do not coincide with those expressed by others, which is unfortunate—for the others."

"Upon many subjects I possess decided opinions of my own. To many of you this will not be news."

"I shall make some wide departures from old-established precedents, and possibly will tread in paths my predecessors have not known."

"I shall further venture to depart from another time-honored custom, and make my report to this Grand Chapter and not to my fellow-members of the gnu. I do this out of no disrespect for my illustrious congeners. Indeed, I esteem them all most highly, but, to my mind, there is something very incongruous, if not improper, in making these reports vehicles for all the amenities of country journalism. Call this one of my whims."

"I shall further address you in the first person, singular. My only excuse for this is that it is good English. However, call it another of my whims if this excuse shall not be found satisfactory."
I am aware that this is a glaring innovation; that from time immemorial correspondence reporters have been in the unpersonal "we," and, that to write naturally and unaffectedly is, by many, regarded as an offensive exhibition of egotism. The use of the "we" comes from conditions which do not at present exist."

"Here and there I have called a 'flower of fancy' from the parterres of my noble contemporaries, a few of which I found amidst the arid waste over which I have travelled. In like manner I have gathered a few 'pearls of thought.' These latter I offer with much diffidence. I am but a poor judge of gems. I have occasionally ventured an opinion of my own, but, being a new hand on the job, have refrained from overmuch advancing my own ideas until I shall have become better acquainted with my subject."

Having thus, as it were, stripped for the fray and made a few passes in the air just to show that he is an expert with the weapon, he receives his first "pink" right in his own Grand Chapter, and not from his "fellow-members of the Guild," to whom he is not addressing himself, and who are standing by, amused spectators of this daring "call down."

The reviewer, having disposed of his review, is not content to let it rest at that. There has been too much of the other fellow and not enough of "I." So he proceeds to give "this Grand Chapter" a little of Warvella, and does it to the extent of thirty pages or so, under the caption, "General Impressions." Two of these pages are devoted to a criticism of "titles of dignity," which we should like to give in full, but lack of space forbids:

"I notice that many Grand High Priests are prone to allude to the Deity as the 'Grand High Priest of the Universe,' 'Supreme Grand High Priest,' etc., and the annual addresses abound in this sort of highly erroneous metaphor. Now, this is a contradiction in terms, and among a body of gentlemen possessing the supposed erudition of Royal Arch Masons its continued employment is cause for comment."

"I cannot but feel that the tendency of this usage is not only to corrupt the language, but to lessen our' reverential awe for the Creator by associating Him with images whose attributes are feeble and human. Wherefore, I say, it behooveth those who have been invested with the sacerdotal office to cease making God in their own image."

He then deals with Masonic prefixes or "titles of dignity" as applied to the individual, and not to the office, which, he holds, is "a marked departure from the old and long established customs of the fraternity."
At some period, very soon after the revival, it became the custom to bestow a little of dignity upon the incumbant of a Masonic office. This grew out of the usages then, as now, prevailing in other departments of society. The practice became universal, and, until within very recent years, was observed in this and every other State in the Union. But someone, I don't who, discovered one day that we, and our unlearned ancestors as well, were all wrong in this matter of titles. That the titles of dignity did not belong to the incumbent of the office, but to the office; that a Grand High Priest was not Most Excellent, but his office was; that at best he was only a Companion discharging the duties of a constitutional office. When this new light broke in upon the clouded intellects of the reformers they at once proceeded to put their theories into practice by lopping off the somewhat pretentious titles of Grand and Past Grand Officers, and now, in many States, I find a Grand High Priest is no more, in point of dignity, than any other Companion.

"It will require no argument to show that such expressions as 'Worshipful,' 'Excellent,' 'Illustrious,' 'Potent,' etc., applied to mere official abstractions, are absurd, and even when we speak of the Ex. High Priest we invariably allude to an office filled by a living individual and not to an empty office, or, in other words, to an officer discharging the duties and performing the functions of an office."

Companion Warvelle is not at all diffident in furnishing abundant argument in support of the faith that is in him, but apparently it failed to appeal to the members of Grand Chapter, who adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Grand Royal Arch Chapter does not concur in the view expressed by the Committee on Correspondence with reference to titles of dignity as published on pages 53 and 54 of the report of Committee on Correspondence presented at this Annual Convocation."

In noting Canada for 1902, Companion Warvelle halts to remark on the "dignified title" of that body, viz., "Grand Chapter of Canada," which he takes to be, under present conditions, a misnomer, and which goes to show that even with his comprehensive knowledge, there remains something yet to learn.

The Grand Chapter of Canada did at one time embrace all Canada, but Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec have since started business on their own account. There is still sufficient territory left to warrant the title, for this Grand Body embraces in its jurisdiction all that country lying between the western borders of Quebec
and the Pacific Ocean, or, in other words, the provinces of Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories.

"Knowledge, a rude unprofitable mass,
The mere materials with which wisdom builds,
Till smoothed and squared, and fitted to its place,
Does but encumber whom it seems t'enrich."

Alfred A. Whipple, Quincy, Grand High Priest.
Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

Indiana

Chapters .. 101. Members .. 7,873.

"A year of prosperity for all the land; fields teeming with golden grain, orchards bending with blushing fruit, and the balls in the South land bursting with fleecy white faster than busy hands can pick them, while whirring wheels and humming spindles, with the trip of the hammer, make glad music all the day long. A year of peace and happiness, in which the members of the Royal Craft, with an abiding faith in the grand principles of our splendid Order, have grown in numbers and advanced in that knowledge of the work so essential to its progress."

Such were the opening words of Most Excellent Sim-<br>eon P. Gillett, Grand High Priest, to the Fifty-seventh Annual Convocation in Masonic Temple in the City of Indianapolis, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of October, 1902.

One gap is reported, that of former Grand Secretary William H. Smythe, who succumbed after "many months of intense suffering," on the 5th August last:

"But Death has laid his hand on other of our Companions, and the Grand Chapter of Indiana to-day records on its list of fraternal dead, the names of one hundred and forty-three Companions, on whose breasts were to be seen no jewels of the Royal Craft and from whose shoulders hung no regal robes or evidences of power and authority. What of them? Are they to be 'unwept, unhonored and unsung'? No, no! Who knows what splendid jewels were hidden in those unopened mines awaiting their time to be brought to the light? For 'tis true that

"In the still air music lies unheard,
In the rough marble beauty hides unseen.
To make the music and the beauty, needs
The Master's touch, the sculptor's chisel keen."
Four Chapters were constituted, and dispensations issued for two new ones.

He was asked, but declined, to authorize a reduction in the admission fee by a Chapter which claimed to be able to greatly increase its membership.

He reported a gain of 354, and suspensions N.P.D. fell off considerably, moreover "there is not a delinquent Chapter of Indiana.

The application of Kentucky for concurrent jurisdiction, "under the same restrictions as apply between Chapters in this State," was declined. the committee reporting:

"That the adoption of a similar resolution by this Grand Body is impracticable and undesirable for the reason that in our judgment such action is liable to promote discord and bickering, rather than the Masonic harmony which now prevails between us and all our sister jurisdictions."

Representatives of Canada, Kentucky and Maine "in eloquent words" presented the greetings of the Grand Jurisdictions they respectively represented to the Grand Chapter of Indiana.

It was resolved that a sufficient sum of money be appropriated to purchase jewels to cost not more than $35 dollars each, for such Past Grand High Priests as had not heretofore been so remembered and for future retiring Grand High Priests.

As a Simeon eloquently opened the record of proceedings, another of that ilk closes it. M. E. Companion Simeon S. Johnson again contributes the Correspondence report, and is a little more generous to Canada than on a previous occasion, but he still "'boils down.'

"Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence covering ninety-eight pages of the Proceedings, all readable and instructive. It is to be regretted that the good things written and said in these reports are read by so few of our Companions, mostly by the reviewers and the 'old fellows' of the 'Amen corner.' It is so in Indiana, and we fear more or less so in other jurisdictions."

Alvin G. Tillotson, Michigan City, Grand High Priest.

Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.
Indian Territory

Chapters . . 33. Members . . 1,248.

His little child being critically ill, Grand High Priest W. L. Eagleton was unable to be present and open the Thirteenth Annual Convocation, held at Oklahoma City, on the 8th April, 1902. There was a most creditable attendance, and all were shocked when shortly after the opening ceremony the following telegram was received and read:

"Pawnee, Okla. Ter., April 8.

"J. S. Marrow, Masonic Temple, Oklahoma City:

"The death angel has come and our home is in grief.

"W. L. Eagleton."

Needless to say, a fraternal and sympathetic response was immediately wired.

The address was read by the Acting Grand High Priest, and the opening sentences foreshadowed the blow that was about to fall:

"I know not whether the Giver of all life will call our baby girl to pass into the unknown beyond, or will permit her to remain for a longer time with us who have learned to love her so well. My prayer is that I may be able to truthfully say, 'Not my will, but Thine be done,' whatever may be the outcome."

During his year he rendered a number of decisions, and granted several dispensations.

He recommended a revision of the Constitution and By-laws, and urged upon his successor the duty of visitation.

The Grand Secretary reported that the Chapter returns showed a larger amount of work and a greater gain than in any previous year. One Chapter exalted 39, just doubling its membership. There was a net gain in the jurisdiction of 152.

The dues of Tyrian Chapter, No. 20, amounted to even $200. The Chapter has been very active: it is the home Chapter of the Grand High Priest. The Lodge, Chapter and Council at Pawnee are building a beautiful Masonic Hall, or Temple. Their financial resources are not large. On motion half the dues, or one hundred dollars, were cordially and unanimously remitted to Tyrian Chapter.
A movement at separation was started by a member of Guthrie Chapter, who submitted a memorial and resolution to the effect that Oklahoma Territory was now big enough to run a Grand Chapter of its own, and that Indian Territory should consent to the divorce and share up the funds pro rata.

The Jurisprudence Committee, to whom the matter was referred, promptly sat upon the suggestion. As Grand Chapter is to meet at Guthrie next year the probabilities for a revival of the question are rosy.

Grand Secretary Murrow had made a start on the Correspondence report, but his willing hand was suspended by a spasm of economy, which he thus justifies:

"'The income of the Grand Chapter last year was $1,450. The appropriations, including $500 donated to the Orphans' Home Fund of Indian Territory, was about $1,200. This left only a small sum in the treasury from last year's receipts. This year $500 should be donated to the Orphans' Home Fund in Oklahoma. This is just and right. Doubtless it will be done. Fifty dollars is entirely too small an allowance for preparing a respectable report on Correspondence. In the preparation of these reports it requires the careful reading and marking of from four to six thousand pages of printed matter, that is, the Proceedings of over fifty Grand Chapters, some of which contain three or four hundred pages. Besides this cost of preparation there is the cost of printing, which amounts to $100 or more. By cutting off the expense of the report on Correspondence this year the Grand Chapter can save $200 or more. I have thought this might better be saved, hence, have not completed the report.'"

This reasoning doubtless appealed to Grand Chapter, for the good Secretary's work did not materialize, because of the following resolution:

"That five hundred dollars ($500) be appropriated out of the Grand Chapter funds for the Orphan's Home in Oklahoma. Also that the report on Correspondence be not published.'"

Ira B. Kirkland, Muskogee, Grand High Priest.
Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

Iowa

Chapters . . 127.
Members . . 8,626.

To the Forty-ninth Annual Convocation, held at Cedar Rapids, on the 9th October, 1902, Grand High
Priest Thomas B. Lacey had a word to say in his introduction for those who labored in the past, and who, in too many cases, are remembered only as "among those present":

"What if some are, and others soon will be, relegated to the shelf,' and rank as 'has been;' they have labored in their day for the good of our organization, as we are now doing. Evidences of the 'good work, true work, and square work' performed by them is apparent to us all, and those who follow will honor and praise them for their efforts.

"The mysteries of the Royal Arch are ours; they have been transmitted to us in all their beauty and glory, through the zeal and energy of the worthy Companions who have preceded us, and let it be our aim to transmit them in equal beauty and glory to the generations which follow.'"

In a couple of instances advances were made towards the formation of new Chapters, but the applicants apparently could not make the showing necessary to insure their future stability, and their applications were discouraged.

Two Chapters were constituted, and one charter was restored.

Iowa's Representative near the Grand Chapter of New York resigned his commission because of his inability to attend the Convocations of his Grand Chapter. If all Representatives similarly situated would do likewise we know of one bailiwick wherein would be a few vacancies.

To a request for a dispensation to ballot out of time "because the hot weather was coming on," the G.H.P. politely declined.

In noting the apathy of certain Chapters which managed to pay the annual fees, but did no work, he cites one which held no Convocations for a period of nearly six years. A visit from himself and other Grand Officers effected a remarkable awakening.

A committee of five was appointed to prepare for a fit observance of the Grand Chapter's semi-centennial next year.
The proceedings throughout were harmonious, but nothing transpired to interest any but the Iowa Companions.

Past Grand High Priest William F. Cleveland takes up the pen laid down by the lamented Ercanbrack, and presents a review which at once stamps him as eminently fitted for the duty.

Under Canada, he notes the absence of Iowa's Representative. It is, we believe, his first offence, and will probably not occur again, except, as in this instance, he is called away on urgent business.

"'Peace and harmony prevail throughout the Masonic world, and Capitular Masonry is enjoying a period of unexampled prosperity.'"

Thus it is that from almost every jurisdiction comes the same delightful refrain, "peace and prosperity," leaving the captious reporter with nothing to grapple, yet—

"'Peace hath her victories
No less renowned than war.'"

I. P. Wilson, Burlington, Grand High Priest.
Alf. Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

Kansas

Chapters . . 80. Members . . 5,343.

Wichita was honored with the Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation, held on the 18th and 19th February, 1901, at which M. E. Companion Bestor G. Brown, Past Grand High Priest, was received, and saluted as General Grand Master of the First Veil, to which office he was elected at the preceding triennial Convocation of General Grand Chapter.

Grand High Priest Joseph W. Smith congratulated Grand Chapter on an era of "perfect peace."

Two Past Grand High Priests had gone over to the majority during the year. Companions Silas Elam Sheldon and Moses Sawin Adams, both of whom had also attained the rank of Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.
He reported the condition of the Royal Craft to be good. He issued a number of commissions and dispensations, revoked a charter by request, made no decisions, thought out a couple of recommendations, and visited one Chapter.

The Grand Secretary submitted an exhaustive and encouraging report. The position and status of the members of a defunct Chapter appealed to him, and suggested to the Jurisprudence Committee for its consideration the following:

"(1) That the membership of defunct Chapters be carried by the Grand Secretary on a separate roll as a part of the membership of this Grand Jurisdiction, under the title of 'Capitular Craft Membership at Large;' (2) that such members be required to pay arrears owing from them to defunct Chapters to the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Secretary be required to collect the same, for the use of the Grand Chapter; (3) that such members be required to pay to the Grand Secretary for the use of the Grand Chapter a stipulated annual per capita tax so long as they retain such membership; (4) that proper provisions be arranged for suspension from all the rights and privileges of Capitular Masonry for failure to pay such arrears, or per capita tax, after due notice; (5) that the issuance of a Grand Secretary's certificate as under present provisions will terminate such Capitular Craft membership at large.

"Such a law would go far toward saving to the Craft a large membership now utterly lost through neglect, besides settling conditions and saving some money for the Grand Chapter."

The committee did consider the recommendation, and favored it, and now the indefatigable Grand Secretary will have something to occupy his spare moments.

The Committee on Necrology paid an eloquent tribute to the late Queen Victoria:

"The measured footsteps of those who so lately bore to their last resting place the remains of a noble personage have scarcely ceased to reverberate, and yet the world has summed up its estimate and passed its judgment upon her character and life. The United States remembers that in its behalf she prevented an uncourteous demand which might have provoked a war. The world remembers that she was the staunch advocate ever and everywhere of peace, and while the United Kingdom over which she ruled laments her loss, they thank God for her life and her unavailing goodness.

"Victoria has finished her course, and accentuated its close by a final plea for 'Peace on earth and good-will to men,' which the world believes will be weighty and perchance effectual in preserv-
ing harmony among the nations. The world honors the ruler, but
gives its heartfelt reverence and regard to the queenly woman, who
was as well a womanly queen.'"

Grand Secretary Shaver presented a lengthy report
on Correspondence, which embraced the unfinished re-
view of the late Companion De Witt, in which appears
Canada for 1900. He is an ardent believer in dependent
membership.

Referring to the "railroading" of Admiral Schley
through Lodge, Chapter and Commandery within twenty
days, he rightly says:

"We are pleased to know that this distinguished American
citizen and officer is a Mason and Templar, but, frankly, we do not
like the manner of his making. A humble citizen, the peer in
worth and ability of the admiral, could not have obtained these
marked Masonic favors, and the Institution suffers when Masonic
dignity, custom and law are swept aside, and the lie is given to
the teaching that 'Masonry regards no man for his worldly wealth
or honors.'"
"It is not a matter of speculation, but an indubitable historical fact, that the Royal Arch Degree, in its influence upon Masonry in the earlier days of the eighteenth century, had more to do with the revival of Masonry at that time, and the propagation of the system, than any other Degree or piece of legislation in the history of Masonry.

"When Masonry passed from the operative to the speculative condition it was imperfect, and its ritual consisted of but one Degree. How this developed into three Degrees; how the Royal Arch Degree, attached to the Third Degree, was the cause of the separation of the Grand Lodge of England into two Grand Lodges, is too well known to every Masonic reader to require recital here. How this Degree developed what was known as 'The Grand Lodge of Ancients;,' how it was transplanted to America before any of the other so-called higher Degrees; how it influenced the erection of what may properly be called the American System of Masonry, is likewise too well known to require detailed comment here."

Grand Secretary Shaver, in his report, explains the tardiness of the printed proceedings:

"In a conference, held shortly after the last Annual Convocation, the M:. E:. Grand High Priest expressed the opinion that the completion and promulgation of the ritual was of more importance to our Capitular Craft than the prompt issuance of our Proceedings, and thereupon ordered your Grand Secretary to devote his time to the completion of the ritual work before attempting to finish the Correspondence Report."

The Mark, Past, and Most Excellent were exemplified on the evening of the first day, "with full paraphernalia and in elaborate and appropriate costume, recourse being had to the properties of Topeka Chapter, No. 5, and to new costumes furnished through the courtesy of the well-known regalia house," which gets a free ad. in consequence. The versatile Grand Secretary "presided at the organ, and furnished and directed the necessary instrumental and vocal music used during the exemplification."

The Grand Chapter of New Mexico was formally recognized.

Companion Shaver's second review of the jurisdictions is an admirable one, and if read by the Companions of Kansas, as it ought to be, must prove a most beneficial leaven. He includes Canada for 1901.

Edward W. Wellington, Ellsworth, Grand High Priest.
William M. Shaver, Topeka, Grand Secretary.
Surely there was no possibility that it might have been opened on any other.

M. E. Comp. Hal. T. Jefferson clothed his address in all the simplicity that characterized his illustrious name-sake. Like most of his colleagues, he congratulated the Companions upon a period of unbroken peace and activity, but, unlike them, defended his course in granting dispensations to ballot out of time:

"After a man has passed the scrutiny of the Lodge, and every member of the Chapter petitioned, has due notice of his application for Degrees and membership therein, I regard the dispensing with the usual twenty-eight days, a positive advantage—because, instead of a mere handful or bare quorum having notice, as is frequently the case at regular meetings, every Companion has information as to who it is that knocks at the door of the Chapter."

He very properly declined in two instances, "because application came too late to enable them to give the notice to members according to law, a very essential action precedent to balloting out of time."

He has little use for the Grand Representative system:

"They have no duty that I can see, to perform. Proceedings sent to our fifty Grand Representatives are rarely, if ever, appreciated to a degree sufficient to bring any acknowledgment, and some of the pamphlets are returned at our expenses marked 'not found.' In some cases the Grand Representatives do not attend the Grand Chapter at all, others but rarely, while it has been known that some have moved out of the jurisdiction 'near' which they represent some Grand Chapter."

A little difficulty with Tennessee in the matter of invasion of jurisdiction is in process of investigation and probable adjustment.

Under "decisions" is found the following:

"A curious case came to my knowledge. A Chapter Past Master, by mistake, was one of a team in the Royal Arch Degree,
but was stopped and my decision asked. I decided that he might be ‘healed’ in the Most Excellent Master’s Degree and its features explained to him. Then he might continue with the Royal Arch Degree, holding this, under the circumstances, to be analogous to Section 40, Article 3, Constitution General Grand Chapter.”

Curious, indeed! The Chapter where such a rank exhibition of carelessness was displayed should be made to remember the occasion.

The Grand Secretary, in reporting upon the distribution and location of rituals, says:

“My predecessor kept no account of rituals delivered to Chapters or others so far as I have been able to discover.”

Then he shows that of the first edition 118 were unaccounted for, but the second and third were within sight, and closes:

“Rituals in the hands of dead Chapters have ‘gone where the woodbine twineth.’”

The above reading will give a pain to some readers who regard the issue of such aids as an abomination.

The Jurisprudence Committee were not of one mind with the Grand High Priest on the Grand Representative system, and in the report told him so:

“In regard to Grand Representatives, we differ with the Grand High Priest, who regards them as superfluous and of no practical benefit. Members of this committee have regarded with disfavor the action of other Masonic Bodies in dispensing with them. Such courtesies between Grand Bodies cost little, and form a bond of fraternal union which is in accordance with the true and righteous purposes of Freemasonry. When disputes arise, as they sometimes do, it is advisable to have an Ambassador present at the foreign court to represent our interests. We, therefore, recommend that the system of Grand Representatives, as now constituted, be continued.”

M. E. Comp. Staton’s Correspondence report is, as usual, the appendix to the volume, and is as interesting and comprehensive as of yore.

He thus explains, under Canada for 1891, the “mileage and per diem” as practised in Kentucky:

“Grand Chapter, in accordance with the provisions of its Constitution, levies $1 per head for each affiliated Royal Arch Mason on its roll of membership. If the 4 cents per mile and $3 per diem was not to be paid there would be no need for a full dollar to meet the expenses, and our good Companion could rest
assured that if mileage and per diem were cut off, the Chapters would hasten to change the Constitution so as to at least cut off an amount equal to that paid for mileage and per diem. That seems plain to this writer.'"

Which means, we presume, that the Chapters are taxed direct in order to ensure the attendance of their representatives. If this be so, then "all is forgiven."

Edward C. Sellers, Covington, Grand High Priest.
Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

Louisiana

Chapters . . 22. Members . . 1,352.

"Owing to unavoidable circumstances," the Grand High Priest was unable to prepare an address, and the Companions assembled at New Orleans on the 11th February, 1902, to transact the business of the Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation, were deprived of the expected feast of reason.

The Grand Secretary's report, however, announced in the plainest kind of prose that Louisiana was doing business at the old stand, in spite of such little omissions, and that there was a respectable gain in the membership.

An application for a new Chapter at Leesville was submitted, and it was left to the incoming G.H.P.

M. E. Companion Harrison Dingman, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, was announced in waiting. He was introduced, welcomed, received with the "Private Grand Honors," and escorted to a seat in the Grand East.

It was resolved, "That the Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter shall be held on the day following the first day's session of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana."

Companion Herman C. Duncan, the esteemed Grand Chaplain, again presented the report on Correspondence:

"A pile of pamphlets of some eight thousand pages to be read—a consciousness that they contain much matter upon which we have expressed ourselves quite fully, and a pressing obligation
that we have a review of them to write. Had we not best give o'er the task to another who does not labor under the disability that is upon us? But then, as we meditate thus, ere we begin the work the image of the genius of Masonry comes out before our vision, and we look upon her. There we behold much that is old and venerable, and valuable forsooth, because it is old and enduring, storm-tossed, yet as firm as the everlasting hills, and as sure a refuge to the wearied traveler toiling in his quest of truth. But that is far from all. She is verile also. Masonry in her contact with the world must touch points that are new in human philosophy, and hence there is and must be an evolution of truth. That which, while it has been wrapt up in her from the beginning of time, has heretofore been concealed. Its development now is new to the sons of light themselves. What then? Surely, we shall find, because the world has moved, new jewels of exceeding brilliancy in the crown of this wonderful creation. Let us then essay the task.'

Under Canada, the sapient Companion pungently expresses himself:

"The Grand Chapter declined to readmit, as had been proposed, the M. E. M. Degree into their work. Our Chapters must, therefore, be careful not to admit to our Lodges of M. E. Masters Canadian Companions who have not received it, nor affiliate them without healing. Otherwise we do not see that anything is necessary on our part. This action on the part of the Grand Chapter of Canada may cause us some inconvenience, but that is all. The greatest loss will be theirs."

Now, if the Companion had exercised as much caution in reading Canada's Proceedings as he ventures to enjoin upon his Companions, he would not have jumped to an erroneous conclusion. However, let that pass. It is with the patronizing phraseology of the above we desire to enter an objection.

In another portion of his review he makes it plain that he is conversant with the nature and applicability of the word "heal," and knows full well that it is used only in conjunction with those who have previously been regarded and classed as "clandestine." Will he dare to so class the Royal Arch Companions of Canada, even if they do not possess the Degree referred to?

General Grand Chapter regulations fraternally provide, and wisely, that this or other Degrees not held by a visiting Companion from a foreign jurisdiction may be communicated to him in order that he can qualify and enter the Chapter. They do not call it "healing," however, and as Companion Duncan's Grand Chapter has
given its fealty to the General Grand, we fail to see how it can afford to ignore its regulations.

The Companion, we fear, has set himself upon a lofty pinnacle, from which he is not disposed to "come down." In a former review we asked him why he had again turned the light of his countenance upon the Grand Mark Lodge of England, while Quebec, with which Louisiana enjoys friendly relations, was still protesting that Grand Body's invasion of its territory. Companion Duncan, however, from his exalted position, was gracious enough to "overlook" our temerity, and no reply has since been vouchsafed. Probably he was too busy with the lamented Drummond, who, in the course of a warm discussion anent certain Louisiana Chapters, may have used the term "healed."

"We are very thankful that Comp. Drummond's ethics are not ours, nor his Masonry ours," says Companion Duncan. Well, we entertain a fancy that there are many thousands of Craftsmen who are the better for Companion Drummond's Masonry, but then—

Thou hast no faults, or I no faults can spy;
Thou art all beauty, or all blindness I.

R. W. Allen, Franklin, Grand High Priest.
Richard Lambert, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

Maine

Chapters . . 56.
Members . . 6,715.

Canada's esteemed Representative, M. E. Companion Winfield S. Hinckley, for the second time, ruled over the affairs of Grand Chapter, and at the Seventy-sixth Annual Convocation, held in Portland, on the 7th May, 1901, presided as M. E. Grand High Priest.

His address was a concise epitome of his official acts, among which was the issue of a number of dispensations, one of which reads:

"To Rumford Chapter, at Rumford Falls, to receive and ballot on application of candidate at the stated Convocation in October, because the candidate, who had lately arrived home from British Columbia, and was soon to return to that country, desired very much to receive the Degrees before doing so."
He reported Grand Chapter prosperous and happy. Official visitations were frequent and beneficial.

The proceedings throughout were mainly of local interest.

M. E. Companion Drummond's report is the great feature of the volume, and every page contains something to chain the attention and afford instruction. Under Alabama, he says:

"In his review of England, he states that Chapters are attached to Lodges in that jurisdiction, and quotes it for the benefit of those who oppose the doctrine of dependent membership. His assumption that all the members of a Chapter must be members of the Lodge to which it is attached, we do not understand to be correct."

And he is right. The dependent membership doctrine is unknown in England, as are the jurisdiction and other features familiar on this side the Atlantic. A Master Mason in good standing may apply to a Chapter and never see the inside of the Lodge to which it is attached.

Canada for 1901 receives his consideration, and noting the work of the Grand Superintendents, says:

"In this connection we desire to say that the reports of the Grand Superintendents are given in full for all the seventeen districts, and they give an amount of information to the Grand Chapter which enables it to act very intelligently. We commend these reports to the examination of all similar officers.

"Each one gives a table with certain statistics, showing among other things the average attendance, and also the number of members twelve months in arrears. Considering the activity of the Chapters and the great interest taken, the number included in this last item somewhat surprises us."

He quotes liberally from the writer's report, which he is pleased to call "a splendid abstract," and commends E. Comp. Smith's historical address.

We have had a talk with Companion Barlow of Connecticut on the dependent membership question, who had said that the payment of dues was a modern necessity that our ancient brethren were unacquainted with, and argued that if a Companion was unable to pay into all the bodies he belonged to, he should give them up and stick to the Lodge, which is the foundation. Companion Drummond rejoins thus:
"This is the logical result of the doctrine of dependent membership, and Comp. Barlow is the first among its advocates, who has had the courage of his convictions sufficiently to avow it. Inasmuch as under the Landmarks of Masonry, a Mason has the right to be unaffiliated by giving up the benefits which the Lodge organization gives, and be entitled to all his other rights as a Mason, we utterly dissent from his doctrine. The fact that others have declined to make this avowal, shows that they really have such doubts of the correctness of their position that they shrink from following it to its results."

And again, under Oregon, replying to Companion Hodson:

"He is a very strong advocate of dependent membership, but he fails to notice one feature of it. He assumes that every Knight Templar is able to pay dues in all three bodies, Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, and while he has never said it, the logic of his position is that if a Brother cannot do all that, he should be obliged to give up the Commandery or the Chapter, or both, and be satisfied with membership in the Lodge. It is this feature of it that makes the system, as we think, utterly in violation of the free will part of Masonry."

Since the foregoing was written, the sad announcement was sent out to the Masonic world that Josiah H. Drummond was called to his reward. The end came suddenly and painlessly. Maine's sorrow is our sorrow, and Canada's fraternal heart goes out in sympathy to our sister jurisdiction in its great bereavement. Hard indeed will it be to fill the gap left by this distinguished and erudite Masonic historian—

"And the King said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?—2 Samuel 3, 38."

Frederick W. Plaisted, Augusta, Grand High Priest.
Stephen Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

Massachusetts

Chapters . . 76. Members . . 16,557.

The One Hundred and Third Annual Convocation was held on December 10th, 1901, in Boston, was preceded, as usual, by the Quarterly Convocations in March, June and September, and a special on October 15th. At the first the revised Constitution was presented, and a sum of two hundred dollars voted to aid a Chapter
burned out. Routine characterized the next two. The special was called to constitute Bancroft Chapter in the town of Ayer.

The Annual opened, as is customary, with an exemplification of the degrees, preceded over by the Grand Lecturers.

M. E. Comp. Warren B. Ellis, Grand High Priest, congratulated Grand Chapter on the prosperous condition of the Royal Craft:

"More than ever before is it sought for its own worth, and if it was the last step to which the novice might aspire it would still be recognized as worthy of the high position it now enjoys."

He was an indefatigable visitor, and appears to have accomplished good thereby.

The business before Grand Chapter did not reveal anything to interest the outsider.

The R. E. Grand Secretary, Companion J. Gilman Waite, is again the Correspondent, and presents a most readable report. To Canada for 1901 he gives over three pages, and quotes the reviewer on the distinction between the Past Master and Installed Master, without comment.

Under Colorado, he says, and with some justice:

"We have often held that 'The public have no right or part in our ceremonies,' but have never held that the rendering of a service which is accessible to anyone who may desire to see it was placing our esoteric work in jeopardy. In our judgment, it is not to be compared with the scribblers for the secular press, who are members of our Institution, or even with what is sometimes published in the so-called Masonic magazines.'"

Samuel F. Hubbard, Boston, Grand High Priest.
J. Gilman Waite, Boston, Grand Secretary.

**Michigan**

Chapters .. 136.
Members .. 14,410.

"The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan met in the Masonic Temple, in the City of Detroit, on Tuesday, the 21st day of January, A.D. 1902, and at high twelve, the Grand High Priest
called the members to order for the purpose of opening
the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chap-
ter."

Grand High Priest William F. Denfeld read his an-
annual address, in which he said: 'The numerical increase
in membership may not equal many of the preceding
years, but that there has been an increase in the more
essential elements, the attainment of purer lives and
more exalted characters, the qualities that tend to uplift
our fellow-men and afford strength and permanency to
our noble institution, should be the cherished hope of
every Royal Arch Mason.'

Past Grand High Priest William L. Webber, of Sagi-
naw, was among those called by death during the year.

He issued a dispensation for a new Chapter to be
located at Holland, Ottawa County.

Other dispensations he issued to Chapters for various
purposes, and some he denied. Among the latter to Chap-
ters whose regular Convocation fell on Christmas Eve
or following day, and who wished a special.

He was prolific with decisions, some of a new variety,
but for the greater part of the ancient and familiar
brand.

He reported the Masonic Home to be in "an excep-
tionally prosperous condition," a fact on which Michi-
gan is to be heartily congratulated. One thousand dol-
ars was appropriated to this worthy institution.

As an encouragement to the Grand High Priest to
visit, he suggested an appropriation of one hundred dol-
ars, instead of fifty, which was acted upon.

M. E. Companion Hugh McCurdy sent greetings, and
regretted his enforced absence.

Grand Secretary Conover reported "that every Chap-
ter has made returns, and that every dollar of dues has
been paid. The returns show that the Chapters have
done more work, and that the increase in membership in
the jurisdiction has been greater than for many years.'

The Grand Lecturer's report was also of an encour-
aging nature:
There has been a grand improvement, on the part of the Chapters, in requiring candidates to learn the lectures, and in my examinations of the records I have found very few but what are complying with this regulation."

It was pleasant to notice that the Correspondence Committee was instructed to prepare the usual review of other jurisdictions for publication in the printed Proceedings. Last year the abolition of the review was recommended.

Battle Creek and Saginaw unsuccessfully competed with Detroit for the next Annual Convocation.

A little over sixty pages comprises the committee's review of sister Grand Chapters, a welcome addition to the Proceedings, and which we hope to see continued and enlarged.

Charles L. Stevens, Ypsilanti, Grand High Priest.  
Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary.

**Minnesota**

Chapters . . 63.  
Members . . 5,606.

In the City of St. Paul, on the 14th October, 1902, the Forty-first Annual Convocation was called to order by Grand High Priest Brinsmaid, whose portrait is included in the printed Proceedings. He, like others, paints a rosy picture of the existing conditions in the jurisdiction, which only the great destroyer Death contributed to mar.

Companion Solon Armstrong, for nearly twenty-nine years the faithful and trusted Grand Treasurer, died at his home in Minneapolis, Jan. 25, 1902.

Past Grand High Priests W. J. Hahn, W. F. Dickenson and F. B. Folies, and Past Grand Chaplain William Lee, were also among those summoned.

Companions at Springfield organized, petitioned and received a dispensation for a new Chapter, which was named "McKinley."

He made but a limited number of visits, "not from lack of inclination, but of time."
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"In all my visits I endeavored to carry out the true object of an official visit, but found (and the past bears testimony) that the visits of the Grand High Priest are more of a social or ceremonial than of a business character.

"On every visit the appropriate speech was made, and every duty with distinction paid.

"While it is true, as my predecessor has said, that the visits of one clothed with power and authority is of benefit to a Chapter, and has a stimulating effect, it is also true that for purposes of inspection, they are of little value. But little opportunity is given for critical inspection, and the best side is always presented."

He, like many of his colleagues, deplores the levity practised in conferring the R. A. Degree, nevertheless—

"From reports in the hands of the Grand Secretary we find that interest in Capitular Masonry seems to be increasing. There are now on our rolls about 5,600 Royal Arch Masons. The Grand Lodge has about 18,000 Master Masons enrolled, so that we have nearly one in three, a percentage long maintained in this State."

He thus refers to the "pay roll," and suggests an improvement:

"At the present time our receipts barely keep pace with our appropriations. We pay for mileage largely in excess of cost of travel. I recommend that the standing resolution of 1872 be amended so that the mileage to be paid hereafter be reduced from ten cents to six cents a mile one way. Transportation is now cheaper than in the early days of the Grand Chapter, and I believe six cents a mile will more than cover actual expense of traveling at this time."

The Finance Committee, however, hung on to the "ten cents."

The Grand Secretary submitted a very interesting report, his thirteenth, in which he conclusively proved that the fateful number was in this case fraught with good omen for Grand Chapter.

The Grievances Committee reported the case of a Chapter that had not met nor paid dues for some years, and its High Priest ignored communications sent him. Summary action was recommended:

"Grand Secretary and Past Grand High Priest Montgomery escorted Comp. Nathan Kingsley to the altar and presented him as the General Grand Captain of the Host of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, one whom our Grand Chapter is proud to have in line for the highest office in the gift of the Royal Arch Masons of the United States. Comp. Kingsley was
received with the Grand Honors, conducted to the Grand East, and, by request of Grand High Priest Brinsmaid, proceeded to install the Grand Officers."

Grand Secretary Montgomery presents his "thirteenth" report on Correspondence, and nothing serious has happened, except perhaps a general verdict that, as usual, he has turned out "good work." To Canada for 1902 he gives a couple of pages of fraternal review.

Eben E. Corliss, Fergus Falls, Grand High Priest.
Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

**Mississippi**

Chapters .. 60. Members .. 2,206.

Three Chapters U.D. and five dormants warmed into activity, comprise a very respectable addition to the roll of Chapters, and Grand High Priest John S. Cobb could well congratulate the Companions attending the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation at Winona on the 26th February, 1902, upon the outlook.

The much-loved and venerable Grand Secretary, John Logan Power, was called to his rest during the year, and he appointed Companion Frederick Speed, P.G.H.P., to act until this Convocation.

To the Grand Lecturer he gives credit for much good work:

"By dint of the indomitable energy and untiring zeal of your Grand Lecturer, five practically dead, and many dormant Chapters are alive and active—almost every Chapter visited has been greatly strengthened and built up—as the returns will show. He cannot be too highly commended for he traveled in all kinds of weather, and often when physically unable to go."

Closing, he calls attention to the fact that a monument is to be erected over the grave of the lamented Power, and commends the movement to the attention of Grand Chapter:

"The signet ring, the symbol of authority transferred, on one chosen to execute the authority of another, I transfer to my successor with a feeling of inexpressible sadness and sorrow, for it is to me, and will be annually hereafter to those attaining the office of Grand High Priest, and to us all a tender token—a precious and hallowed memento of our big-hearted, great-souled ex-Grand Secretary."
New Chapters were organized and dispensations issued to Companions at Amory and Columbia. In the latter case the Grand Lecturer visited the place for the purpose of opening the new Chapter, but learned on his arrival that the Companion selected as the first High Priest had been the victim of burglars a few days previously, and among the trophies captured by thieves was the G.H.P.’s dispensation. The ceremony had to be indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on Capitular Law wrestled with the problem of mileage and per diem, arriving at the conclusion that former recommendations of committees to change the Constitution, which defines the rates, were acted upon in defiance of the time-honored provisions which lay down a certain procedure preliminary to such change.

It was decided to pay the Grand Lecturer $125 a month, for which—

"He shall be required to visit every Chapter and Council in this jurisdiction, and report monthly to said Grand Bodies the results of his visits; and where no Chapter or Council exists, and the conditions are favorable, that he use his best energies to establish Chapters and Councils in such territory."

"That he shall devote his entire time to the work, and that he shall especially give his attention to the instruction of the officers of the Chapters and Councils, and to encourage them to acquire accurate knowledge of the Secret Work."

Some seven Chapters of recent origin were given dormant numbers, a plan which has not been found to work satisfactorily in the past in other jurisdictions.

Companion P. M. Savery furnishes a sixty-page report on Correspondence, one of them being given to Canada for 1901.

George C. Myers, Holly Springs, Grand High Priest. Frederick Speed, Vicksburg, Grand Secretary.
Missouri Chapters . . 98. Members . . 7,939.

"I extend to you the official congratulation upon the prosperity, harmony and general good-feeling which has characterized the past year, and which now seems to pervade all parts of the jurisdiction. Our foreign relations have been most cordial, and the exchange of amity, in the appointment of representatives, pleasant."

Companion Thurston B. Duncan, Grand High Priest, thus opened his address to the Fifty-sixth Annual Convocation at Jefferson City on the 23rd April, 1902. And if the Companions were pleased at the announcement of domestic prosperity, how much additional pleasure must have been imparted by the tidings that foreign relations were amicable.

His official acts were few. He issued half a dozen dispensations to Chapters, which failed to elect officers. In each case but one the reason assigned for the lack of the quorum was the bitter cold weather, which was unprecedented, and he deemed this a good excuse, "as many Chapters are dependent upon aged members who, had they ventured out, would have endangered their lives."

One Chapter asked for permission to re-ballot on a rejected applicant, and another to receive and ballot on same occasion in the case of a student, who wished to be rushed through to the Commandery. He properly declined both.

One of his visitations was to a Chapter at Kansas City, where "a class" of one hundred and four received the M. E. M. Degree.

The Masonic Home report showed that there are now on the roster one hundred and thirty-three—eighty-one children and fifty-two old people.

Grand Secretary Mayo is again to the fore with an interesting review of the Grand Chapter Proceedings. Canada for 1901 appears among the "foreigners," and receives nearly three pages of his attention. He notes the elevation of Missouri's Representative to the Grand East.

John T. Ruffin, Clinton, Grand High Priest.

Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.
Montana

Chapters . . 15. Members . . 888.

Companion W. E. Chamberlain, whose biography informs his Companions, "is a thoroughbred Mason," and a jeweller of renown at Great Falls, presided over the Twelfth Annual Convocation, held at Helena on the 17th September, 1901.

That he learned something during his term is gathered from the relation of his visit to the General Grand at Cincinnati:

"I went there with a very exalted opinion of the dignity and high character of the General Grand Chapter, expecting it to conform minutely to the ritual it had promulgated and enforced upon Subordinate Chapters. To my surprise the General Grand Chapter was received by the Grand Chapter of Ohio, which opened its session under an entirely different ritual, they never having adopted the General Grand Chapter ritual. The excellent and enchanting music was rendered by a Catholic choir, the ladies and gentlemen of which came and went at pleasure during the session of the General Grand Chapter.

"The business of the Convocation was mostly of a routine character, occupying three days, all of which could have been done in Montana ozone in three hours. The only thing of importance transacted was the election of a General Grand Master of the First Vail. If that individual attends nine sessions of the General Grand Chapter, at the end of twenty-seven years he will have earned all the honors of that exalted position."

He made a number of visitations, and the Companions appear to have treated him with marked hospitality.

Announcement is made that he arranged for the exemplification of the R. A. Degree:

"At my request the Grand Principal Sojourner has prepared a lecture, which is to be illustrated by stereopticon views. This lecture includes all of the essentials of our adopted ritual, with some additional historical lines. It is so arranged that you can use 75 slides, or abbreviate to 20 slides."

On the sliding scale principle, we presume. The introduction of a two horsepower graphophone too, would save the wind of the lecturer. What is the use of modern invention if we don't utilize it? The wealth of up-to-date ideas has not yet been sufficiently drawn upon. The Royal Arch of fifty years ago must have been a poor affair, and our dead and gone Companions of those days
thought they could do the work, too. Well, well, if they could only have peeped into the future! From 20 slides to 75 slides! Just think of it!

Grand Secretary Hedges, whom, we were sorry to see, had been laid up with rheumatism for a lengthy period, presented a very encouraging report.

His review of sister Grand Chapters is, as usual, all original, and compels perusal.

Under Canada, he faithfully travelled from cover to cover. At the outset he explains the Grand First Principal’s title, grasping the situation thus:

"For our Companions at home we would state that this Z. does not stand for Zebra, but Zerubbabel, who was of kingly lineage, and is thought better adapted to occupy the throne than Joshua, the High Priest."

"Companion Bennett, like ourselves, combines the accomplishments of Secretary and Correspondent. In the latter capacity he gives most of the jurisdictions a good showing, with many savory extracts, but Montana, for some unknown cause, is passed in silence. We may yet have to have recourse to a Grand Representative. We will wait and see if he will do better next year."

We trust, by this time, he has acknowledged we did our whole duty, even without a reminder from the Grand Rep., who we yet hope to honor at our Annual Convocations.

Geo. T. Slack, Fort Keogh, Grand High Priest.
Cornelius Hedges, Helena, Grand Secretary.

Nebraska

Chapters . . 53. Members . . 3,032.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Omaha, on Dec. 11th, 1901, John S. Harman, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Like other jurisdictions, Nebraska enjoyed an exceptionally prosperous year, the net gain being greater than any previous period since 1894, and a peculiarly gratifying feature was the remarkable number of restorations, which exceeded any year since the Grand Chapter’s organization.
Two new Chapters were applied for, but in neither case were they successful.

Applications for dispensations were very few, an indication to the G.H.P. that all was going well, but as elsewhere, promptitude was not a characteristic, for in closing he remarks: “Although under our new system there is less work for the Secretaries of the Subordinate Chapters to do, there has been more delay in receiving the reports this year than for a number of years past.”

The Grievance Committee had a case of violation of jurisdiction, and severely condemned the offending Chapter.

After the close of the session, the Companions accompanied Past Grand High Priest Lininger to the Lininger Art Gallery, and were entertained in a manner that delighted each and every one of them.

Companion Phelps, as usual, furnished the review of the Grand Chapters, and covered a large field. Canada for 1901 receiving generous mention.

Under Colorado, he takes issue with a statement that ours is “a distinctively secret society”:

“How could our Companion be so mistaken? Our institution is not distinctively a secret society. It is a society having a few secrets. The term is, in view of the distinctively secret societies known as such in the old world, hatched, many of them, in monarchies to plot against the government, one of reproach, misapplied, by our enemies, to Freemasonry. Our organizations, their places of meeting, their officers, our published declaration of our principles, the very traditions upon which the ceremonies of our Lodges and Chapters are founded, are open to and known by all students of our literature.’’

Jas. W. Maynard, Omaha, Grand High Priest.
Francis E. White, Plattsmouth, Grand Secretary.

Nevada

Chapters . . 7. Members . . 309.

William Sutherland, M. E. Grand High Priest, reported to the Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation at Carson City, on the 29th June, 1902, that Grand Chapter
recorded a slight gain during the year, and that the finances were in a condition to remove the necessity for levying an assessment at this session.

He had a quiet, peaceful year, and congratulated himself and the Companions on not being called upon to pronounce decisions.

Having in view a territory of magnificent distances, he recommended that the law as to jurisdiction be amended so as to convenience intending applicants who could travel fully one hundred miles more conveniently than fifty miles in another direction, and owing to business and social relations, be better known than by the nearest Chapter.

The recommendation may have had the sympathy of the committee to which it was referred, but it did not receive its endorsement.

The minimum fee for the Degrees was reduced from fifty to thirty dollars.

It was decided to include with the printed Proceedings the portraits of the Past Grand High Priests.

Companion A. D. Bird’s Correspondence report includes Canada for 1902. It is a concise review of the proceedings of sister jurisdictions.

Francis D. King, Reno, Grand High Priest.
Chauncy N. Noteware, Carson City, Grand Secretary.

New Hampshire

Chapters . . 25. Members . . 3,678.

The increase in membership for the year was just nine, but apparently the jurisdiction is not suffering for lack of interest.

Franklin A. Ramson, M. E. Grand High Priest, who presided for the second time, is apparently a "rusher." To the Eighty-third Annual Convocation held at Concord, on May 20th, 1902, he opened his address as follows:

"The great development of nature’s hidden wealth, the activity and amalgamation of different interests, the accumula-
tion of immense fortunes, the bursting forth from the bowels of the earth smouldering elements devouring God's people, their wealth and their all, are some of the mighty happenings as we enter this twentieth century.

"There seems to be no assurance to judge the future by the past; but be up and doing with the rush, and gather in, if possible; if not, fall by the wayside, and the consequences will soon determine one's fate. Thus, Companions, we are living in an eventful period, and time is so fast passing, and different interests need watching so closely, that we can hardly stop for a thought, and to consider our fraternal relations to each other."

Yet he had time to devote to Grand Chapter, and during his term made a number of beneficial visits. He was not disposed to call a special Convocation for Degree work, "on account of a depleted treasury."

An amendment to the Regulations was adopted, making the selection of a Mark imperative.

There was little else to engage the attention of the Companions at this session.

Companion Albert S. Wait reviewed the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and presented an interesting report.

He had Canada for 1902 under his eye, and in noticing our criticism of a law of the jurisdiction of Connecticut, that by the election of a candidate to the Degrees the Chapter gains perpetual jurisdiction over him, and that he can never receive the Degrees in any other Chapter without the consent of the Chapter first electing him, says:

"We believe the criticism well founded. We do not believe that the election of a candidate should give it jurisdiction over him. The same reason does not apply to an election as to the rejection of a candidate."

"Brother Bennett does not believe in the doctrine of dependent membership, and neither do we, but it has made its way in the United States, and for the present at least there is here an end of the argument."

Companion Wait had taken a position as to physical qualification in the Chapter, which the learned Drummond of Maine had combatted. He thus replies, and with his argument we are heartily in accord:

"In separating the Lodge from the Chapter, no Masonic principle has been abandoned. The Capitular Degrees remain pre-
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cisely the same in spirit and principle as when conferred in the Lodge. In assuming a separate and independent organization for the mere purposes of government, the Chapter had no right to abandon any principle before attachable to its Degrees, and in undertaking to do so it would place itself outside the pale of Masonry, and would have no longer right to recognition as a part of the Masonic Institution. We are hence constrained to think that in the matter of advancement to its Degrees the same principle applies respecting physical qualification as if still united in the same body. If there is not this continuity in the Degrees included in the Lodge and Chapter, forming one logical system, the Lodge Degrees are hopelessly incomplete, and the Degrees of the Chapter have no significance and no meaning, and ought to be repudiated by Masons for that reason. We regard them, on the contrary, as forming one general whole, its parts mutually related and interdependent upon each other, a united structure, its parts resting upon a common foundation, its pinnacle the outgrowth of its united parts and pointing to the same sublime results.

"Since writing the above, in reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of England, our attention has been recalled to the fact that there the Chapters have never become separated from the Lodges in outward organization, but are still attached to the Lodges, each Chapter being chartered as to be attached to a Lodge and to bear its name. It thus appears that in England, where Royal Arch Masonry took its rise, the premises of our Companion, on which he founds his argument, have no existence in fact."

John A. Lang, Frankin Falls, Grand High Priest.
Frank D. Woodbury, Concord, Grand Secretary.

**New Jersey**

Chapters .. 38. Members .. 3,739.

The Grand High Priests of Virginia and Delaware and other distinguished Craftsmen were visitors at the Forty-sixth Annual Convocation held at Trenton on the 14th May, 1902.

Wm. H. Grosscup, M. E. Grand High Priest, early in his address said:

"The past year has been fraught with great prosperity for this Grand Chapter; peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction; the fraternal bonds that bind us to our sister jurisdictions remain unbroken; the future seems laden with golden opportunities for the advancement of the Royal Craft, and all around us throughout our beloved country prosperity reigns supreme."

Death had made inroads during the year, and three chairs were draped; Deputy Grand High Priest Park and

No decisions were asked for during the year, but dispensations and waivers were numerous.

The visiting officers did their whole duty, and reported well of the Chapters:

"It being 'High Twelve,' the Grand Chapter was called to refreshment, and 'The Royal Arch Loving Cup of New Jersey' was passed, 'in renewal of Masonic friendship and perpetuation of loving memories.'"

The Committee on Constitution, to which was referred portions of the address of the Grand High Priest, reported, in the matters of "'Marks'":

"That the choosing and recording of Marks, while of undoubted utility to the Operative Masons of ancient times, is of but little practical value to Speculative Masons, except for adornment, and by general consent is not obligatory. It is not advisable to make innovations or changes in existing custom or usage in connection with this subject."

The business before Grand Chapter was mainly of local interest.

Companion Chas. Belcher prepared the report on Correspondence, which embraced fifty Grand Jurisdictions, and which should be appreciated by the Companions of New Jersey.

He records the presence or otherwise of the Grand Representative, and following the name of Canada's New Jersey representative, we find the word "'absent.'" Three pages he gives to us, and culls our "'introduction.'"

Nelson Y. Duncan, Somerville, Grand High Priest.
Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City, Grand Secretary.

New Mexico

Chapters . . 10.
Members . . 462.

This, the youngest Grand Chapter, is doing good work and growing. The Fourth Annual Convocation was held at Albuquerque, on the 23rd October, 1901, all the Chapters being represented.

Eugene Cosgrove, M. E. Grand High Priest, said:
A general review of the work in this Grand Chapter shows a slight increase, but not as much as could be desired. It is a matter of congratulation to note that the Chapters are in a healthy condition and the utmost harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction.

A page is devoted to the report of the Committee on Correspondence, in which, after noting the jurisdictions which had, or had not, accorded recognition, goes on to say:

"We have read all of the above Proceedings, but find nothing in them requiring notice here. No questions of any but local importance are under discussion, and we do not care enough for the honors of telling how little we know about Royal Arch Masonry to be willing to start any subjects for discussion."

The Committee on the G.H.P.'s address recommended that the Grand Secretary should receive a salary of one hundred dollars per annum, which that officer later gratefully declined.

On the recommendation to procure jewels and paraphernalia, the committee remarked:

"We feel that the time has not yet arrived when Grand Regalias are of vital importance. During the next few years we well know that the local Chapters will permit this Grand Chapter to use their regalia and jewels, and until our Charity Fund becomes larger this matter can be postponed."

"We realize that in our early youth it is imperative that we form the nucleus of a fund for emergence that may arise in the future, and thus, warned by the sad experience of other Masonic Bodies, avoid the unpleasant results of indiscreet and premature expenditure."

L. H. Chamberlain, Albuquerque, Grand High Priest.
Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque, Grand Secretary.

New York

Chapters .. 194.    Members .. 23,311.

Grand Chapter met at Albany in its One Hundred and Fifth Annual Convocation, on 4th and 5th February, 1902:

"The membership has increased, new Chapters have been constituted, and earnest and vigorous efforts have been put forth by the Companions throughout the jurisdiction for the promotion of the interests of Capitular Masonry, which promise an increased prosperity for the near future."
Cheering words at the outset of the address of J. Harris Balston, M. E. Grand High Priest:

"At the last Convocation of the Grand Chapter, a resolution was adopted, tendering to His Majesty King Edward VII., and the Royal Family of England, the sincere sympathy of its members for the great loss sustained in the death of mother and sovereign. This resolution was beautifully engrossed and elegantly bound in the form of an album, so that the testimonial was a very handsome contribution to the volume of correspondence that ensued in regard to the sad event of the death of Queen Victoria."

The testimonial was duly forwarded and acknowledgment of its receipt came from Grand Secretary Letchworth at London:

_Dear Sir and Excellent Companion:_

I have received the commands of the King to ask you to be so good as to convey to the members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, His Majesty's grateful thanks for their kind and fraternal expressions of sympathy with the King and other members of the Royal Family in their great sorrow on the occasion of the irreparable loss sustained by the death of her late Majesty, Queen Victoria.

I have the honor to remain with great respect,

Yours fraternally.

E. LETCHWORTH,

R. W. Brother:

CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,

Grand Secretary Grand Chapter of New York.

He did not record any decisions, which speaks well for the Empire State, yet he says:

"Many of the Companions in this large jurisdiction have never seen a Grand Officer; in fact, many Chapters have never had an official visit within their Tabernacles since they were constituted."

Comp. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain, presented the Grand Chapter a printed copy of an address delivered before the Grand Chapter in 1829, by Companion the Rev. Joseph Prentiss, A.M., then the Grand Chaplain.

A Chapter, in recommending the petition of a number of Companions, residing within its jurisdiction, praying for a dispensation to open and hold a Chapter, had given such recommendation conditioned upon the agreement of the petitioners to relinquish a part of the territory, which.
under the law as expressed in the Constitution, would be acquired by the new Chapter, in case of its organization, and raising the question whether such division of territory would be recognized by the Grand Chapter, in the grant of a charter.

The Jurisprudence Committee were agreed that such an agreement would be in contravention of the Constitution.

Comp. James B. Murray, Grand Chaplain, delivered his annual address, on the theme, "The Purpose of Masonry." Alas! it was fated to be his last.

There were no grievances and no appeals. Companion George J. Gardner, the veteran reviewer, again furnished the report on Correspondence. He gave to Canada for 1901 over three pages, and was highly complimentary. Concluding, he said:

"The writer, far beyond the Scripture allotment of 'three-score and ten,' has suffered a loss by death of a companion by whose side he had traveled life's journey for nearly sixty years. The solemn thoughts evolved by these melancholy circumstances may in a measure have pervaded this report and cast a sombre shade over our usually cheerful writings; we trust, however, not sufficient to lessen the interest in the result of our labors."

They were not to be separated long. Companion Gardner was shortly after laid beside his life's partner. Peace to his ashes.

Alfred A. Guthrie, Albany, Grand High Priest.
Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

**North Carolina**

Chapters 18. Members 853.

Winston was honored with the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation on the 10th June, 1902.

Grand High Priest Allen delivered a brief address, which contained little of interest to outsiders:

"I have made no official visitations, nor have I authorized any. I hope and trust that this custom may be revived at no distant day."

And the hope is echoed. Here is how he concludes:
"It was a happy moment for me when you seated me in this chair as Grand High Priest, but it will be a happier one when I again take my place on the floor."

The Grand Secretary reported a net gain of 56, and as business was increasing, asked for a typewriter, and got it. Lucky beggar.

The committee appointed at last Annual Convocation to take into consideration the advisability of holding the Annual Convocation in the city of Raleigh at a date immediately following the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, reported adversely thereto, and on motion the report was adopted.

Companion James Southgate presented his nineteenth report on Correspondence, and an excellent review it is. It included Canada for 1901:

"The reports of the Grand Superintendents show the value of their work in visiting and instructing the various Chapters in their several jurisdictions or territories, and must prove efficacious in keeping alive the fires along the entire line and thus prove of lasting benefit. These reports take up much space in the Proceedings, and are well worthy a perusal."

Referring to our review of North Carolina, he says:

"He quotes some of our remarks, especially on physical perfection and the recording of Marks. He differs with us on these points, as many do. We have never said that we ignore altogether the recording of Marks, but merely fail to see wherein they are useful in this day and time. Let those who wish to do so, record their Mark in the 'Lodge Book of Marks,' that future generations may look upon them as reminders that they have taken the Degree. We do not object to this, but to consider them to be an essential feature of the Degree, we say no."

John C. Drewry, Raleigh, Grand High Priest.
James C. Munds, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

North Dakota

Chapters . . 14.
Members . . 1,103.

Fred D. Aplin, elected M. E. Grand High Priest at the last Annual Convocation, removed from the State shortly after, and the duties devolved upon the Deputy,
Geo. H. Keyes, whose address to the Thirteenth Annual Convocation at Fargo on June 26th, 1902, was read by the Grand Secretary, owing to enforced absence by illness.

In his list of dispensations the following is noted:

"I have felt compelled to reject an application for a dispensation to receive and ballot upon a petition for the Degrees at a special Convocation of a Chapter, and also one for permission to confer the Royal Arch Degree on a class of two candidates. The reasons for refusal to do so must be obvious to all Royal Arch Masons."

The Deputy should have given his reasons, as we doubt if they are obvious to all Royal Arch Masons. A little light, however, is furnished by the committee:

"In conversation with the Acting Grand High Priest, we learn that his reason for refusing to grant a dispensation for using a 'substitute' was based on his belief that the General Grand Chapter had never sanctioned the practice. This impression being erroneous, we recommend that in cases where the interests of Capitular Masonry would appear to be furthered thereby, such dispensations be granted in the future."

A new Chapter was instituted at Carrington, with excellent prospects.

The Grand Secretary, who still seems busy with the "cards," says in his report:

"Peace and harmony seem to prevail in this Grand Jurisdiction, at least so far as any knowledge has come to my office, and there is nothing for the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to consider."

"Our growth in numbers during the past year has been encouraging, and, with the remarkable immigration to the State at the present time, doubtless our membership, as well as Subordinate Chapters, will be greatly increased."

N. D. is apparently looking up. In the near future we shall probably be having a report from the "Committee on Correspondence."

George H. Keyes, Ellendale, Grand High Priest.
Frank J. Thompson, Fargo, Grand Secretary.
Nova Scotia


In the city of Halifax, and on the 11th June, 1901, the Thirty-second Annual Convocation was opened in Ample Form by the M. E. Grand High Priest, A. G. McLean, who welcomed the Companions:

"I also bid you a hearty welcome to this Military City—the Gibraltar of our vast and fair Dominion—a city memorable as the scene of the departure of our citizen soldiers, to the far distant battle fields of South Africa, to engage in maintaining the honor and supremacy of our glorious flag, and in securing British freedom and justice to our oppressed fellow-subjects there. In this city, too, our returned heroes, after having made a name for themselves, and fame for our Dominion, were loyally and royally welcomed."

The G.H.P. was an active and energetic visitor.

"I would like to have been able to report a large increase. We have made some gains. Some Chapters have made good progress, and all have held their own. We have no reason to feel discouraged, although our progress has not been as satisfactory as we would wish during the last few years. All our Chapters are in a healthy and sound condition, financially and otherwise, and the prospects are promising."

There was little before Grand Chapter to occasion comment. The Grand High Priest, in his address, had said with reference to the report on Correspondence:

"I would most respectfully suggest that more space be allotted in our Proceedings to this excellent work. It is unreasonable to expect this committee to do justice to the Grand Chapters under review, or to themselves in the limited space at their disposal."

The report embraces a little over thirty pages. Companion W. B. Alley signs it as chairman, but the jurisdictions are apportioned out to others, who append the initials "C.," "D.," "N.," W., T.V.B.B., DeB., and McK. Thus there were eight engaged in the duty of review. Canada for 1900 fell under the eagle eye of Companion McK. We fear, however, that his review was undertaken at an inopportune moment. Here it is:

Chapters 96.
Membership 5,870.

The 42nd Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held in the City of Hamilton on the 24th of January, 1900. Sixty Chapters were represented. The M. Ex. the Grand Z. Companion W.
G. Reid, with his principals, presided. The address of the Grand Z.
is an excellent one, and deals with matters of interest to the juris-
diction of the Grand Chapter of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

The Reviewer gives an extended report of Nova Scotia when
ruled in this jurisdiction by Dr. Darrach, M. Ex, Grand High
Priest.

In his hurried inspection he locates the Forty-second
Annual Convocation at Hamilton, instead of at London,
and expresses "his feelings" admirably when he refers to "the juris-
diction of the Grand Chapter of Canada in
the Province of Ontario."

We do not know who Companion McK. may be, but
he will excuse us for hinting that a proper review of the
volume would have guarded him from making so palp-
able an error, and laying Nova Scotia open to the charge
of doing an injustice to her mother.

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is
To have a thankless child."

J. M. Owen, Annapolis, Grand High Priest.
D. H. Campbell, Halifax, Grand Secretary.

Ohio

Chapters .. 153. Members .. 17,187.

On the 25th September, 1901, the Eighty-fifth Annual
Convocation was opened in Memorial Hall, city of To-
ledo, the Grand Officers being escorted there by the
Knights of the local Commandery.

Within the year M. E. Comp. John Wilson Chamber-
lin, a Past Grand High Priest and the M. E. President
of its Order of Anointed High Priests, passed out of this
life and entered into a higher sphere of existence.

Dispensations for three new Chapters were issued,
and application for another was in hand. In another
case the G.H.P. refused the application, as the petition-
ers did not come up to the requirements.

His visitations numbered sixteen, and he appeared to
be impressed by their value:

"Within the year a few cases of grievance have occurred,
nearly all of which, however, have been happily settled. As the
publication of any such matters can usually serve no good purpose, their enumeration, history, and in a few cases voluminous correspondence in relation thereto, are omitted.’’

The reports of the several committees were voluminous, and interesting, doubtless, to the Ohio Companions.

The report of the Masonic Home, which has now 145 inmates, showed that it is receiving loyal support.

Companion S. Stacke r Williams, who is “still battling with paralysis” and other infirmities, furnished the report on Correspondence, which, under the circumstances, is an admirable review, with little comment. He gave to Canada for 1901 over three pages of selections.

1902

The city of Lima was honored with the Eighty-sixth Annual, which met in the new Masonic Temple there, on 24th Sept., 1902. The usual Templar escort was on hand, and a band of music livened up the procession.

Levi C. Goodale, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided, and opened his address thus:

‘‘It is a tender and a truthful word, that word ‘Companions;’ it hath no less significance than ‘Brethren’—it hath more. Brother may be estranged from brother, but the ‘Ich Sodi’—the ‘Man of my Choice’—is my companion.’’

He was prolific in decisions. A couple of pages of the proceedings are devoted to “a few of importance.”

Noting the lethargy in a few of the Chapters, he says:

‘‘It is to be regretted that there are to be found Companions, Masons, who will accept an office at the hands of their Companions and then allow their Chapters to drift into desuetude—men only to be heard from when the Grand Treasurer pays per diem and mileage for attending this Grand Body.

‘‘If any man work not, neither shall he eat.’

‘‘There is no reason in equity why representatives of live Chapters should pay per diem and mileage for the presence at the Grand Chapter of such men—men who at home do no good for Capitular Masonry.’’

He selected the word “Mortuary” to embellish his list of those departed, and paid a touching tribute to the memory of John Day Caldwell.
The Grand Secretary reported that there were now 157 Chapters, with a membership of 18,212, a net gain in the year of 1,025. A great showing truly.

The Jurisprudence Committee did not approve Kentucky's invitation for reciprocal jurisdiction on the dividing line.

Not a single item in the nature of grievance troubled the committee, which reported perfect harmony.

Again Companion S. Stacker Williams was enabled to compile and complete a report on Correspondence, notwithstanding that sore affliction hampered him. As before, it is mainly review.

Most sincerely do we hope for some alleviation to his great burden of suffering. He closes thus touchingly:

"We feel that, standing on the brink of the grave, that silent mystery between the known and the unknown, we have dropped from our feeble grasp the tools of our Craft, and with tearful eyes and yearning hearts we extend our hands to you, our well-beloved Companions, in greeting and farewell, assuring you that our best and latest efforts shall be for the upholding of the glorious principles to which we are pledged.

"And yet, Companions, it is not farewell forever,
Beyond the sunset glows the mornings' light,
And in that dawn the grief of parting never
Over eternal day shall cast the shades of night.''

Nelson Williams, Hamilton, Grand High Priest.
Edwin Hagenbuch, Urbana, Grand Secretary.

Oregon

Chapters .. 25. Members .. 1,628.

The printed proceedings for 1902 embraces no less than seven portraits of Past rulers of the Royal Craft, with their biographies, and possession of the volume should be sought by the Companions of Oregon in consequence.

It is likewise a record of what transpired at the Forty-second Annual Convocation, held at Portland, on the 9th June, over which H. B. Thielson, M. E. Grand High Priest, ably presided.
Just as it is on Atlantic's shores, so too the golden west proclaims perfect peace. Thus the G.H.P. had little to record.

Remarking that he had not been called upon to render a single decision, he congratulates himself upon the fact, and recalls a unique resolution, which might, had he been referred to, have caused him some perturbation of spirit:

"At our last Annual Convocation a resolution was passed making the law of the Grand Lodge the law of the Grand Chapter, where no law of the Grand Chapter existed in conflict therewith. In studying pretty carefully the application of this new law, I have been unable to decide in my own mind, in many cases, where it would begin or end, or where the dividing line between the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter would be. Had I been called upon to decide these points, I should have been very honestly unable to render a decision, as many customs, quite at variance with the rules of the Grand Lodge, have fairly crystallized into Capitular law by the sanction of long observance. I consider it unwise to make it necessary for our High Priests to be compelled to look up the law of both Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge, and then to decide which one is to be followed, and strongly recommend the appointment of a committee to prepare a code of by-laws for the government of the Grand and Constituent Chapters of this jurisdiction."

He is not enamored of the methods employed in conferring the P.M. Degree, and urges a change.

For a new Chapter at Woodburn he issued a dispensation.

Companion Hodson's report on Correspondence is as entertaining as usual, and he gives to Canada for 1902 his close attention. He quotes our remarks to Companion Barlow, of Connecticut, on the dependent membership question, and comments thereon with the customary supporting pleas. While we are with him on the desirability of every Mason retaining his connection with the lodge, we are still of the opinion that it was never intended that he should be legislated into doing so. The perfect freedom which is enjoined at his initiation should not be violated later. Our objection is directed solely to the assault on a principle, and, to our mind, a fundamental principle. The Brother can only come in of his own free will, and Masonry requires a perfect freedom of inclination in every applicant for its mysteries. That
freedom of inclination should not be taken from him after his admission, no matter to what height his ambition may have brought him.

Brethren who achieve the distinction of Knighthood by the payment of fees and then desire to get out of the Lodge are dubbed by Companion Hodson "cold-hearted, white-livered sneaks," "sordid, stingy, selfish fellows." Yet he would cling to them. If they are as he describes them, we incline to the opinion that the Lodge would benefit by their absence.

The real truth is that the desire of these "upper crust" bodies to receive acquisitions is at the bottom of the evil. The young Mason, before he has had time to absorb the teachings of the Craft and realize their beauty and value, is "approached"—there is no use blinking the fact—and his mind is soon filled with the idea of becoming a "sword." He wants his identity as a Brother or Companion to be sunk in the greater honor of climbing to the dizzy altitude of a feather-tipped organization, which numbers "three hundred swords," and would like to make it four hundred. If the young Brother were given time to reflect, and a proper interval enforced between the Blue Lodge and the Chapter, and a longer period between the Chapter and the Commandery, the rushing process would cease, and we would have not only better Lodges and Chapters, but better Masons to support them.

But then the chapeau and the fez would suffer, and that, of course, would never do. Whence would come recruits for the drill corps and the escorts? Whence the ever growing "class" for the hot sands and the jamboree? Perish the thought.

"The man who seeketh one thing in life, and but one,
May hope to achieve it before life be done;
But he who seeks all things, wherever he goes,
Only reaps from the hopes which around him he sows,
A harvest of barren regrets."

W. A. Cleland, Portland, Grand High Priest.
Jas. F. Robinson, Eugene, Grand Secretary.
APPENDIX

Pennsylvania

Chapters . . 124. Members . . 19,261.

A portrait of Grand High Priest Edward B. Spencer and "picture of the interior of the chaste Corinthian Hall in Philadelphia's Masonic Temple" are preliminaries to the printed proceedings of the quarterly "communications" and the "'Annual Grand," held December 27, 1901.

The Grand High Priest congratulated Grand Chapter on peace, prosperity and harmony:

"There is, undoubtedly, an undercurrent of loyalty and devotion to the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, which in indicative of prosperity and progress. This encouraging feature exists within the Chapters, and is not the result of any outward influences. In the realm of nature, it is an admitted fact that silent internal forces are the most effective. Even the solid foundations of the earth are moved more by quiet upheavals than by convulsive shocks. So it is with Masonry, while only the routine work of each year comes under observation and criticism, there are activities, unseen and forceful, operating within the organizations, moulding their life and shaping their destinies."

On the question of charity, the G.H.P. observed that in England the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons has a large benevolent fund for annuities to aged Brethren and widows, as well as Education Grants; under the direction of a Board of Managers, and was inclined to believe that there is more of this organized practical work among Masons of the old country than in the Masonic bodies of the United States.

He paid a touching tribute to the memory of Companion James McCormick, Grand Captain of the Host, who died on the previous 4th July.

In three cases where Chapters had conferred degrees upon candidates without having received the Grand Secretary's approval, he declared the action "'null and void,'" and directed that the names of the newly admitted be stricken from the roll. Thus do the innocent suffer for the guilty.

He eulogized the District Deputy system, which he pronounced "'a grand success.'"
As the routine work was done at the quarterlies, there was little else to do at the Grand Annual except make the appointments of District Deputies and Committees.

In a circular of instructions to the former it is gathered that the Grand Chapter has jurisdiction over material alone, and a Brother may apply to any Chapter he chooses, but the Chapter nearest his residence must answer by ballot the question, "Is he fit for advancement?"

The task of reviewing is entrusted to five Companions, who do their work thoroughly. Past Grand High Priest Jacobs had Canada for 1901, with others. He regards our system of Chapter inspection with favor.

"Companion Bennett is firm and outspoken in his opposition to the use of Masonic Lodge rooms jointly with any other society, even though such society be a Chapter of the Eastern Star. We entirely agree with what he says under New Hampshire."

"Under Oregon he again returns to the Eastern Star, and what he says may have curious interest to our Pennsylvania Companions, who have as little acquaintance with the luminary mentioned as they have with the stars of the Southern Hemisphere."

"The reviewer devotes two pages and a half to replying to Companion Henderson's question, 'How does a Brother become a Royal Arch Mason who has never been elected and installed Worshipful Master of his Lodge?' What he says is interesting, if not entirely new, and, but for the length of the passage, we should like to quote it with some comments."

It is a pity that he did not favor us with those comments, for we are desirous of learning even where we hold a conviction. Companion Jacobs is evidently well read and well informed, and his contribution to the report interested us deeply.

Edward B. Spencer, Philadelphia, Grand High Priest.
Charles Cary, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

Quebec

Chapters . . 10. Members . . 644.

In the Chapter Hall of the Montreal Temple the Twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held on 28th January, 1902, with an encouraging attendance.
M. E. Companion Geo. O. Stanton opened with a reference to Grand Chapter having attained its twenty-fifth year:

"When we consider the progress made, our present position, the encouraging and hopeful outlook for the future, we have indeed much to be thankful for."

A reference to King Edward recalled the fact that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught resided in Montreal for some years as an officer in the Rifle Brigade, and who by virtue of his office as Grand Master is also Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England.

Feeling references were made to the deaths of the venerable Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, Col. J. H. Isaacson, and Ex. Comp. Alexander Murray, one of those who took an active part at the Convention of Delegates which formed Grand Chapter on the 12th December, 1876.

Tribute was also paid to the memory of M. E. Companion R. B. Hungerford, Past Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Grand Z. made a number of visitations, and was gratified with what he saw.

In two cases he issued dispensations to install as First Principal, Companions who had not served as W.M. of a Lodge.

"The increase of late is encouraging, but there are many Master Masons in our jurisdiction not yet in possession of all that Ancient Craft Masonry can give them, who should be led to the discovery of that of which every zealous Mason is in search. As was said by one of my predecessors: 'Each one of us has a duty to perform in this respect toward our uninformed Brethren.'"

The reports presented by the Grand Superintendents, the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer were replete with information and encouragement.

The Finance Committee recommended that the honorarium of the Grand Scribe E. be fixed at one hundred dollars ($100.00), and that notice of motion be given that, at the next Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the Constitution be amended, abolishing all fees now payable to that officer as heretofore, and that the above amount constitute his honorarium.
The Scribe E. of Golden Rule Chapter, having been found guilty of peculating the funds, his expulsion was recommended and carried out. He had attained the rank of "Right Excellent."

The following amendment to the Constitution was adopted:

"This Grand Chapter shall hold its Annual Convocation on the fourth Tuesday of the month of March, in the City of Montreal, or at such other place as may be selected at the previous Convocation."

This is another "break-away" from following Grand Lodge, and we trust it will prove as much a success as elsewhere.

For the purchase of collars and jewels, $125 was appropriated by resolution.

The quarter centennial was celebrated by a banquet, which was apparently a most enjoyable function. There were upwards of 200 Royal Arch Masons present.

"The chairman proposed "The Founders of Grand Chapter," and M. Ex. Comp. I. H. Stearns, who is the senior P.G.Z. of the Grand Chapter, in replying, said, that the splendid Convocation held during the day and the present gathering was a full warrant for the wisdom in establishing the Grand Chapter, which had always maintained the integrity of the Royal Craft, and was esteemed as the peer and equal of any Grand Chapter in the world."

"M. Ex. Comp. Will H. Whyte said it seemed only the other day that M. Ex. Comp. Stearns came to him and said, young man, you are wanted to assist in forming a Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec. Out of 32 who were present and assisted at the formation of the Grand Chapter 25 years ago, only seven were now on the roll."

"M. Ex. Comp. Nelson stated that he held the unique record of being the only one who had assisted at the formation of Grand Chapter that had been in office continuously from that time to this, and R. Ex. Comps. McLean, Lemessurier and Dunne replied, referring to the early days and its trials, and the prosperity of the present."

M. E. Companion E. T. D. Chambers still grasps the reportorial quill, and we trust he may long be spared to use it. Our prayer is actuated by no vain or selfish motive, as might be inferred from the following:

"We have no hesitation in declaring that to us the most
attractive part of the volume before us is the Report of Foreign Correspondence by R. E. Companion George J. Bennett, of Toronto, which is, in turn, witty, wise and critical.'

But he is always generous with Canada, and is blind to the infirmities of its reviewer. Four pages he gives to our 1901 proceedings. He says Grand Z. Reid "delivered a very scholarly and interesting address," and quotes from it freely. Closing, he says:

We congratulate our good friend and Companion, M. E. William Gibson, upon his election to the principal chair in Grand Chapter, and also upon his later appointment to the Dominion Senate. May he live long to enjoy his new honors.'

Geo. O. Stanton, Montreal, Grand Z.
Will H. Whyte, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

Rhode Island

Chapters .. 10.
Members .. 2,809.

The Chapters may be few, but the membership of a majority is as much as some Grand Chapters boast. The highest, No. 1, of Providence, has 1,261 members; the smallest is No. 9, at Portsmouth, owning 35 Companions.

Horace S. Richardson, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided over the One Hundred and Third Annual Convocation at Providence on March 12th, 1901.

He too led off with congratulations on Capitular prosperity. He visited eight out of the ten Chapters, he had no decisions to render, and his dispensations were few.

One of his pleasant duties was the presentation of jewels to Past Grand High Priests in their respective Chapters.

He had prepared a map defining the jurisdiction of each subordinate Chapter, an excellent preventive of future trouble.

Rev. Henry Rugg, P.G.H.P., and chairman of Correspondence, has abandoned his topical method, which made such interesting reading, and returned to the ordinary States in alphabetical order style, assumed by the generality of the Guild, but has not room enough for what he would like to contribute. He says of our report
for 1900 that it "covers a broad field of inquiry and review, and is interestingly spiced with timely comments and pleasant criticisms."

From his "conclusion" we cull the following:

"Believing that Royal Arch Masonry is valuable in itself, and that it tends to elucidate the mysteries of the Craft system—especially those of the Third Degree—what can we do better than to urge that it be estimated according to its deserving, and that it be maintained with an abiding enthusiasm? Its glory should be magnified and its interests watched over by a zealous membership, whose contention is that the Chapter intrinsically has worth—being more than a mere stepping-stone to some other organization—having in itself a grand mission to communicate light and wisdom to deserving Brethren, and to bind their hearts together in a noble and sweet fellowship."

1902

Fayette B. Bennett ruled over the Royal Craft, and presented to the One Hundred and Fourth Annual Convocation at Providence on the 11th March, 1902, a record of his doings for the year.

He visited all the Chapters, unannounced, with gratifying results:

"Harmony has prevailed. There have been no appeals, no grievances presented, and no decisions asked for."

The business of Grand Chapter was doubtless interesting to the Companions thereof, but to the outside Craft presented no feature worth recording here.

Companion Rugg again reviews the proceedings of sister jurisdictions, and had Canada for 1902 included. He notes the system of superintendence, and approves. We give his closing words:

"Just now there is need of frequent recurrence to the principles and ideas on which rests the structure of Freemasonry. There is a holiday type of Freemasonry much applauded. Freemasonry exists, as thus appreciated and set forth, for entertainment and material good. Over against this holiday type we should constantly set that other type which represents the moral quality of Freemasonry and its higher uses. Its chief mission is, not to amuse and entertain, but to instruct, uplift, and bless; so helping man to live at his best, following noble and true ideals as he goes forward in that path which shines brighter and brighter to perfect day."

John M. Nye, Phenix, Grand High Priest.
William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.
South Carolina

Chapters . . 20.  Members . . 710.

The city of Charleston was, as usual, selected for the Ninetieth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and on the 12th February, 1901, M. E. Companion John R. Bellinger, Grand High Priest, and Grand Representative of Canada, welcomed a goodly attendance of members and visitors.

He deplored the death of Past Grand High Priest Frank Turner Wilhite, who passed away at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore after a protracted illness:

"Companion Wilhite was a true Mason, and labored zealously for the good of the Craft. It was peculiarly appropriate that his life should end on the natal day of that Patron Saint of our Order, St. John the Evangelist."

He suggested that the law be changed so as to commission Grand Representatives during the pleasure of the Grand High Priest, subject to the provision that they shall be removed if they fail to attend two consecutive Grand Convocations, except for cause satisfactory to the Grand High Priest. This was subsequently crystallized into a resolution, which was adopted.

His visitations during the year were limited to two by reason of a calamity which befell him in the preceding May, and which utterly unroofed him for all matters of business. This was the death of a much beloved son, and Canada's sympathy even at this late hour is fraternally offered to her representative in his bereavement.

The Grand Secretary's report showed that the Chapters reported a net gain of 76.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to publish "certain lectures" at the expense of the Grand Chapter, and for the benefit of the subordinate Chapters.

Grand Secretary Barron furnished the Correspondence report, to which he appends an "explanation" altogether superfluous. The document is all that could be expected of it, and if his Companions are not satisfied, then they are indeed difficult to please. Referring to the Grand Z.'s address, under Canada, he says:
APPENDIX

"This Grand Officer alone made no less than thirty visits to Subordinate Chapters. But this is a jurisdiction where the good results of official visits are fully appreciated."

He quotes our objection to Alabama’s "ground floor" legislation in favor of clergymen, observing:

"And yet he says: 'There is no desire on our part to indulge in controversy or dispute on matters which fortunately do not affect us.'"

Overlooking the all-important fact that the legislation referred to affected not the jurisdiction, but the Craft at large, and in that sense must be of universal interest.

Under Connecticut, he says with regard to restricting the ballot at annual elections to those who are "clear on the books":

"From some points of view it may not be desirable; but we believe it will tend to keep the books square, at least once a year, and when that millennium comes the army of non-affiliates will grow beautifully less."

Not a few even of our own Chapters enact such a by-law, but while the object to be attained may be a good one so far as "squaring the books" is concerned, we doubt very much whether any Companion could be prevented from balloting. It would be an odd feature indeed to punish a member before trial and conviction.

A New Hampshire Chapter had asked permission to appear in Chapter clothing at a ball, which elicits from Companion Barron the following:

"We are an advocate of dancing and social enjoyment; but we think everything has its appropriate place. Imagine Mr. Joshua gathering up the skirts of garments that he may safely, if not gracefully, conduct Mrs. Haggai through the intricacies of the beautiful figures of the modern german. Or Mr. Zerubbabel handing his royal crown to a bystander, while he demonstrates to the younger generation gathered about him, how he used to 'cut the pigeon wing' in olden times."

John R. Bellinger, Bamberg, Grand High Priest.
Jacob T. Barron, Columbia, Grand Secretary.
South Dakota

Chapters . . 28. Members . . 1,723.

As elsewhere, an atmosphere of prosperity seems to have blessed this jurisdiction. Samuel J. Moore, the M. E. Grand High Priest, welcomed the Companions to the Thirteenth Annual Convocation in the city of Huron on the 12th June, 1902, and congratulated them upon "the favorable conditions and material prosperity now existing in our State and nation, and the excellent condition of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction."

One new Chapter was added during the year, and he reported it "doing good work."

The Grand Secretary reported that for the first time in many years all of the Chapters had been heard from. "The reports came in prompt and very near perfect." A happy condition of affairs truly.

There was a net gain in the membership of 128.

"There appears to be general satisfaction with the wages, and due respect for the law; so there are no grievances to come before your committee for investigation. So we simply take this occasion to congratulate this Most Excellent Grand Chapter on the prosperous and harmonious condition of Capitular Masonry."

Thus reported the Committee on Grievances.

Companion Louis G. Levoy presented his usually interesting and readable report on Correspondence, and embraces Canada for 1902. Concluding, he says:

"The promise held out of maintaining the rate of progress and prosperity of the past year has been carried out; without exception every Grand Chapter has made gains, some made phenomenal growth, and it is also noticeable that the defections by dismissions and suspensions are much smaller than previous years, while the affiliations and admissions have been much greater."

And to "dependent membership legislation" he attributes it all.

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Geo. A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, Grand Secretary.
APPENDIX

Tennessee

Chapters . . 69. Members . . 2,812.

"To this, the Seventy-third Annual Convocation, I extend you a cordial and hearty welcome and greeting! It is with much pleasure that I can report that peace and quiet prevail throughout our Grand Jurisdiction, and that from all I can learn there has been a commendable increase of interest in Capitular Masonry.""

It was in the city of Nashville, on the 27th January, 1902, that M. E. Companion William S. Findlay, Grand High Priest, opened his address in those encouraging words.

He had much to say of dispensations, commissions, decisions and official visitations, and concluded with appeals on behalf of the Widows’ and Orphan’s Home, and a couple of Masonic journals published in the State.

The appropriation for the Foreign Correspondence report was increased to $150.

That report, which, as of yore, is by Companion Ingersoll, is worth it all, even if he has departed from former methods, and abbreviated somewhat:

"Some jurisdictions habitually have interesting reports, which command attention and invite criticism or approval; others very rarely command attention or furnish interesting subjects for comment. Sometimes, however, the usually placid sea of the report from these jurisdictions gets in motion and displays the rolling billows, the stormy whitecaps, or the dashing breakers; and then our notice lengthens and the heart of the Correspondent is rejoiced. What shall be the consequence of this experiment, let time and chance determine.""

It must be presumed that Canada comes under the category of those that "command attention," for our proceedings for 1901 receive nearly a page and a half.

He notes the case of the Grand Superintendent "who waited for somebody to come and install him":

"He is a double first cousin to the English traveler who refused to extend his hand to a struggling and almost drowning man in the Mississippi River after an explosion and give the poor fellow relief, because he had 'never been introduced to him and did not even know his name, don't cher know?'"

Vermont’s Grand Lecturer had reported that delays had interfered with his placing a new ritual in the hands of the Craft, which leads Companion Ingersoll to ejaculate:
‘Pray God it may never be! May the unforeseen delays continue and multiply and magnify, so that the publication of the ritual of Royal Arch Masonry by an officer of a Grand Chapter shall be postponed until the crack of doom!’

David S. Shields, Morristown, Grand High Priest.
William A. Clendening, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

Texas

Chapters . . 154. Members . . 7,020.

Of the Chapters 130 have done work; 24 have done no work; 104 show a gain; 38 show a loss, and 12 have held their own. In the membership there was a net gain of 1,396.

A very respectable showing to present to the Fifty-first Annual Convocation, at Houston, on the 3rd December, 1901.

Jas. D. Crenshaw, M. E. Grand High Priest, was a busy ruler in a busy year. He had ten ‘decisions’ to his credit.

He recommended the repeal of the law which favors the accumulation of dues of a Companion suspended for non-payment. While the dues of him who is suspended or expelled for unmasonic conduct cease at the moment of suspension or expulsion:

‘Companions, why should the burdens of honest penury be greater than those of the law-breaker?’

The Grand Lodge of Texas having withdrawn fraternal intercourse with subordinate Lodges and Masons hailing from the Republic of Mexico, he sent a communication to the High Priest of Mexico City Chapter, instructing him to receive no more petitions for degrees or for affiliations from Masons hailing from the United States of Mexico until further notice.

The newly elected High Priest of the Chapter wrote, pleading for the recall of the above instructions, and offering some strong arguments to sustain his appeal. Not desiring to jeopardize the recognition of Blue Lodge
Masonry in Mexico by the Grand Lodge, and believing that his ruling was correct under the circumstances, the Grand High Priest refused to make any change.

The Jurisprudence Committee recommended approval.

"But as the M. E. Grand Lodge of Texas has resumed fraternal relations with the regular organized bodies of Mexico, we recommend that fraternal relations with said bodies be resumed."

He made an earnest plea against the practice of thoughtlessly using the name of the Deity in conversation:

"In the ages that are gone, when a chosen people were traveling through a wilderness to that happy land promised their forefathers, when Mount Sinai was bathed in the brightness of God's glory, He, with His own hands, wrote, 'Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.'"

"It is not the profanity of the vulgar against which I would warn you, for a gentleman would scarcely indulge in such practices. But it is the use of God's name, and the things that are sacred and holy, in jest and in ridicule, against which I would warn you."

Texas does not neglect its ritualistic work, as the reports of the Grand Visitors and the Committee on Work amply demonstrate, the former especially testifying to the hospitable treatment experienced and the willingness of the Chapters to "satisfactorily compensate" them for their services.

Neither is the good work of benevolence neglected, as a number of grants were made.

Companion Terrell's review of the jurisdictions is an exhaustive one. Under Canada, he says:

"At a prior Convocation of the Grand Chapter, 1900, a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of restoring the Most Excellent Master's Degree. At this Convocation the committee reported adversely, wherefore they continue without this interesting Degree."

This is not so, Companion. The degree some years ago was abbreviated, and the movement was to restore it to its original condition.

Geo. Lopas, Jr., Floresville, Grand Secretary.
Vermont

Chapters . . 27. Members . . 3,189.

The Eighty-fifth Annual Convocation, in the city of Burlington, on the 13th June, 1902, was well attended. M. E. Companion Daniel S. Danforth, Grand High Priest, welcomed the Companions:

"We have left our peaceful homes and families for a temporary sojourn, not in a far distant country, nor among strangers, but among our Brethren and Companions in our beautiful Masonic Home by the still waters of Lake Champlain."

His official acts were few, and were briefly recorded. The Finance Committee recommended a further loan of $1,000 to the Grand Lodge of Vermont, under the same conditions as the previous loans, now amounts to $7,000, were made.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

"That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be extended to R. E. Companion Warren G. Reynolds, who has served as Grand Secretary during the past fifteen years, with the fraternal assurance that his faithful services are deeply appreciated, and that he carries with him in his voluntary retirement from office the cordial good wishes of his Companions, whom he has so long and zealously served."

Companion Marsh O. Perkins, as chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, presented the report, which we found to be as expected, interesting throughout. He reviewed Canada for 1902, and, like others, prominently notices the work of the Grand Superintendents.

To Companion Ingersoll of Tennessee, who expressed horror at the mention of an issue of rituals in Vermont, he replies:

"Well, Comp. Ingersoll, the ritual is published, is all right, and still the 'crack of doom' has not been heard! On the other hand, the skies are bright, quiet reigns, and the busy, contented workmen are rejoicing in the possession of 'proper working tools.'"

Concluding, he says:

"Royal Arch Masonry has never held so exalted a position in the great world. Its aims and purposes have never been more clearly defined, and show much remaining to be accomplished."

William J. Boyce, Woodstock, Grand High Priest.

Henry H. Ross, Burlington, Grand Secretary.
Victoria

The leaflets recording proceedings of this Grand Chapter's Convocations do not contain much, if any, statistical information.

In that for October, 1900, a list of Officers and Grand Representatives present precedes the report of the Committee of General Purposes.

Among the acknowledgments is "Canada—Forwarding History of Freemasonry in Canada."

The Committee recommended to Grand Chapter that all Chapters in the territory be re-numbered, according to the date of the original warrants.

The V. E. the Grand Treasurer stated that the balance to credit of Grand Chapter was £125 2s 8d.

It is reported to Grand Chapter that a new Chapter (the "Goulburn Valley") had been formed at Shepparton, and was duly constituted on the 14th September.

The following report of the Committee re degree of M. E. M. was submitted to Grand Chapter:

The committee's report re the M. E. M.'s Degree having been referred back by Grand Chapter for further consideration, the committee desires to intimate that the taking of the Degree is purely optional, but thinks it advisable it should be worked, to bring our workings more into conformity with Sister Constitutions. Oct. 1st, 1900.

The committee framed the following regulations, under which the Degree of M. E. M. can be conferred by the Chapters in this Territory.

Registration fee for certificate, 10/-.

Previous to taking the Degree, the Brother must give proof of his being a M.M.M.

All Companions who at present are subscribing members of any Chapter under this jurisdiction (provided they are M.M.M.'s) can have the Degree conferred upon them, and their certificates endorsed to that effect, without payment of the fee.

This Degree cannot be conferred unless there are at least nine members present who have taken the M.M.M.'s Degree, three of whom must be M.E.M.'s.

The M.E. the First Grand Principal to be applied to by nine Companions for a dispensation, appointing a qualified Companion to confer the Degree pro forma.
At the Convocation of January, 1901, the Committee of General Purposes, finding that the regulations for the working of the M. E. M.'s degree, as passed at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, do not meet all requirements, recommended that they be rescinded, and rescinded they were.

V. E. Comp. Jacob Marks, P. G. Treasurer, asked the members of the Grand Chapter to join with him in tendering their very hearty congratulations to the M. E. the Grand First Principal on his marriage, and the wish that M. E. Comp. Peacock and Mrs. Peacock might enjoy every happiness in their married life.

M. E. Comp. Peacock thanked Comp. Marks and the members of Grand Chapter for their kind congratulations.

In April the M. E. M. bantling came up again in the report of the committee. Under new regulations an amendment that it be referred back was carried.

At the Convocation in the following June consideration of the report of the Committee re M. E. M.'s degree was postponed to the next Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The Committee decided that a banquet should follow the Grand Annual Festival, the price of tickets to be 3/6 each; also, that all Companions be admitted to the installation ceremony and the banquet.

Hon. A. J. Peacock, Melbourne, Grand Z.
John Braim, Melbourne, Grand Scribe E.

**Virginia**

Chapters . . 43.
Members . . 3,216.

"The spirit within, and our relations beyond, our borders, are undisturbed by contention or strife. We 'dwell together in unity' and are at peace."

With what singular unanimity this announcement is made throughout the length and breadth of the land, and as in the sunny south so too in the bracing north. "Unity, peace, and concord" are the watchwords.
Virginia, with its patriarchal weight of ninety-four years, is as happy as the youngest. The words of Grand High Priest Alexander to the Companions assembled in Annual Convocation at Richmond, on the 12th November, 1901, are echoed in the jurisdictions far remote.

Past Grand High Priests Ernst Louis Ide and John Howard Wayt had paid the debt of nature since the previous Convocation, and due tribute was paid to their memory.

Four new Chapters were instituted.

The Grand High Priest asked the privilege of performing a most pleasant duty entrusted to him by the Chapter of which he is a member, Mount Vernon, No. 14, of Alexandria.

He stated that instead of making the small per capita donation requested from subordinate Chapters at the last Grand Annual Convocation for the purchase of jewels, etc., for the Grand Chapter, Mount Vernon Chapter had procured an appropriate jewel, which he now had the honor to present to the Grand Chapter, to be worn by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and his successors.

The chairman of the Finance Committee then presented to the Grand Chapter, on behalf of the subordinate Chapters, a beautiful and appropriate set of officers' jewels, aprons, swords and other paraphernalia, which had been purchased by the committee.

Companion Nesbitt's report on Correspondence was mostly extract, seldom venturing an opinion or criticism. Canada's selection is nearly all taken from the Grand Z.'s address for 1901.

William J. Hubard, Lynchburg, Grand High Priest.
James B. Blanks, Petersburg, Grand Secretary.

Washington

Chapters . . 23. Members . . 1,563.

"The M. E. Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Washington, assembled in Eighteenth Annual Convocation in the hall of Tacoma Chapter, No. 4, in the city of Tacoma, June 6th, A.D. 1902."
Andrew Nilsson, M. E. Grand High Priest, presided and addressed the Companions in the customary words of greeting.

He told of the Chapters instituted and dispensations granted and refused, of by-laws approved and visitations to two Chapters, and closed by congratulating Grand Chapter on a peaceful and prosperous term.

Grand Orator Stone delivered an address, in which the pyramids and the Craft are compared as a text, and then eloquently descanted on age, stability and beauty of the latter.

The Jurisprudence Committee, having in view the many difficulties liable to arise from the attempt to confer the Chapter degrees upon Master Masons resident in Alaska, recommended the adoption of a resolution, to the effect that General Grand Chapter be asked for a dispensation to confer degrees upon Alaskan residents who might apply to Washington Chapters.

Companion Yancey C. Blalock reviewed the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters in his customary painstaking manner, refraining from indulging in comment. He thus explains:

"We would be glad to 'talk' to some of the 'Guild' and to quote many of the nice things said by the Grand High Priests in their addresses, but we have learned that our Finance Committee looks to the expense, and remember several years since when we were limited to 60 pages by said committee, and since then we feel like the 'parrot who visited with the flock of crows and talked too much.'"

Jacob Weathernax, Aberdeen, Grand High Priest.
Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, Grand Secretary.

West Virginia

Chapters . . 27.
Members . . 2,263.

John M. McConihay, Grand High Priest, presided over the destinies of Grand Chapter in 1901, and on 12th November of that year rendered an account of his stewardship to the Forty-first Annual Convocation, in the city of Huntingdon:
"Companions, I congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the Chapters of this jurisdiction, and that the morning of the twentieth century has been ushered in with peace between our own and all sister Grand Chapters."

Thus it continues even to the end of the alphabet. He visited four Chapters. One of them, his own, had a complaint of invasion of jurisdiction against another Chapter, but he was delicate in acting himself, and asked for a committee.

The several reports of committees were all of an encouraging nature.

The report on Correspondence stopped short at Oregon, and is thus explained in a foot note by the Grand Secretary:

"The report of Committee on Correspondence was brought to a sudden closing unfinished by the severe illness and death of the chairman, Companion Hugh Sterling, and the printing of the Proceedings was delayed, hoping that his sickness was but temporary, but, alas, our hopes were in vain, and on the 24th of February, 1902, he passed away. We give you so much of the report as could be found among his papers, which we hope will be found of interest to those who read."

Companion Stirling was also Grand Treasurer, and had only appeared as a member of the Guild last year. He had given a page of kindly review to Canada for 1901, which appears in the posthumous report.

Cyrus S. McKenzie, Athens, Grand High Priest.
Robert C. Dunnington, Fairmont, Grand Secretary.

**Wisconsin**

Chapters . . 76.
Members . . 6,475.

The Fifty-second Annual Convocation was held in Milwaukee, on the 18th February, 1902.

W. B. Andrews, M. E. Grand High Priest, addressed the Companions after the generally accepted style. He had a number of decisions, which he wisely, perhaps, calls "questions and answers."

A new Chapter was installed at Oconto, and that at Arcadia was constituted.
He recommended an increase in the appropriation for that toilsome, if pleasant, duty, the Foreign Correspondence:

"Companion Melvin L. Youngs, who for nearly forty-five years has been our instructor in the unwritten work of Capitular Masonry, is unable, by reason of great physical disability, to be present with us at this Annual Convocation, nor yet to present to us his annual report of visitations and other matters pertaining thereto, which for these many years has been a part of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

"It was with sad hearts that Companions Perry, Cotten and myself bade him good-bye scarcely forty-eight hours ago, feeling that this might be the last greeting, the last good-bye on this side of the dark river, and believing that the same thought was in his mind."

The Grand High Priest recommended that Companion Youngs be relieved from active service, as Grand Lecturer, at his own request, and that he be Masonically honored by being created Custodian of the Esoteric Work of Capitular Masonry upon a salary of $250 per year.

This delicate bit of true fraternity was endorsed, we are glad to state, by Grand Chapter.

Past Grand High Priest W. C. Swain, the well-known chairman of Correspondence, failed for the first time during the past thirty-five years to appear at the Convocation, owing to the death of a beloved daughter. A feeling resolution of sympathy was adopted by Grand Chapter.

His review of the Grand Chapters had been prepared. It is characteristically comprehensive, and abounds in instruction. He has this to say of Alabama's inclination to deadhead brethren of the cloth:

"We are not criticizing Alabama clergymen as a class, but only those who claim pecuniary favors on account of their calling. The trend of modern thought and practice is against special classes of citizens, and clergymen must take their stand in the community, like the rest of us, to stand or fall on their own merits."

Under Canada for 1901 he says:

"A dispensation has been granted for a Chapter at Medicine Hat. Isn't that the location where all our big storms originate? If so, we shall expect our Companions there to exercise a calming influence on the weather."
Our objection to the use of Masonic rooms by the "profane" elicits this:

"One of the good features of this utilitarian age is, that we no longer consider a house of worship so sacred, that it is itself to be worshipped, to the extent of losing sight of that for which it stands. Our Lodge rooms, when we meet in them, are sacred places. When they are empty, do they still retain the odor of sanctity? And if we find in them one not an initiate, are the walls profaned, so that the odor is lost?"

In Canada we consecrate our lodge rooms to the purposes of Masonry with solemn ceremony. If Wisconsin does not do so we can understand Companion Swain's flippancy. If it does, then there is a possible danger of converting that ceremony into a burlesque.

Under England, he says:

"A vote of condolence was recorded on the death of Queen Victoria, and the resignation of King Edward VII. as Grand Master, was received, and the nomination of his son, the Duke of Connaught, as his successor."

His son! Shades of royalty, is it for this that we were born great?

F. S. Veeder, Manston, Grand High Priest.
W. W. Perry, Milwaukee, Grand Secretary.

Fraternally submitted,

[Signature]

Chairman.
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*Including suspensions for U.M.C.
†Including suspensions for U.M.C. and expulsions.